

Our unique endowment program gives donors flexibility

After establishing a named Town & Gown scholarship several years ago, founding member Elizabeth Taft recently fulfilled her \$50,000 pledge to fund the **Elizabeth and Joseph Taft Endowed Scholarship**, and this year you'll meet the first "[Taft Scholar](#)," Ericca Speed, a Chemical Engineering major.

This is the sixth Town & Gown endowment now generating a named scholarship, joining...

- the Lucy and Jim Haugh Scholarship Endowment
- the Sally and Louis Higger Memorial Scholarship Endowment
- the Minerva Kunzel Scholarship Endowment
- the Ursula and Hans Moede Scholarship Endowment
- and the Bebe and Marvin Zigman Scholarship Endowment.

Each of these endowments generates funds that are partly matched by our membership fees, so every member helps make it possible for us to award \$5,000 scholarships. As the endowments are invested and grow over time, fewer membership-matched funds are needed. ([How an endowment works.](#))

The Town & Gown Named Endowed Scholarship program is unique at UC San Diego; it is the only named scholarship endowment that may be pledged with just a \$5,000 gift and no constraints on the time it takes to fully fund it. (Five-year pledges are the norm for nonprofits.)

"There's a lot of flexibility in the Town & Gown endowed scholarship program," says Elizabeth. "Over the years I knew I could have skipped a contribution if I needed to, and I always knew that I could fund the balance of my pledge in our estate plan. This allowed me to make a pledge with the knowledge that our yearly income could fluctuate a lot."

Through visibility in our communications pieces, Town & Gown is able to acknowledge and thank those donors who have started their endowment. Once it's fully funded and begins generating a scholarship named in their honor, it is the remarkable Scholars themselves who provide the real satisfaction to their benefactors.

If you'd like information about leaving a gift to Town & Gown Scholars in your will, please contact Sue Martindale at smartindale@ucsd.edu or (858) 246-0316.