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Cabonis create scholarship through \$100,000 gift

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Timothy and Kacy Caboni

Photo courtesy of WKU

A \$100,000 gift announced Wednesday from Western Kentucky University President Timothy Caboni and his wife, Kacy Caboni, will create an endowed scholarship targeted at students who are the first in their families to go to college.

“At WKU, we want every student who wants to earn a college degree on our Hill to have the ability to do so, regardless of their financial circumstances,” Timothy Caboni said in a news release announcing The Timothy Christian and Kacy Myree Caboni Scholarship Fund.

The \$100,000 gift, made through a combination of both outright and deferred giving, will support full-time, first-generation students at WKU.

First preference will be given to students pursuing a degree with the Department of Communication, which refers to the master’s degree in corporate and organizational communication Timothy Caboni received from WKU.

The scholarship also focuses on creating opportunities for first-generation college students and their families, the release said.

“Forty percent of our student population are first-generation college students,” Kacy Caboni, WKU’s director of principal gifts and special initiatives, said in the release.



“That number really resonated with me because I was a first-generation college student, and I was able to succeed in college because of scholarship support,” she said. “We feel very strongly about supporting education, and we wanted to do something to benefit Kentucky students.”

The scholarship is part of the WKU Opportunity Fund, which Timothy Caboni announced in April as a private fundraising campaign to raise \$50 million to benefit WKU students through needs-based financial aid.

“Through private support, the Opportunity Fund will help us put programs into place at WKU to ensure our students are taken care of even before they step foot on campus, throughout their time on the Hill and beyond into their professional careers,” Kacy Caboni said.

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