## Ohio State MHA launches \$2M fundraising campaign and class challenge to support students, faculty, alumni and program

At the 10-year celebration of the Cleverley Fellowship — the last time MHA alumni banded together to create a game changing opportunity for students — alumna Elizabeth Seely announced a new campaign including a challenge for alumni and their class to be declared "The Best MHA Class."

Support the MHA Campaign

More than 80 alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends gathered at the Ohio Stadium on Oct. 20, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Cleverley Fellowship, the result of a \$1 million fundraising campaign led by Master of Health Administration (MHA) alumni to support students and increase the program's national reputation.

Former MHA program director Julie Robbins addressed the group and labeled the fellowship as "a game changer for recruiting the best and brightest talent."

Elizabeth Seely, '90, speaks at the Cleverley at 10 Celebration event.

Following the campaign to create the Stephen F. Loebs Professorship in Health Services Management and Policy, the William O. Cleverley Fellowship campaign was the second time the MHA alumni had joined together to raise \$1 million to support the program in a critical area of need. At the stadium event, alumna Elizabeth Seely, '90, challenged her peers to "do it again" and "collectively raise not one, but \$2 million."





Ned '74 and Denise Zechman team up with Becky and Bill Considine, '71, for the must-have photo on the field.

This new \$2 million campaign kicks off with a class challenge crowning the graduating class with the highest percentage of giving participation through Dec. 31 as "The Best MHA Class."

"Any gift to support the success of our MHA program counts in this campaign — \$1 or \$1 million. Any fund. Every MHA alum has an important role in our continued success. That's why we're kicking the campaign off with a class challenge focusing on the number of donors instead of the amount raised," said Senior Director of Development Taylor King Boyles.

As with previous campaigns championed by MHA alumni, the focus of funding will address a critical program need outlined by leadership — but this time, there is a twist.

HSMP Division Chair Aram Dobalian said, "When people ask me where I see the biggest need for funding, when they ask about the next big thing, there isn't just one answer anymore. There are so many funds here that are doing great things, critically important pillars of our program — the fact is, they *all* need to keep growing for us to remain successful and competitive."



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Alumni Support: HSMP Alumni Society Enhancement Fund Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Health Equity Fund for HSMP Faculty Support: The Stephen F. Loebs Professorship Fund Program Support: The Excellence Endowment Fund Student Support: William O. Cleverley Fellowship Fund Student Experience: HSMP Case Competition Fund

<u>The MHA Campaign</u> will focus on growing six foundational funds previously established by forward-thinking alumni to ensure the program is able to remain competitive and supportive of our students, faculty and alumni for generations to come. In addition to the six highlighted funds, alumni were encouraged to have conversations with program leaders around their

individual passions and opportunities they are seeing in the field for the program to evolve with the changing health care landscape.

"We all need to be having conversations with the program to determine where our support can best fill a need," Seely said. "We've laid a foundation through funds like the Cleverley Fellowship, the Loebs Professorship, the Excellence Fund and now we've added the Health Equity Fund and Case Competition Fund as well. We must continue to build upon that foundation."



Lindsay and Jamie Cleverley, '04, chat with former Cleverley Fellow Dan Kopechek, '22.

These conversations have already led to the establishment of new endowments like the Health Equity Fund as well as an undergraduate scholarship designed to support students who are interested in continuing their education in health care policy.

Seely's call to action to the alumni was confident: "I believe in us just as much as I believe in this program. In the end, we will lay a continued path to ongoing excellence. We will show our new leadership that we are here every step of the way."



Chris Clinton, '05, and current Cleverley Fellow, Ben Almassi pose with Brutus Buckeye.



Janet Porter, '77, talks with Clay and Gail Marsh, '90.

<u>The MHA Class Challenge</u> runs Oct. 20 to Dec. 31 as a kickoff to The MHA Campaign. As part of this challenge, any gift to support the MHA program of any size will count toward a class's participation. The class with the highest percentage of class participation at the conclusion of the challenge will be declared "The Best MHA Class."

For more information or to begin a conversation on the impact you want to make in this campaign, please contact Senior Director of Development Taylor King Boyles at <u>kingboyles.1@osu.edu.</u>







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