Nomination for Outstanding Philanthropist Timothy C. '80 and Robin L. '80 Wentworth Nominated by the Monroe Community College Foundation

Overview:

Residents of Franklin Lakes, New Jersey and alumni of Monroe Community College, Timothy C. and Robin L. Wentworth have made an enormous impact on student success at Monroe Community College with their first gift – a very generous gift in the amount of \$250,000.

Robin L. Wentworth '80, a graduate of the MCC Music department, drew upon her joy and passion for the MCC Music department when she and Tim gifted a new Steinway Piano for use by current and future students in the Music department. The new piano arrived in January 2010

Timothy C. Wentworth '80, a graduate of the MCC business department, expressed the couple's appreciation for MCC and the educational opportunity he received by endowing a scholarship in the amount of \$50,000. A scholarship recipient who would not have been able to attend College without financial assistance, Tim wanted to give other students the same opportunity he had to pursue academic excellence at MCC.

The remaining portion of the Wentworth's generous gift will address the areas of greatest need as determined by the donors and the College. Overall, the Wentworths have demonstrated the true meaning of philanthropy toward MCC. Tim and Robin have asked for opportunities to make a difference, they wish to strengthen Monroe Community College and support student success.

The MCC Foundation is pleased and proud to nominate Timothy C. and Robin L. Wentworth for the Outstanding Philanthropist award.

Overall gift support

When a graduate of Monroe Community College reaches the level of success Timothy Wentworth has achieved, he or she often will remember MCC with a gift—but few do so as enthusiastically and generously as Tim and his wife, Robin.

Both MCC graduates, Tim and Robin met while attending MCC from 1978 to 1980: Tim earned his associate's degree in business, while Robin graduated with a degree in music.

Tim's career led him to become President of Mary Kay, Inc, President and CEO of Accredo—Medco's specialty pharmacy organization—and most recently, Group President, Employer Accounts, at Medco, Inc. His accomplishments led MCC to honor him with election to the College's Alumni Hall of Fame in 2000.

"Had I not attended [MCC], in all likelihood, I would not have married Robin, nor enjoyed the career success and opportunities with which I am blessed," Tim wrote in a letter to MCC in 2000.

Gifts provided, additional participation and impact

In 2009, Tim and Robin determined that it was time to give back to the College—in a big way.

They established the Timothy and Robin Wentworth Endowed Scholarship Fund with a \$50,000 gift, plus an additional \$4,764 to cover temporarily restricted funds to initiate the first scholarship. Awards of \$1,000 each will be made to students who maintain a 2.5 or above grade point average, and who demonstrate a financial need. As the vast majority of MCC's students require financial assistance to pay tuition and living expenses, this scholarship will have a significant positive impact on several students each year. The scholarship will help them close the gap between their available funds and the cost of tuition.

This generous gift already represented more than we expected, but the Wentworths were just getting started in their gifts to the College. Next, they asked for a wish list from MCC's Department of Music, so that they could select a project that would reflect Robin's MCC experience. At the top of the proffered list, the Music department placed a to-of-the-line Steinway grand piano, the kind of instrument found on the stages of the world's largest symphony orchestras. The price tag for this piano was \$83,000, far more than the department expected the Wentworths to give. To our astonishment, Tim and Robin determined that the Steinway was exactly the kind of gift they wanted to make to the College, to give students the experience of playing one of the world's finest pianos in concert.

Certainly this gift would complete the Wentworths' philanthropic gesture to the College, but there was more to come: Tim and Robin pledged an additional \$125,000, to be used for special projects or initiatives in which they can make a significant difference.

The Wentworths' gifts to Monroe Community College to date total \$250,000.

Creativity and Leadership

The Wentworths' interest in supporting MCC students in a variety of ways provides an important example for others to follow.

Not only did they choose projects that they felt were important to them personally, but Tim and Robin also opened their giving agenda to MCC's areas of greatest need.

This gives the MCC Foundation the flexibility to work with the College's department chairs to choose special projects that will have lasting benefit for MCC's students.

Virtually every faculty member at MCC has a creative idea he or she would like to implement to improve or extend the classroom experience. Faculty members constantly look for ways to make academic lessons fresh and relevant to their students, preparing them to be ready to work in their first days in a new job. Many of these projects have fairly small price tags, but they require special grants from the Foundation to move toward implementation.

Thanks to the Wentworths, some of these projects will see implementation in the near future. While specifics have not yet been outlined, the MCC Foundation is working with Tim and Robin to determine which areas show the greatest need, and which ideas should come to reality soonest.

Encouraging others to get involved

Tim and Robin are exemplary advocates for Monroe Community College and despite living in Franklin Lakes, New Jersey, they are in close touch with the Monroe Community College Foundation. In recent months, Tim and Robin have played an active role as ambassadors and advocates with several critical donors who support MCC. As an extraordinary example of student success and alumni engagement, Tim and Robin play an integral role in advocating and demonstrating the enormous impact of Monroe Community College.