



'Fiscal cliff' law brings changes in charitable giving

If you live in the United States and/or pay taxes here, you surely have heard the news: going all the way to the precipice, the U.S. House of Representatives finally passed the bill in the wee hours of the morning of January 2 that had cleared the U.S. Senate a couple days earlier. President Obama signed the *American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012* into law and finally we have some clarity for at least another year on a variety of issues.

The IRA charitable rollover is back for 2012 and 2013, allowing IRA holders 70½ years or older to transfer up to \$100,000 directly to charity without having it reported as taxable income to them, effective until December 31, 2013. Since it was passed so late, donors have until February 1, 2013 to make these qualified distributions and still count them as a 2012 distribution and given that most of us thought it would be part of any new tax legislation, another special rule was applied. *A taxpayer, who took their 2012*

distribution in December 2012, may make a contribution to charity before February 1, 2013 and treat this gift as a direct transfer. If this could apply to you, talk with your IRA custodian and tax preparer to make sure you know how to document this gift for your 2012 tax return.

Numerous other aspects of this law are important and worth noting, but I'll highlight only one more here. *The unified estate, gift and generation-skipping tax exemption level of \$5 million per person that has been in place was made permanent, indexed for inflation in future years.* The new law continues to allow the executor of a deceased's spouse estate to transfer any unused exemption to a surviving spouse, effectively allowing for a \$10 million exemption for married couples.

Interested in discussing any gift planning ideas that might benefit you and Goshen College too? Please contact me at rogeran@goshen.edu or call me at (574) 535-7797, toll-free 1-800-348-7422.

– Roger A. Nafziger, *Director of Gift Planning*

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Our students are saying...

"I value studying chemistry at Goshen College because of the relationships I am making with my professors. They genuinely care about me both in and out of class and that relationship makes the learning experience all the more rewarding. I believe the rigor of the program and the resources available to me at Goshen will help me succeed in my future scientific endeavors."



Matthew Glick, a junior chemistry and molecular biology/biochemistry double major from Summit, NJ

WINTER 2012-13

HERITAGE

John D. and M. Winifred Yordy Scholarship Fund: Lives of laughter and love that keep on teaching

Friends of John '67 and Winnie (Hostetler) Yordy '64 always remark on their dedication, care for others and their keen sense of humor, which have carried them to other countries and back again to Goshen.

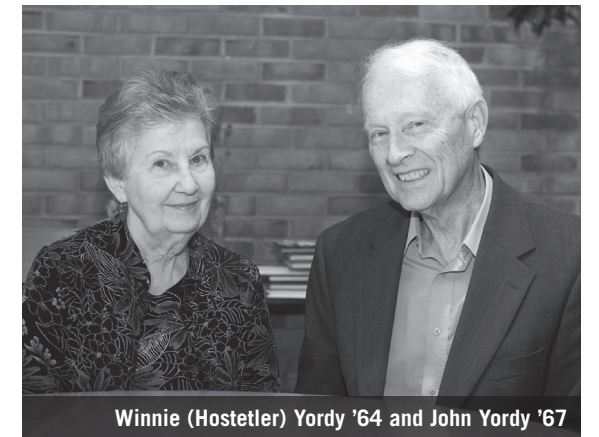
John grew up north of St. Johns, Mich. His father wanted him to stay and farm, while his mother encouraged him to go to college. Winnie grew up in the Mennonite community of Kalona, Iowa, in a home that often welcomed visitors, including those from around the world, loved music and deeply valued education. Both were the products of one-room schools, learning to teach others from a young age.

The two met at Goshen College and fell in love. Their college experiences broadened their horizons, leading them to initially consider spending their lives in church ministry or inner-city work. As a Mennonite Central Committee volunteer, John served with Heifer Project International in Mexico for two years midway through college. Meanwhile, Winnie graduated and taught in Iowa and Chicago.

A year after they were married in 1966, the Yordys headed to Nigeria with Mennonite Central Committee's Teachers Abroad Program for a three-year term during the country's civil war. Their first son, John '93, was born there. Humor, love and their faith and school communities sustained them during that time.

Upon returning to the States, John went to Michigan State University and received a doctorate in organic chemistry, while two more sons, Eric '94 and Michael '96, joined their family. The family then moved to Ohio where John was a research chemist for The Lubrizol Corporation. And in 1977, with a desire to teach, John became a chemistry professor at Goshen College.

At Goshen College, John served for 20 years as a chemistry professor and 11 years as provost, including two years as interim president. John and Winnie also worked



Winnie (Hostetler) Yordy '64 and John Yordy '67

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New deferred gifts committed to Goshen College (1/1/11 to 11/30/12)

Saloma Albrecht
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Robert Stoltzfus
Lela Sutter
Dale and Helen Weldy
Helen Widmer
Bud and Phyllis Wulliman
Virgil and Rita Yoder
Sara Alice Zimmerly

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together as SST leaders for student groups in Honduras (1979-80) and the Dominican Republic (1985). In all their roles at home or abroad, recalled John, “we were blessed to be part of an educational community of deeply committed faculty, staff and administrators. Our goal was to give extraordinary care to the ordinary and routine work that we did, to the special challenges that are sometimes part of institutional life, and to the common good.”

John’s former students attest to his success in achieving that goal, always with his dry wit intact. Chemistry professor Melodie Graber ’92 of Downers Grove, Ill., said, “Dr. Yordy expected excellence, hard work and a desire to attain high goals from his students. He inspired his students with his passion and excitement for chemistry.”

After their sons were older, Winnie went back to teaching and simultaneously pursued a master’s degree in special education, with a focus on teaching severely emotionally handicapped students. She also had a special way with her students, excelling at helping children make better choices and modify their behaviors, while making learning fun. Mary Schrock ’74, a fellow teacher in Goshen, said, “Winnie is an incredibly dedicated teacher of all students; but her love and knowledge of working, especially with those with emotional difficulties, are unmatched in my experience. She is tireless, loving and has very high expectations of all her students, and will never give up on any of them. She truly has the heart, soul and expertise of a master teacher.”

Goshen surgeon Winston Gerig ’80 noted that, “John and Winnie had a profound influence on my college years, an influence that is still present today. As my SST leaders in Honduras, they achieved the perfect balance of temporary parents, tour guides and mentors. They represent one of the true highlights of my Goshen experience.”

The clear-eyed leadership each of the Yordys provided grew from their ability to laugh and keep things in perspective, while maintaining high expectations. When John became GC provost, recalled former student and current Director of Assessment and Institutional Research Scott Barge ’99, “the college waded through some very difficult times and he was always one to be able to see the bigger picture and not let the challenges get the best of him.”

The Yordys continue to find joy and laughter in retirement – often with their grandchildren now – and a new scholarship in their names will help provide for the bigger picture for future students at Goshen College. The John D. and M. Winifred Yordy Scholarship Fund will provide scholarships for students who study chemistry, chemistry education and elementary education.

John and Winnie Yordy’s lives exemplify “Culture for Service” to their family, their students, the Mennonite church, Goshen College and the world. The Yordy Scholarship Fund will support new generations of students to carry that work forward, hopefully with the same laughter and love.

– By Judy Weaver and Jodi H. Beyeler

Still the center of campus

“The post-World War II period brought new change to Goshen College,” according to Susan Fisher Miller in *Culture for Service*, including the construction of the Union Building in early 1950 (right, top), becoming the social hub of campus. Over the ensuing years, fans frequently packed out the gymnasium for intercollegiate athletic events. Students regularly checked their mailboxes on the way to and from chapel for care packages from mom and dad. And the Leafraker provided late night snacks.

But in recent years, some of that social energy dispersed to other areas of campus with changes and new buildings. To better use the space in the Union, a central portion of 12,730 square feet was renovated over the summer. The project included: entrance changes, new bathrooms, a new welcome center, a Leafraker patio and an art studio space. But most importantly, part of the gym (right, bottom) is now home of the new Center for Intercultural and International Education (Study-Service Term, Intercultural Teaching and Learning, diverse and international student support), embodying how central this is to the college’s identity.



Mervin R. and Sharon L. Helmuth Nursing Scholarship Fund is established

As a boy growing up in an Amish home, Merv Helmuth ’69 never dreamed of working in higher education. Following Amish tradition, Helmuth thought he would finish school after eighth grade. But with the support and encouragement of mentors and a lot of determination, he retired in 2011 with 52 years of nursing experience, 42 of them as a Goshen College Professor of Nursing. Combined with his wife Sharon’s 49 years, many spent working at IU Health-Goshen Hospital, the Helmuths have 101 years of nursing experience.



Sharon and Merv ('69) Helmuth

Throughout his years at Goshen College, Merv helped develop and organize the Mock Nursing Convention, taught every junior-level nursing course as well as some sophomore and senior courses, and saw countless students graduate from the nursing program.

This scholarship fund – for students enrolled in the traduational, undergraduate nursing program – was established in 2012 in honor and in tribute to Merv Helmuth’s long, faithful dedication to Goshen College and to the more than 1,000 nursing graduates he helped teach.

Heritage Newsletter, published two or three times yearly, is a service for friends of Goshen College on developments in planned giving and estate planning. Each issue also focuses on a small number of participants in the college's special and deferred gifts program. Information in *Heritage Newsletter* should not be considered an interpretation of the law or of federal tax rules and regulations. Your own lawyer, bank trust officer or financial adviser can help you select the most advantageous way to give or bequeath funds or property to Goshen College. Litho in U.S.A.