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1940 grad give Alfred University a \$1 million gift

By: Diana Louise Carter ◉ April 2, 2019

A \$1 million gift from a centenarian alumnus will give faculty and staff at Alfred University a one-time bonus.

Terry Galanis Sr., a 101-year-old entrepreneur who graduated from the Allegheny County college in 1940, asked that his gift be used to "do something nice" for the school's employees. Alfred President Mark Zupan said the gift was a surprise and an in amount usually presented to expand a school's endowment.

Student Keshawn Laplante made the actual announcement, getting a jump on his university "president for a day" duties due to happen later this week. Laplante said employees who joined the AU workforce before July 1, 2018 will receive a lump sum of \$800 if they earn less than \$50,000 a year, and \$500 if they earn more than that amount.

Zupan said part of the gift will also benefit Alfred's college of business and its sports programs on Jericho Hill, south of the main campus. The hill is home to Alfred's cross-county running and skiing trails, as well as fields for playing rugby and some football practices.

Galanis is the founder of Sealing Devices in Lancaster, Erie County, where his son, Terry Galanis Jr., has been president for more than 35 years. The junior Galanis is also a member of the board of trustees of Alfred University.

While the elder Galanis does not travel far from home these days, he manages to make it into the office most days of the week. Zupan said the benefactor will receive an honorary degree from his alma mater on April 22 in Lancaster.

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