

The Vernon James Knight Endowed Scholarship in Anthropology

Donor-Approved Resolution

WHEREAS, former students and colleagues of Dr. Vernon J. Knight have contributed \$13,687.36 to The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama to honor Dr. Knight and to promote the education of students in the College of Arts and Sciences at The University of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences has directed \$12,500 in Capstone Foundation funds to be used for the same purpose; and

WHEREAS, the donors desire that these gifts be accepted and maintained by The University of Alabama as a permanent fund to be named The Vernon James Knight Endowed Scholarship in Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences for the purposes and upon the conditions set out below, by Dr. Robert Olin, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, on behalf of the donors:

1. Priority of consideration shall be given to graduate students who are enrolled in the Anthropology graduate program and who are conducting research on the anthropology of art and design, with a preference for iconography projects. Secondary consideration shall be given to undergraduate majors with the same research interests.
2. Recipients shall be determined by a committee comprised of members of the Department of Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences. The committee may include the Head of the Department of Anthropology or his/her designee and the Dean of the College or his/her designee. The committee may also include Dr. Vernon J. Knight for as long as he is willing and able to serve. Decisions of the committee shall be made in accordance with University policies and procedures adopted from time to time, subject to the approval of the Dean of the College and the President of the University, and coordinated with the Office of Admissions or such University office designated by the President for coordination of such awards.
3. Persons or entities desiring to contribute to The Vernon James Knight Endowed Scholarship in Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences shall be free to do so provided they accept the conditions governing this fund; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vernon James Knight is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Anthropology at The University of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Knight graduated from The University of Alabama in 1975 with a bachelor of arts in anthropology; and

WHEREAS, after graduating in 1975, Dr. Knight was a research associate and associate project director for the Mound State Monument; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, Dr. Knight completed his master of arts in anthropology at the University of Toronto; and

WHEREAS, following graduation in 1977, Dr. Knight became a staff archaeologist at the Columbus Museum of Arts and Sciences in Columbus, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Dr. Knight received the Ripley P. Bullen Medal in Archaeology as an “outstanding future anthropologist”; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Dr. Knight graduated from the University of Florida with a doctorate degree in anthropology; and

WHEREAS, after earning his doctorate in 1981, Dr. Knight returned to The University of Alabama as the senior research archaeologist for the Office of Archaeological Research at the Museum of Natural History; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Dr. Knight joined the Department of Anthropology at The University of Alabama as an assistant professor; in 1991, he became an associate professor; and in 1997, a professor; and he served as chair of the Department of Anthropology from 1999 through 2003; and

WHEREAS, during his career, Dr. Knight served on the board of directors of the Alabama Archaeological Society from 1984 through 1993, and again from 1999 through 2005; as secretary of the Alabama De Soto Commission from 1985 through 1990; as secretary treasurer of the De Soto Trial Commission from 1986 through 1992; and as a member of the De Soto Expedition Trail Commission for the United States Department of the Interior from 1992 through 1994; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Knight also served as the editor of *Southeastern Archaeology* from 1987 through 1990; as executive secretary of the Southeastern Columbus Quincentenary Commission from 1987 through 1992; as head of the anthropology section review panel of the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program for the United States Department of Education in 1992; as president of the Alabama Archaeological Society in 1999; and as president of the 1999-2000 Southeastern Archaeological Conference; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Knight held the position of curator of southeastern archaeology with the Alabama Museum of Natural History from 1991 through 2014, and served as a

fellow on the College of Arts and Sciences Leadership Board from 2011 through 2014;
and

WHEREAS, in 2011, Dr. Knight received the Society for American Archaeology book award in the scholarly category, and the Anne B. and James B. McMillan Prize in Southern History and Culture; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Knight's research centered on the archeology of socio-political organization and religion in the southeastern United States and the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, after more than 24 years of service to the University, Dr. Knight retired from The University of Alabama in 2014; and

WHEREAS, through this endowment, the donors wish to honor Dr. Knight's years of service to the University and to support academic excellence within the College of Arts and Sciences at The University of Alabama in perpetuity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama that it hereby accepts the generous contribution of the donors and establishes The Vernon James Knight Endowed Scholarship in Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences as a restricted endowed fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the initial gift and any future contributions to this fund shall constitute an endowed corpus, which will be held, invested, maintained, and administered by the University in perpetuity according to its policies and procedures adopted from time to time for endowed funds, and that the endowment earnings shall be used for needs that most closely relate to the donors' intent as stated herein, under the policies and procedures of the University adopted from time to time to regulate and administer such awards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the permanent minutes of this Board and that a copy be sent to Dr. Robert F. Olin, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, to share with friends and colleagues of Dr. Vernon J. Knight.

Draft resolution approved by donor this _____ day
of _____ 2015.



Dr. Robert F. Olin
On Behalf of the Donors