

Message from President Cook and Leah Ecklund

December 13, 2024

Hello, everyone.

I'm here today with Leah Ecklund, senior graphic artist at the NDSU Foundation.

Welcome. Thank you so much.

Great to spend some time with you.

So, we here at NDSU recently wrapped up our 2024 Giving Day and we wanted to share the results with everybody.

So how about Leah, tell everybody a little bit about what NDSU Giving Day is.

NDSU Giving Day is an annual grassroots fundraising event that we do here on NDSU's campus.

It's a way to get every single person in the bison community involved and supporting faculty, staff, students and campus as a whole.

So tell us a little bit about how NDSU Giving Day serves our mission of being a student-centered, land-grant research university.

Yeah.

So every single fund comes right through campus leadership and campus. So we know exactly what we're fundraising for. And we know that it's going to benefit the university – that follows in line with its mission.

All right.

So it was a great day.

We know that. A lot of energy and excitement.

What was one of your favorite stories from Giving Day?

So this year I actually got to spend a little bit of time at Barry Hall downtown, as well as the Memorial Union for the two-day event. And I was just able to talk with students, meet with them, feel their excitement, have them fill out thank you cards.

They were able to pick up some swag. It was just really exciting to be there in the moment with the students.

Yeah, I love it.

Students intimately involved in this and so many of the gifts are coming in making a difference for students.

So yes, it comes full circle, which we love.

So all right, so here's the drum roll. What is the total amount donated and how many gifts did we get on Giving Day?

So this year we had just over 2000 gifts and our total was \$1.5 million raised, which surpasses our goal this year.

That fantastic.

So yes, it was a great day all around.

So it hit us personally. So for my wife Kate and I, we made our match on Giving Day to the Impact Scholarship Fund because we believe in the impact and the potential of every single student on campus.

Absolutely.

We want to have a personal shout out to everybody out there who matched our gift. We're very proud of that.

But there's so many people out there who matched so many gifts, who donated, who stepped up. And you all made a big difference for us here at NDSU.

And you made a big difference for our students, our faculty and our staff.

So to everybody out there, we're really, really grateful.

Thank you for everything you did.

And of course, thank you to the NDSU Foundation.

Thank you!

For stepping up and doing all the hard work behind the scenes to make this such a special day too.

So we're grateful to you and your team.

Thank you so much.

Thank you. And everybody.

Thanks everybody out

there and Go Bison. Go bison.