The Class of 2012 became the latest class to make a gift to the School of Medicine, continuing a tradition established by three recent graduating classes. This summer, Dr. Matt Jackson ’12, president of the Class of 2012, announced that he and his classmates would make a $3,400 gift to support the Student Education Enhancement Fund. This fund enhances medical students’ educational experience by providing opportunities for summer research projects, community service learning initiatives, medical mission trips, and enhanced tutoring in key subjects like anatomy and neuroscience. The fund also supports enhancements to the H-E-B Clinical Skills Center and the Alumni Association Student Lounge.

This latest class gift builds upon recent gifts by the Class of 2006, Class of 2010, and Class of 2011. In 2010, Dr. Benjamin DuBois ’06 and Dr. Nainesh Shah ’10 informed the Alumni Association that their respective classes wanted to make gifts to the Student Education Enhancement Fund that would properly outfit the new 1,500 square foot Alumni Association Student Lounge. The gifts from the Class of 2006 and the Class of 2010 purchased a ping pong table, a pool table, a flat-screen TV with gaming station, and several microwave ovens for the student lounge.

Last year, the Class of 2011 made a gift to establish the School of Medicine Student Service Learning Endowment in honor of Dr. Richard Usatine, assistant director of humanities education in the Center for Medical Humanities & Ethics. Dr. Kyle Kalkwarf ’11, president of the Class of 2011, said his class chose to pay tribute to Dr. Usatine for the spirit of humanism and ethics he exemplifies through mentoring students in the Student-Run Free Clinics. “We believe it is fitting to show our appreciation for these programs by establishing an endowment that will ensure similar opportunities for future students,” said Kalkwarf. Kalkwarf also recognized Dr. Fred G. Corley of the Orthopaedic Surgery Department, for helping create the class endowment.

Class gifts are a great way for reunion-year classes to celebrate their graduation milestones while supporting School of Medicine programs. These gifts can be designated to specific alumni class endowed scholarship funds, the Student Education Enhancement Fund, or the Dean’s Critical Needs Fund. If you are interested in making an individual or class gift, contact David Perryman at 210-567-4400 or perrymand@uthscsa.edu.