

NEWS RELEASE

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Alumni Couple Randall and Kelly Harbert Endow UCM Marketing Professorship

WARRENSBURG, MO (August 14, 2017)—Alumni couple Randall and Kelly Harbert recently presented a gift to the University of Central Missouri Alumni Foundation to endow the Randall and Kelly Harbert Marketing Professorship. The gift will provide 10 years of funding for a professorship in the Marketing and Public Relations Department.

“We are honored by the support of Rand and Kelly through the establishment of the Harbert Professorship,” said Roger J. Best, Ph.D., Dean of the Harmon College of Business and Professional Studies / Interim Senior VP for Finance and Administration. “Over the years, they have consistently shown a tremendous commitment to their alma mater through service and partnership and we are grateful for their willingness to help us attract and retain nationally recognized faculty. This contribution will have a significant and lasting impact on our marketing program and students.”

The professorship will support, enhance, and expand the University’s mission of engaged learning and continue the mission of excellence in business education throughout the UCM marketing program.

“As first generation students, our UCM education and experience paved the way for a future filled with more opportunity than we could have ever imagined,” explained the Harberts, both former UCM Charno Award honorees. “There are so many alumni who have come before us and served as examples of what ‘paying it forward’ looks like. We felt it was our turn to do so and couldn’t be more excited about making an investment in the sales and marketing program at UCM.”

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Residents of Bloomington, IL, the Harberts have consistently given back to their alma mater throughout the years in many ways, including serving as volunteer leaders.

Kelly, a 1986 graduate with a BSBA in accounting, is President of Spectrum Partners. Kelly is a CPA and has worked in the healthcare industry as president of a closely held company that operates assisted living properties. Kelly currently serves on the Alumni Foundation Board as a member of the Finance Committee, having served last year as Chair. She has also served on the boards of the Children's Discovery Museum Foundation and the Baby Fold and is a past board member of Eureka College.

A 1985 graduate with a graphic arts technology management degree, Rand is the Executive Vice President and the Chief Agency, Sales and Marketing Officer at State Farm Insurance Companies. He has been with State Farm Insurance Companies since 1992. In 2010, Rand was a part of the team from State Farm who worked with UCM representatives to provide gift support for the national State Farm Marketing and Sales Competition in the Harmon College of Business and Professional Studies. Each year student teams from universities throughout the nation showcase innovative ideas and individual sales skills during the competition.

Rand's volunteer service includes various leadership roles on the UCM Alumni Foundation Board, which recently concluded in 2015. He currently serves on the board of directors at Teach for America and the American College. He is a former Board Chairman of the California Business Roundtable, and has served as a board member of the Reagan Legacy Foundation and the Eureka College. Rand holds an M.B.A. from Webster University and graduated from the General Management Program at Harvard Business School.

Distributions of the gift will be used to provide funds to enrich the curriculum offerings in the Department of Marketing and Public Relations through scholarly contributions of faculty, who will hold the professorship position. The gift will also assist with yearly expendable funds that will be determined by the chair of the department.

The UCM Foundation (DBA "UCM Alumni Foundation"), is an IRS 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to cultivate, manage and distribute resources in support of the University of Central Missouri. Since being established in 1979, the Foundation has generated more than \$100 million benefiting the university and its students. For more information, please visit ucmfoundation.org.

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