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Lawrence University

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## Lawrence University Receives \$1 Million Gift for Faculty Research Fund

*Posted on: January 29th, 2014 by Rick Peterson*

A \$1 million bequest from an anonymous donor will provide valuable research support for Lawrence University faculty while honoring the college's 14th president, and his wife, Lawrence officials have announced.



### **Former Lawrence President Richard and Margot Warch**

The bequest establishes the Richard and Margot Warch Fund for Scholarly Research. The funds will be administered by Provost and Dean of the Faculty, David Burrows, for faculty scholarship, travel expenses, student research support, and the purchase of research materials, including instrumentation and books.

“One of the great strengths of a Lawrence education is the opportunity for students to work closely with faculty who are engaged in scholarly or creative projects,” said Burrows. “Our

faculty are outstanding scholars and creative artists as well as excellent teachers. These funds will enhance the support available to faculty. All faculty will be eligible to apply for small grants that will help them complete such projects.”

The endowed fund honors Richard “Rik” Warch, former dean of the faculty and the second-longest serving president in Lawrence history, who led the college from 1979-2004, and his wife, Margot. President Warch passed away in September, 2013 at the age of 74.

“Rik felt interactions between faculty and students were the essence of the Lawrence experience,” said Margot Warch. “He celebrated the work and achievements of each faculty member as dean of the faculty and as president was always looking for dollars to encourage scholarship and development projects. He would be thrilled to know that a fund bearing our names now exists to support faculty research.”

Funds to support faculty research will become available beginning with the 2014-15 academic year.