



SSU prepares to launch technology agenda

Although our thoughts may turn to the fun and relaxation that late Spring brings, the campaign teams for *Poised for Tomorrow* are still taking their work very seriously. The Special Gifts team has been trained and has begun working toward their goal. They are: co-chairs Tim and Monica Glockner, Barry and Melissa Rodbell, Matthew and Emily Rawlings, Jay Prosch, Brian and Jamie Noble, Kitty Linde, Benny Binns and Marsha Daehler and David and Georgette Lodwick.

Major Gifts folks are continuing to carry out their solicitations as well. They are: co-chairs Wayne and Sandra Wheeler, Cheryl Albrecht, Jim Jividen, Eric Bloomfield, Jim Daehler, Mike and Lora Gampp, Gary and Marilyn Hairston, C. B. Herrmann, Mark and Debbie Morgan, and Sallie Schisler

Shawnee State University is preparing to launch a new agenda for technology that will not only better prepare its graduates for the future, but will also serve as an engine of economic development for the region.

The key component is the planned creation of an Immersive Technology and Arts Center (ITAC), a complete facility providing for all aspects of digital simulation—the same technology used in video games such as “Tiger Woods PGA Tour” as well as by surgeons to practice procedures. ITAC would house all of the components for planning, designing and creating a virtual world, including a motion capture studio, advanced video and sound editing studios, space for computer workstations, and a conference room.

George White, who with his wife, Sandra, has donated \$50,000 toward this initiative, said that high tech is the future. “We are very excited about technology that emerges from SSU. Without progress in technology, the school will

not grow.” The Whites made their donation through a gift of stock.

Wayne Wheeler and his wife, Sandra, have also made a donation to support the technology agenda through a five-year pledge commitment of \$50,000. The first \$10,000 came from appreciated stock. Wayne said he is excited about the status ITAC would bring Shawnee State. “This would put SSU in the company of such universities as the University of Texas, The Ohio State University and a very few others who have developed this technology.”

Sandra White agreed. “It’s thrilling that Shawnee State will be giving people around the world a run for their money with finely qualified people in that area.”

SSU President Rita Rice Morris said that because the applications for this new technology are almost unlimited, the ITAC will serve as a catalyst for economic growth in the region. “With few comparable facilities in the United States—or the world, for that matter—companies of

all sorts will come to the Ohio Valley to use our motion capture complex. Medicine, defense, public safety, education and construction all rely on this technology.”

Dr. Morris said that other SSU programs would also be able to utilize the technology to better facilitate their training, including occupational and physical therapy, sports medicine, dental hygiene and nursing.

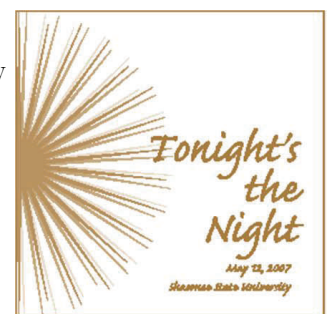
Both the Whites and Wheelers are thrilled to be able to help make these new technologies a reality. “We’re just so happy that *Poised for Tomorrow* is allowing us to have this opportunity,” Sandra White said. “It spoke to us immediately.”

“SSU is a very important economic engine for our community and an important part of the future of Southeastern Ohio,” Wayne said. “Sandra and I are proud that we are able to make a pledge of support to the university.”

New total announced at gala

“Tonight’s the Night,” the 19th annual President’s Gala was Saturday, May 12th. Those attending enjoyed a delicious dinner and a Talent Showcase featuring talented performers from the university and the community. All of the proceeds from the event benefited *Poised for Tomorrow*.

During the Talent Showcase, SSU President Rita Rice Morris announced that the campaign has raised \$7,574,500 which is 63% of the \$12 million goal.



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