

# Values drive Cowen Scholars fund

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Enrichment seminars with President Emeritus Scott Cowen will be a highlight of the Cowen Scholars program. (Photo by Ryan Rivet)

**Twenty-nine undergraduate and graduate students make up the first group of Cowen Scholars for the 2016-17 academic year. The program, a fund of endowed scholarships, recognizes President Scott Cowen's leadership, passion and service to Tulane and to the New Orleans community, and espouses his values and principles.**

**Lead gifts from Jill H. (NC '85) and Avram A. Glazer, Louellen and Darryl (L '72) Berger, and Valerie and Michael (A&S '87) Corasaniti provided the basis for the scholarships; those families agreed to match follow-up gifts of \$50,000 or \$100,000 each from other donors. The scholarships support students meeting a variety of criteria.**

**“As a longtime volunteer at the university, I have a lot of respect and admiration for Scott and everything that he did for the university,” said Rusty Pickering (E '91), who contributed to the fund.**

**“We knew that we wanted to endow a scholarship in honor of the scholarship I had been given.”**

*Rusty Pickering*

**For Scott Sullivan (E '87), good timing allowed him to give to the program. Sullivan, a reconstructive breast surgeon in New Orleans, wanted to create a biomedical engineering scholarship.**

**“I appreciated the renaissance of the engineering program after Katrina,” said Sullivan, who also serves as a speaker and mentor to Tulane biomedical engineering students. “The BME department is on the forefront of technology, and it’s an exciting part of science. I think the skills that these students can acquire from it will allow them an opportunity to make significant changes and contributions in society.”**

**Pickering, a former Deans’ Honor Scholar, says his own undergraduate scholarship “meant a tremendous amount to me, and it’s changed my life.” Now general counsel of a technology company in Atlanta, Pickering and his father wanted to build on their giving.**

**“We knew that we wanted to endow a scholarship in honor of the scholarship I had been given,” he said, adding that he recently spoke at a university scholarship event and met students and President Mike Fitts. “It was meaningful to me.”**