Campus Report May 15, 2008

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Tonight, UD honors some of its most loyal benefactors at the annual John Stuart Society celebration.

The formal event, which takes place between the Kettering Laboratories and RecPlex, recognizes the society members’ commitments of faith and trust in the University. Donors who have made lifetime gift commitments of $100,000 or more become members of the society, which was founded in 1983.

"These gifts transform programs, facilities and curriculum," said Deborah Read, vice president for University advancement. "In turn, these gifts are transforming the lives of our students. ... The important work of the University of Dayton could not have the quality or the impact it has without the assistance of these fine people."

The society's namesake is John Stuart, who owned the 125 acres that now make up UD's main campus. In March 1850, he sold the property, called Dewberry Farm, to Father Leo Meyer, S.M., for $12,000, accepting only Meyer's St. Joseph medal as collateral.

Donors will be recognized at the following levels:

- St. Mary's Circle: $5 million and above
- Chaminade Circle: $1 million to $4,999,999
- St. Joseph's Circle: $500,000 to $999,999
- Medallion Circle: $100,000 to $499,000