# advancing SIMMONS



### PLANNED GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

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## CREATE YOUR LEGACY: PLANNED GIVING OPPORTUNITIES AT SIMMONS COLLEGE

A planned gift to Simmons College is a wonderfully creative, yet practical way for you to maximize your giving to Simmons without negatively affecting your current financial situation. In fact, some planned gifts can offer the added benefit of providing you with an additional stream of income during your lifetime and that of your spouse. Although bequests and gifts of retirement funds are the most common types of planned gifts received by Simmons, there are a number of other planned giving opportunities available at the College that may be of interest to you.

#### **GIFTS OF SECURITIES:**

A gift of appreciated securities to Simmons may enable you to reduce or eliminate capital gains tax liability, resulting in a larger gift to the College, and thus transform potentially low-yielding assets into a steady stream of income. In order to receive an income tax deduction for the full fair-market value, the assets must have been owned by you for at least one year. Furthermore, to avoid capital gains taxes, you must transfer the securities themselves to Simmons, not the proceeds of their sale.

It is important that you notify Simmons prior to making your gift of stock so that you may receive credit for your gift in a timely manner. Informing your broker of your gift of stock to Simmons does not guarantee that you will be credited for your gift, as gifts of securities are usually transferred without including the donor's name.

To make a gift of stock, please contact the Office of Planned Giving at 800-831-3284.

#### **CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS:**

A Charitable Remainder Trust is a trust arrangement that pays you and/or your beneficiaries a variable or fixed income for a term of years or a lifetime, after which the remainder passes to Simmons.

The minimum amount required to establish a Charitable Remainder Trust at Simmons is \$100,000. The trust is funded with an irrevocable gift of cash, securities or other appreciated property. Upon establishing the trust, you are entitled to receive an immediate charitable income tax deduction for the portion of the gift to Simmons College. The trust, if funded with securities or other appreciated property, is not subject to capital gains tax.

Establishing a Charitable Remainder Trust requires the professional advice and assistance of your estate planner and financial advisor. The Office of Planned Giving at Simmons is happy to work with you and your advisors to help you achieve your philanthropic objectives for the College.

#### **CHARITABLE LEAD TRUSTS:**

A Charitable Lead Trust is a trust arrangement that pays Simmons income for a designated period of years, after which the assets either returns to you as the donor or passes to your beneficiaries. The trust is called a "lead" trust because the income interest is paid to Simmons first before the "remainder" interest is returned to you or passed on to your beneficiaries.

The minimum amount required to establish a Charitable Lead Trust at Simmons is \$1,000,000. The trust is funded with an irrevocable gift of cash, securities or other appreciated property.

A Charitable Lead Trust is an extremely tax-efficient way to pass assets to future generations while at the same time making a significant gift to Simmons by providing a reliable stream of income for a period of years. Generally, the income generated by the trust assets and paid to Simmons is excluded from your yearly taxable income for the term of the trust. This reduction in taxable income results in a reduced income tax. As the donor, you do not receive an income tax deduction for the value of the assets placed in trust because these assets will eventually pass to your beneficiaries. However, by transferring these assets into the Charitable Lead Trust, you are removing those assets from your taxable estate.

Establishing a Charitable Lead Trust requires the professional advice and assistance of your estate planner and financial advisor. The Office of Planned Giving at Simmons is happy to work with you and your advisors in helping to achieve your philanthropic objectives for the College.

#### **GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE:**

A gift of real estate can include a whole or partial interest in a residence, vacation home, farm or commercial property. You may either make an outright gift of real estate to Simmons or gift the future interest in your home to Simmons and retain the right to continue to live there for the rest of your life. Simmons may use the real estate for its own purposes or may sell it and use the proceeds for general purposes or a specific purpose or program (e.g., financial aid scholarship, faculty support, athletics, etc.). As the donor, you may receive an income tax deduction for the fair market value of the real estate at the time of the transfer. Your gift of real estate is also free of capital gains tax.

#### **GIFTS OF LIFE INSURANCE:**

Simmons welcomes gifts of life insurance where the College is named as a beneficiary of an active policy that has a cash value. Please contact Simmons' Planned Giving Office if interested in discussing this gift opportunity. It is also suggested that you contact your life insurance provider for information about adding or changing your life insurance beneficiary designations.

#### **GIFTS OF TANGIBLE PROPERTY:**

Simmons welcomes gifts of tangible personal property such as art, antiques, or jewelry that are accompanied by a recent qualified appraisal. These gifts may either be held by the College or sold and the proceeds used by Simmons for general purposes or a specific purpose or program (e.g., financial aid scholarship, faculty support, athletics, etc.). You will receive an immediate income tax deduction for the appraised value of your gift and pay no capital gains tax, so long as the gift can be used by Simmons to carry out our mission.

You are strongly encouraged to seek out the advice of your estate planner and financial advisors to discuss these planned giving opportunities and determine if one or more of these gift arrangements is appropriate for your estate and financial planning situation. Simmons is happy to provide assistance to your or your advisors, at your request.

"... A word about planned giving... It is a gift to Simmons and it is a gift to yourself. Many of us glaze over when we hear capital gains tax, recapture, and tax credits, but take my word... making a planned gift is a terrific investment in your future as well as a terrific investment in Simmons."

–Carol Liebermann Ellman '65

For more information about planning giving opportunities at Simmons College, please contact: Assistant Vice President of Capital Giving, Cate McLaughlin at 617-521-2412 or plannedgiving@simmons.edu.