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Dear Mr. and Mrs. Kelly,

Five years ago you established the Ethics Across the Curriculum Endowment. Those funds sustain MHU's Center for Ethics programming; they support learning experiences that transform students' understanding of social responsibility and social possibility. Thank you for your gift.

In the two years since the Center for Ethics was founded, you gift directly funded several experiential learning opportunities. These include: a trip to Washington, D.C. where a bipartisan group of nine students lobbied congressional representatives on immigration policy; a Better Angels depolarization workshop wherein a dozen or so students, faculty, and staff learned skills to talk about politics constructively; a trip for ten students to Selma, AL and Birmingham, AL to visit Civil Rights Movement historical sites and the Equal Justice Initiative's Legacy Museum and Peace and Justice Memorial; and numerous local volunteer experiences for dozens more learners.

Experiential learning is powerful, but it is often out of reach for all but our most privileged students, who can afford take time off work and to pay for travel, food, lodging, childcare, etc. You gift enabled MHU to provide these opportunities at little or no out-of-pocket expense, making them affordable to first generation college students, adult learners with small children, and students who simply could not afford to take on any more educational debt. To expand these opportunities, next year the Center for Ethics will host a mini-grant program to fund trips led by faculty and staff across the campus.

As Center for Ethics director, next year I will turn my attention to building out MHU's Ethics Across the Curriculum program. My first task is assessing the current state of ethics education at MHU. The Edmund J. Saffra Center for Ethics of Harvard University has a model for such assessment. I am in discussion with the Saffra Center on the possibility of MHU beta-testing their assessment model. Such a partnership could, in the short term, benefit MHU's curriculum—providing us a cross-campus language to discuss ethics education—and, in the long term, create valuable external institutional relationships for students and faculty.

Thank you for your generous material support of ethics education at MHU. It has made an enormous difference in students' lives. Please also know that your perspectives and hopes for Center for Ethics programming are always most welcome.

With gratitude,

Elizabeth Whiting Pierce  
Assistant Professor of the Philosophy of Ethics  
Director of the Center for Ethics  
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