Dr. Rocky Lopes ’80 was moved to extend his legacy by establishing scholarships at UMD that will benefit students far into the future. His love of people and a desire to give back philanthropically benefits UMD and serves as a way to express his gratitude for his UMD experience.

PAYING IT FORWARD

“I was passionate about making the University of Maryland more than a place to commute to from my home in Silver Spring to take classes. I wanted to make a home on campus by becoming involved.”

As a freshman, Rocky was invited to join the Homecoming Committee through a letter to incoming students. So he jumped in and was assigned to liaise with the Alumni Association.

That led to the creation of a Student Alumni Board, where he served as its first President. As if that weren’t enough, Lopes also helped to create University Sing—a spring counterpart to Fall Homecoming.

He also was a founding brother of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity chapter and was elected to serve as a Commuter Legislator for the SGA.

TERP TRIVIA: MARYLAND TRADITIONS

Q: What do Terps, rats and rabbits share in common?
Continued from page 1

Rocky did all of this while pursuing two degrees—microbiology and elementary education.

ROCKY’S PROFESSIONAL JOURNEY

Rocky taught sixth grade for nearly two years, and then took a job at the University’s Physical Plant Department, where he created an Apprenticeship Training Program and earned his master’s degree.

With a focus on public safety, Rocky transitioned to work at the American Red Cross Headquarters as Manager of Disaster Education for 18 years. That’s when he earned a doctorate in Sociology.

He was recruited to work for the National Weather Service, where he served as an administrator of a group of federal, state and territory officials engaged in tsunami safety and managed its $6 million annual grant program.

Rocky worked on the national stage where he taught, trained and collaborated with thousands of people all over the United States for 40+ years. He is a professional emergency manager, national-level educator, public speaker and consensus collaborator—skills he says were developed during his Maryland undergrad years.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR UMD

“I wanted to give back to my undergraduate alma mater and to recognize what prepared me for life and a distinguished career. The current use and endowed scholarship funds will help students in the College of Education who will be classroom teachers, and a second set of scholarships is for students who are leaders of student organizations. This is my way of paying what ‘made me me’ forward.”

The Dr. Rocky Lopes ’80 Current Use and Endowed Scholarships for Leadership and The Dr. Rocky Lopes ’80 Current Use and Endowed Scholarships in Education form his Maryland legacy today and for generations to come.

Read Lopes’ heartfelt blog about giving back to UMD at https://www.rockylopes.com/blog/2022/02/24/what-makes-me-me/

WHAT CAN A SCHOLARSHIP DO?

Provide an affordable education to a deserving student, cover expenses like textbooks or recruit top students—your scholarship can change the world. Discover four non-cash ways to fund a scholarship by requesting Scholarships: Open Doors to Life-Changing Opportunities. Simply return the enclosed reply form today.
A: Maryland Beanies

From the 1910s to the 1960s, freshman students were required to wear beanies everywhere they went on campus, from their first day of school until the freshmen-sophomore tug-of-war, held during the spring semester. The beanies were known as “rat caps” for the men and “rabbit caps” for the women.

There’s a Path to a Legacy for Everyone

As a UMD gift planning officer, Tiffany Purvis, J.D., helps generous Terps realize their philanthropic goals so UMD can continue its pursuit of excellence and impact for the public good.

“Donating to create positive change in the world is a very beautiful thing, and planned giving is a wonderful pathway for our alumni and friends to give back to the university in ways they never dreamed possible. I love what I do because, as a gift planning specialist, I get to help donors craft their dreams to help others realize theirs—that is my passion and fills my heart.

“Rocky’s lifelong commitment to UMD is inspirational. His scholarship gifts will support student leadership and aspiring teachers today and in the future. It’s important for everyone to know that they, too, can create a lasting legacy. In sharing their own Maryland stories and precious resources with us, they inspire and raise the sights of others to follow.

“To Rocky and all our generous Founders Legacy Society donors with whom I’ve had the privilege to work, thank you for all you do for our university. When I complete my graduate degree in public policy, Maryland will become my alma mater, too. It’s not only my workplace, but where I can help your dream to help future Terps come true.

You can make an impact similar to Dr. Lopes’ by speaking with our gift planning team about scholarship giving. Contact us at 866.646.4UMD or giftplanning@umd.edu.
Promises to Keep Today and for Future Generations

GIVE THE GIFT OF EDUCATION
The Clark Challenge for the Maryland Promise will establish a $100 million endowment to provide need-based scholarships to undergraduate students from the state of Maryland and the District of Columbia. **Current cash gifts receive a dollar-for-dollar match from the university and the A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation,** allowing your gift to go further and put a UMD education within reach of even more deserving students.

The program increases college access and affordability for our region's most promising students with aspirations for a college education to become tomorrow's leaders and problem solvers—researchers, artists, entrepreneurs, and so much more.

In addition to cash gifts, recent realized estate and trust gifts from our generous Founders Legacy Society donors established many new **Maryland Promise Program** endowments:
- The Esther Stein Chayt and Nathan & Ethel Stein Maryland Promise Scholarship
- The Norman Cohen Maryland Promise Scholarship
- The Robert and Barbara Couchman Maryland Promise
- The Jack and Minnie Levenson Maryland Promise Scholarship
- The William R. and Ann L. Snyder Maryland Promise Scholarship

GOOD TASTE, GOOD COMPANY
Noncash giving is the way to go.

UMD President Darryll J. Pines welcomed Founders Legacy Society donors at the annual appreciation event, **A TASTE OF MARYLAND,** where guests gathered in the Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center to enjoy famous Maryland foods and delicacies in good company.

Office of Gift Planning
866.646.4UMD • giftplanning@umd.edu
giftplanning.umd.edu

GIVING CRYPTO FOR GOOD CAUSES
Gifts of cryptocurrency are now an easy and effective way to give charitably to UMD. Through our partnership with The Giving Block, use our widget at www.giftplanning.umd.edu to support your favorite university program or worthwhile causes.

Cryptocurrency is one of the best ways to give in 2022:
- Similar to appreciated securities, U.S. crypto donors pay no capital gains taxes on gifts to charitable organizations that would otherwise trigger taxable events. In addition, donors qualify for an income tax deduction.
- Auto-conversion policy to cash is a simple and safe way to donate crypto.

Twin brothers Thomas '07 and Harry Alford '08 made UMD's first major cryptocurrency gift to support lacrosse student-athletes, African American Studies and the Dingman Center in the Robertson H. Smith School of Business. The Alfords hope their contribution will encourage others to give crypto and take action to improve the institutions they care about.

Another anonymous crypto gift supported the **Maryland Promise Program** General Endowment and was matched 1:1 by the Clark Challenge for the Maryland Promise.

 Hover your smartphone over this QR code to learn more.