

Muslim Benefactors of Muslim Studies Endowment at MSU

Driven by compassion that is embedded in Islamic traditions, some members of the Michigan Muslim community have established an endowed fund, known as the Muslim Benefactors of Muslim Studies Endowment at MSU.

The purpose of this endowment is to support education, research and outreach in ways that benefit students and faculty of the Muslim Studies Program at Michigan State University. In addition to strengthening Muslim Studies, the endowment will highlight the desire of Muslim Benefactors and community to make private contributions for the public good.

Impact of Muslim Studies

The influence of MSU's education, research and outreach extends into neighborhoods, businesses, schools, hospitals, and communities.

Most recently, MSU reached far beyond its East Lansing campus and created a new educational site in the Gulf Region, MSU Dubai. It is these developments along with the MSU faculty and students that create the important intersections where Muslim Studies informs and educates as well as builds bridges and understanding with Muslim Americans and the Muslim world.

A recent example of the impact of the Muslim Studies Program is a project undertaken in collaboration with the MSU School of Journalism and designed to help generate more accurate reporting about Muslim societies. This project recently culminated in a major conference on "Islam, Muslims and the Media" and in the setting up of a Web site "IMAJE: Islam, Muslims and Journalism Education" aimed at educating journalists and journalism students about reporting on Islam and Muslims. Additionally, the Muslim Studies Program holds regular lectures, special symposia and events on topics important to the Muslim world.

Through a program that interdisciplinary Muslim Studies at MSU is a leader, advancing knowledge and transforming lives close to home and around the world.

The Muslim Studies Program

The Muslim Studies Program at MSU is concerned with the big questions facing Muslim societies today. The Program seeks to explore the rich diversity of Muslim communities. It encourages students to acquire a solid background in the history, religion and culture of Muslim peoples in general, while exploring in depth particular Muslim societies and politics in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe.

Shortly after September 11, Michigan State University began what Mohammed Ayoob, University Distinguished Professor of International Relations and Coordinator of the Muslim Studies Program, describes as the Muslim Studies initiative. This involved a series of discussions, curriculum enhancements and outreach activities to promote better understanding of Muslim peoples. The Initiative spawned a Muslim Studies Undergraduate Specialization in 2004.

The success of these efforts led to the formation of the Muslim Studies Program in 2006. As a cross regional thematic center of MSU's International Studies and Programs, the Program has a symbiotic relationship with the academic specialization that supports the study of Muslim societies and Islam in a wide range of disciplines and topics.

70
MSU students are
currently enrolled
in the Muslim
Studies
specialization

The Muslim
Studies
specialization
boasts
52 graduates

There are three ways to become a Benefactor:

- Contact Muslim Studies at (517) 355-3277
- Contact ISP Development at (517) 432-7091
- Give online at <https://www.givingto.msu.edu/gift/>

For more than 150 years, Michigan State University has been working to advance the common good in uncommon ways. The nation's pioneer land-grant university, MSU was founded as a bold experiment that opened the doors of higher education, offering all qualified applicants an education that was both broad minded and practical.

MSU works in partnership with the global community of donors and grant-making institution to mobilize resources to advance the common good. We believe that the philanthropic efforts of our friends can support social change, overcome social problems and achieve strategic developmental goals through their engagement with the university. Philanthropic contributions often strengthen and inspire excellence in our academics programs beyond what can be accomplished with tuition or state funding alone.

We invite you to join members of the Muslim community in Michigan to support the Muslim Benefactors of Muslim Studies Endowment. Your gift will help enhance Muslim Studies at Michigan State University.