The Rice Annual Fund provides a flexible and immediate-use source of funding that cultivates the potential of every graduate student, across a remarkable array of endeavors. Coupled with endowment funds, which are earmarked for specific uses over a prolonged period, the flexible, current-use funding from the Rice Annual Fund addresses today’s most pressing needs and allows students and faculty to seize emerging opportunities.

A Tradition of Giving

With a gift to the Annual Fund, you join Rice alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends in a tradition of philanthropy that goes back to the university’s founding gift from William Marsh Rice. Among those who gave to Rice last year, 76 percent donated to the Annual Fund, making it one of the university’s most powerful giving traditions. Of those who gave, a record 1,272 were graduate-degreed alumni whose contributions totaled $373,297 to the Rice Annual Fund.

“We’re here to create opportunity for graduate students, and what that means is that we’re providing them with the resources they need to excel in order to derive intellectual and personal satisfaction from the work that they do.”
— Paula Sanders Ph.D., Vice Provost, Academic Affairs and Professor, History

Rice Moving Forward

As we advance into Rice’s second century, our areas of promise will become our newest examples of research preeminence. The Rice Annual Fund enhances Rice’s graduate student experience and addresses some of our students’ and faculty members’ highest priorities, including:

- Financial assistance, including more than $683,000 in graduate student support.
- The latest lab and classroom technology.
- Current-use funds for departmental budgets.
- Student travel grants to regional and national conferences.
- Student organizations, including the Graduate Student Association (GSA).
Why the Rice Annual Fund?

- The Annual Fund helps provide immediate-use resources, supporting emerging educational opportunities and initiatives that might not otherwise be funded.
- Scholarships and graduate student support provided by Rice Annual Fund supporters help ensure the best possible experience for undergraduate and graduate students alike.
- Rice may use only a portion of its endowment funds each year. The Annual Fund plays a major role in funding the remaining cost of a Rice education.

Rice Annual Fund
Graduate Alumni Volunteers

The Rice Annual Fund partners with graduate alumni volunteers to share the importance of philanthropy at Rice with classmates and encourage them to give to the Rice Annual Fund. Alumni volunteers also connect graduate students to the greater Rice community, while faculty and student volunteers plan and host events, advise Rice fundraisers and carry forward the philanthropic tradition at Rice.

Get Involved

To learn more about becoming a Rice Annual Fund graduate alumni, faculty or student volunteer, please contact Alex McNair at 713-348-4639 or alexmcnair@rice.edu.

The Impact of the Rice Annual Fund 2013-2014

The Rice Annual Fund raised $7.5 million in 2013-2014 to help support the Rice student experience.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** $5.5 MILLION
Scholarships and support for today’s Owls, including $700,000 for graduate students.

**CAMPUS LIFE** $577,000
Student center, club sports and recreation programs, as well as emergency medical services and campus beauty and safety.

**ACADEMIC INITIATIVES** $1.3 MILLION
Fondren Library, visiting professorships, travel stipends and community outreach initiatives.

**STUDENT SUCCESS** $161,000
Student development and retention activities, first-year programs and academic advising.

“I have a huge amount of gratitude toward those who have given and continue to give. Maybe this sounds like something out of a movie, but I chose Rice because of the people here.”

— Michael Farner
Graduate Student, Earth Science

Michael is pursuing a Ph.D. in earth science at Rice, playing electric guitar for the MOB and working with professor Cin-Ty Lee to unravel the mysteries behind continental formation. Meanwhile, a fellowship from the Rice Annual Fund is supporting his journey.