Collectively, gifts of every size from the Stanford GSE community of supporters help to build the financial resources that ensure Stanford’s continued standard of excellence. Annual support is essential for strategic planning and providing flexible financial resources that can be allocated to the greatest needs each year. Your gift directly supports increased access to graduate student fellowships, greater resources for the Stanford Teacher Education Program (STEP), enhanced professional development opportunities for faculty and staff, emergency student aid, and discretionary funds to fuel meet-the-moment opportunities that have the potential to make the greatest impact on learning. I’m pleased to share a few key highlights of the 2023-24 year at the GSE that were fueled by annual giving support.

Daniel L. Schwartz
I. James Quillen Dean, Stanford Graduate School of Education
Nomellini & Olivier Professor of Educational Technology
The Halper Family Faculty Director of the Stanford Accelerator for Learning
The Education Fund

The Education Fund is an unrestricted fund that empowers the dean with the resources to address the GSE’s most pressing needs and emerging opportunities. It provides financial aid to attract and fuel the most talented scholars, state-of-the-art technology to inspire innovation and discovery, and seed grants to foster strong, interdisciplinary research-practice partnerships.

STEP Fellowship Fund

The Stanford Teacher Education Program (STEP) Fellowship Fund is a financial resource that allows a diverse population of aspiring teachers to fully immerse themselves in the rigor of STEP and enter the teaching profession with minimal debt. Support for our future teachers promises greater student success and improved learning outcomes for all.

General Fellowship Fund

The General Fellowship Fund empowers the GSE to attract, retain, and nurture the best scholars in the world, providing critical funding for students in our highly competitive doctoral programs. General fellowships facilitate deep exploration alongside collaborative interdisciplinary partnerships, ensuring that Stanford GSE leads at the global forefront of discovery and innovation.
Fellowships play a vital role in nurturing talent, promoting innovation, and fostering intellectual growth at the GSE, thus contributing to the advancement of knowledge and the development of future leaders in the pursuit of improving lives through learning.

“I am extremely thankful for having you as a part of my story. Thank you for believing in the power of education and for helping to shape a future where every young mind has the opportunity to flourish and access opportunities once considered impossible.”

Hellen Xavier Gomes de Souza, MA ’24
Policy, Organization, and Leadership Studies
Dean’s Fellowships

Prestigious academic awards granted to outstanding students, researchers, and faculty to support their studies and professional pursuits. These fellowships are highly competitive and accompany financial awards in the form of tuition, salaries, stipends, and research grants. Recipients of fellowships are determined based on their exceptional academic achievements, research potential, leadership qualities, and commitment to advancing knowledge in the field of education.

STEP Fellowships

A foundational step towards a transformation in learning is to attract and invest in the most talented and diverse educators and those most committed to staying within the profession. In recent years, over 70% of STEP students identified as future teachers of color and over 30% are first-generation college graduates. On average, 90% of Stanford teachers work in public education and stay in the profession nearly twice the national rate; 80% are still in the field after five years; 72% are still in the classroom after 10 years. Over 50 percent of teacher candidates rely on STEP Fellowships to attend Stanford each year.

70 percent of STEP students identified as future teachers of color.

80 percent of Stanford teachers are still in the classroom after five years.

90 percent of Stanford teachers work in public education and stay in the profession nearly twice the national rate.

There were seven Dean’s Fellowships awarded in 2023-24.
Resilient 1st Generation (R1G) is an intentional community-building effort to connect all self-identified first-generation graduate students, staff, faculty and allies within the Graduate School of Education and with other first-generation communities across Stanford. Our group defines first-gen students as the embodiment of intergenerational dreams. Our main goals are to foster a strong sense of belonging for the first-gen community in the GSE, to promote academic collaboration efforts and scholarship that celebrate our unique challenges with a compassionate conscious awareness, and to lay the foundational resources for the first-gen students that will come after us.

The Students Collaborative Learning Fund aims to leverage the creativity, agency, and insight of our students to catalyze their own learning opportunities with others. Students receive financial support to design and execute activities that impact the GSE broadly. Projects selected enhance the existing strengths of the GSE by offering programs and events that supplement our current academic and co-curricular offerings. As a result, the projects reflect new order thinking, innovation, and pragmatism that ultimately make the GSE a better place to learn and thrive.
Research Practice Partnerships: Stanford GSE partners with the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) as well as nine local school districts as part of the Stanford-Sequoia K-12 Research Collaborative. These partnerships are led by the mission to build leaders’ skills and knowledge, unite research and practice for solving educational challenges. Key pursuits of the partnership — unite and solve — pair researchers from Stanford GSE with district leaders and educators to collaboratively identify and address inequities, challenges, and barriers to learning.

The team of SFUSD leaders and Stanford researchers that presented about their study of the SFUSD Shoestrings Program at the Stanford-SFUSD Partnership Annual Meeting on Friday, January 19, 2024

Top Row: Jennifer Pon, Colleen McNeil, Marcus Bundy, Lily Steyer, Crystal Hawkins, Jelena Obradovic, Maya Provençal, Michael Sulik,

Bottom Row: Mikaela Flores, Taron Smith
Your commitment to the GSE ensures we have the resources to recruit and nurture the most talented scholars, fuel discovery and innovation, and translate research into practice through our expansive partnerships with local school districts. Your support empowers the GSE to remain leaders at the forefront of education, addressing the most pressing challenges and providing meaningful opportunities for learners. Thank you for your generosity in the GSE pursuit of improving lives through learning.