



Roger Gillis, S.J. Endowment to Enliven the Student Experience

STORY: DEBBIE BLACK | PHOTO: YOSEF KALINKO

Educating the Whole Student

The late Roger Gillis, S.J., “Fr. Rog,” as he was known to the students who loved him, was an endearing figure who inspired scores of Seattle University students through his many roles as student advisor, theater professor, spiritual counselor and retreat director. Even from his hospital bed, he continued to remind his visitors to “take time for one another because this is how we know we are loved.”

Fr. Gillis believed in providing multiple access points to help Seattle University students “come home to themselves.” His philosophy is as relevant now as ever as we serve a student body that is increasingly diverse. Seattle University strives to give each student the support they need to achieve academically and feel part of the campus community. Mentoring, academic support and community building are just some of the ways we strive to fully engage our students.

The Roger Gillis, S.J. Endowment ensures that Seattle University continues to provide the tailored support our diverse student body needs for success. Knowing that our

students’ needs and demographics continue to change, the endowment also gives Seattle University the flexibility to pivot in response while ensuring that effective programs continue. This endowment makes possible:

- Outreach and support for first-generation students and their families
- Multicultural competence training for students and staff
- Comprehensive support for first-year, sophomore and transfer students and military veterans
- Online support for undergraduate adult learners
- This endowment will offer support to our students and build community, just as Fr. Rog lovingly advised.

If you would like more information on endowments or to make a gift to the Roger Gillis, S.J. Endowment, contact Sarah Finney, sfinney@seattleu.edu, 206-296-6962.

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