History and Mission

The Davis Educational Foundation was established by Stanton and Elisabeth Davis after Mr. Davis’s retirement as chairman of Shaw’s Supermarkets, Inc. in 1985. The Foundation seeks to strengthen regionally accredited baccalaureate degree granting colleges and universities (public and private) located in New England.

Objectives

The Foundation seeks to strengthen the undergraduate programs of public and private, regionally accredited, baccalaureate degree granting colleges and universities in New England. The Foundation is interested in supporting more effective teaching and learning. The Foundation is interested in controlling costs.

In order to achieve these objectives, the Foundation has funded:

- Projects that improve the curriculum, the learning environment, assessment of undergraduate learning outcomes, faculty development, incentive systems, and administrative structures.

- Collaborative efforts among colleges and universities to reduce costs and improve learning.

- Studies and planning efforts central to the Foundation’s concerns and interests.

The Foundation does not fund endowments or scholarships nor does it make grants to capital campaigns. The Foundation typically does not make concurrent awards to institutions.
The Foundation operates two grant programs. Implementation Grants represent the Foundation’s long standing grant program and serves the Foundation’s objectives of improving teaching and learning and/or controlling costs and increasing student affordability. Applications for Implementation Grants are accepted three times each year on March 15, May 15 and October 1. Submissions must be received by noon on the deadline date or the preceding business day when the date falls on a weekend or holiday.

The Presidential Grant Program was more recently introduced as an entry point for addressing cost and affordability objectives. The Presidential Grant Program seeks to assist college and university leaders in laying the foundation for campus-specific or collaborative initiatives to redesign ongoing practices with intent to contain cost increases and improve college affordability. Presidential Grant requests are accepted on a rolling basis for decision the following month.

Please see the Foundation’s website www.davisfoundations.org/def for additional information on the grant programs, to view and download application instructions, and for listings of recently-funded grants by topic. Prospective applicants are strongly urged to contact Foundation staff to discuss proposal ideas prior to submission.
DAVIS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2016

ASSETS

Investments $100,225,806
Due from related parties 52,928

Total assets $100,278,734

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities
Accrued expenses $ 83,904
Grants payable 3,183,935
Due to related party 40,173

Total liabilities 3,308,012

Net assets
Unrestricted net assets 96,970,722

Total liabilities and net assets $100,278,734
DAVIS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2016

Changes in unrestricted net assets

Return (loss) on investments
- Interest and dividends $1,208,059
- Investment management and custodial fees $(563,715)
- Net realized (losses) on sale of investments $(388,686)
- Net unrealized gains on investments $5,018,320

Total revenues and (losses) gains $5,273,978

Expenses

Program services
- Grants, net of returns $4,309,194
- Trustee fees $140,000
- Travel $20,427

Total program services expenses $4,469,621

Management and general $278,731

Total expenses $4,748,352

Change in unrestricted net assets $525,626

Net assets, beginning of year $96,445,096

Net assets, end of year $96,970,722
Davis Educational Foundation
Grants Made and Payable
During the Year Ended December 31, 2016

American International College
Springfield, MA
Joint Purchasing Initiative
$90,000 over 2 years
Project Leader: Vincent M. Maniaci

To expand the collaborative initiatives of the Cooperating Colleges of Greater Springfield.

American International College
Springfield, MA
Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Scholarship
$186,400 over 3 years
Project Leader: Raj Parikh

To support improvements in instruction, scholarship of teaching and learning, assessment of learning outcomes, and technology integration.

Anna Maria College
Paxton, MA
Presidential Grant
$10,000 over 1 year
Project Leader: Christine Holmes

To develop plans for accelerating time to graduation.

Bates College
Lewiston, ME
Academic Resource Commons: Reimagining A Liberal Arts Education
$223,536 over 3 years
Project Leader: Daniel Sanford

To launch an Academic Resource Commons as a student-run and student-focused set of academic support services including tutoring, workshops, supplemental instruction, and learning strategies.
Bennington College  
Bennington, VT  
Presidential Grant  
$2,500 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Mariko Silver

To support Phase One of Trustee Philanthropic Partnerships.

Burlington College  
Burlington, VT  
Presidential Grant  
$2,500 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Carol Moore

To conduct a College Council Retreat.

Cambridge College  
Cambridge, MA  
Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching  
$297,465 over 3 years  
Project Leader: Gilda Gely

To deliver student academic support services and faculty development programming.

Castleton University  
Castleton, VT  
An Integrative Learning Pathway: Foundations, Connections, Directions  
$85,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Ingrid Johnston-Robledo

To create an Integrative Learning Pathway within the General Education Program to encourage students to reflect on and connect their learning.

Colby College  
Waterville, ME  
Writing in the Majors for All Students  
$215,678 over 2 years  
Project Leader: Stacey Sheriff

To improve the abilities and skills needed for writing effectively in the majors and to create an integrated, formalized set of multilingual writing resources for students and faculty.
College of Our Lady of the Elms  
Chicopee, MA  
Academic Success Program Impacting Retention and Engagement (ASPIRE)  
$263,817 over 3 years  
Project Leader: Joyce Hampton  

To create culturally-competent and technology-rich student advising, support services and career exploration opportunities.

Endicott College  
Beverly, MA  
Digital Liberal Arts and Critical Inquiry  
$106,043 over 2 years  
Project Leader: Laura Rossi Le  

To extend critical thinking across the liberal arts curriculum by systematically integrating digital literacy into the undergraduate classroom.

Fairfield University  
Fairfield, CT  
Implementing a Revised Core Curriculum: Maintaining Tradition while Preparing for the Future  
$138,000 over 2 years  
Project Leader: Christine Siegel  

To assist faculty as they implement a revised core curriculum, with emphasis on curriculum development, faculty training, and new operational efficiencies.

Fisher College  
Boston, MA  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Thomas M. McGovern  

To install and implement a user-friendly data dashboard reporting system.

Framingham State University  
Framingham, MA  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Scott Greenberg  

To build out FSU@MassBay, a degree completion program for community college students.
**Goddard College**  
Plainfield, VT  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Robert Kenney

*To conduct a Senior Leadership Retreat.*

**Goodwin College, Inc.**  
East Hartford, CT  
Universal Design for Learning  
$129,788 over 3 years  
Project Leader: Diana LaRocco

*To assist faculty in implementing the principles of Universal Design for Learning into their curricula to ensure inclusivity, fairness, and equity for all students.*

**Gordon College**  
Wenham, MA  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Janel Curry

*To continue presidential briefings on College finances.*

**Hampshire College**  
Amherst, MA  
Presidential Grant  
$9,750 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Eva Rueschmann

*To examine high-impact practices currently in use to inform curriculum and program efficiency decisions.*

**Husson University**  
Bangor, ME  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Robert Clark

*To engage the campus community in workshops that address the link between resources and educational quality.*
Keene State College  
Keene, NH  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 2 years  
Project Leader: Joshua Jarvis

To redesign four administrative service areas and support effective leadership throughout the campus.

Laboure College  
Milton, MA  
Creating a Distinguishing General Education Core Curriculum  
$150,000 over 2 years  
Project Leader: Albert C. DeCiccio

To redesign curricula and instructional practices to improve student learning outcomes in critical thinking, communication, and problem solving.

Landmark College  
Putney, VT  
The Landmark Writing Project  
$131,220 over 3 years  
Project Leader: John Kipp

To integrate, articulate and apply Landmark's unique, research-based best practices for teaching and supporting writing for students with learning differences.

Lasell College  
Newton, MA  
Presidential Grant  
$50,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Michael B. Alexander

To support a collaborative studying lower cost models for independent colleges.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, MA  
Communicating the Reasoning of STEM Fields  
$240,000 over 3 years  
Project Leader: Suzanne Lane

To develop reasoning diagrams and accompanying instructional materials for six STEM disciplines for use at MIT and other universities.
Merrimack College  
North Andover, MA  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Carol Glod

To support retreats of the Assessment Committee as they evaluate the effectiveness of a new course schedule.

New England College  
Henniker, NH  
Presidential Grant  
$2,500 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Michele Perkins

To conduct a leadership retreat to build on the College's current strategic plan.

Newbury College  
Brookline, MA  
Center for Student Engagement  
$171,400 over 3 years  
Project Leader: Frank Sargent

To improve data collection and delivery of student services and academic resources to improve student success.

Providence College  
Providence, RI  
Presidential Grant  
$2,500 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Brian Bartolini

To evaluate the effectiveness of the Providence College/Community College of Rhode Island partnership.

Quinnipiac University  
Hamden, CT  
College Collaborative for Interdisciplinary/Integrative Studies  
$146,344 over 2 years  
Project Leader: Mary Paddock

To demonstrate the relevance and value of the arts and sciences through strategically revised coursework, fieldwork and advising.
Rhode Island School of Design  
Providence, RI  
Presidential Grant  
$2,500 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Mara Hermano

To conduct a strategic planning retreat.

Saint Michael's College  
Colchester, VT  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Patrick Gallivan

To establish a comprehensive student development program linking the liberal arts curriculum and co-curriculum with work experience and career preparation.

Salve Regina University  
Newport, RI  
Integrated Learning for Civic Engagement  
$173,860 over 3 years  
Project Leader: Laura L. O'Toole

To increase faculty and student community engagement and civic learning opportunities.

Simmons College  
Boston, MA  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Helen G. Drinan

To plan for the implementation of an academic reorganization.

Sterling College  
Craftsbury Common, VT  
Presidential Grant  
$10,000 over 1 year  
Project Leader: Carol Dickson

To engage faculty in a comprehensive review and study of mission, curriculum and institutional partnerships.
The Boston Conservatory
Boston, MA
Presidential Grant
$9,500 over 1 year
Project Leader: Joe Bennett

To explore opportunities for curricular efficiency.

Trinity College
Hartford, CT
Community Learning Initiative
$131,410 over 3 years
Project Leader: Carol Clark

To promote and enable a robust experiential learning program, engaged learning environment, and increased student retention.

Unity College
Unity, ME
Presidential Grant
$10,000 over 1 year
Project Leader: Sarah Cunningham

To further strategic planning toward the redesign of the first two years of undergraduate education.

University of Maine
Orono, ME
Transforming the Undergraduate Learning Environment through the Engaged Black Bear Digital Badging Program
$187,245 over 2 years
Project Leader: Claire Sullivan

To implement an assessment and documentation system for the development of specific skills and learning outcomes of undergraduate students.

University of Maine at Machias
Machias, ME
Presidential Grant
$10,000 over 1 year
Project Leader: Stuart Swain

To develop a model for structural and academic collaboration to advance the missions of the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias.
University of Maine at Presque Isle
Presque Isle, ME
Strengthening and Deepening Personalized Learning
$243,223 over 2 years
Project Leader: Raymond Rice

To provide faculty development, technology implementation, and student support toward implementation of personalized learning and student achievement of learning standards.

University of Maine at Presque Isle
Presque Isle, ME
Presidential Grant
$10,000 over 1 year
Project Leader: Linda Schott

To advance the Multi-Campus Collaboration.

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
Dartmouth, MA
Presidential Grant
$2,500 over 1 year
Project Leader: Magali Carrera

To design and employ a more transparent and inclusive budgeting process.

University of Massachusetts Lowell
Lowell, MA
LearningForce as a Change Agent for Students and Knowledge Sharing
$67,100 over 1 year
Project Leader: George Hart

To create course-specific guides to library-purchased research materials and lower cost instructional materials for faculty, staff and students.

University of Massachusetts System
Boston, MA
UMass Business Process Redesign: We are Better Together
$400,000 over 2 years
Project Leader: Lisa Calise

To launch a Business Process Review project with the goal of upgrading the Enterprise Resource Planning systems.
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI
Initiative to Impact: Delivering an Exceptional General Education
$299,240 over 3 years
Project Leader: Diane Goldsmith

To pilot new models of faculty development, assessment, student support, and affordable education resources in conjunction with a new general education program.

University of Saint Joseph
West Hartford, CT
Presidential Grant
$2,500 over 1 year
Project Leader: Michelle M. Kalis

To develop an inclusive and data-driven process for making programmatic changes.

Vermont Higher Education Council
Colchester, VT
Presidential Grant
$2,500 over 1 year
Project Leader: Joseph Bertolini

To conduct a leadership meeting at the Fall 2016 Action Summit.

Wheelock College
Boston, MA
Presidential Grant
$10,000 over 1 year
Project Leader: David J. Chard

To facilitate campus-wide cost savings.

Total Grants Awarded $4,316,019
Trustees

William S. Reed, Chair
M. Therese Antone, RSM
Richard W. Cost
Peter K. Davis
Edward R. MacKay
Judith B. Wittenberg

Staff

Anne M. Vaillancourt, Executive Director
Leanne Greeley Bond, Director of Grants and Programs
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Additional information can also be found at
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