# Howard Lechler '48 Endowed Medical Assistance Fund at Clarkson University

# I. Establishment

The Howard Lechler '48 Endowed Medical Assistance Fund was established in April 2000 through a gift from Mary Lou and Howard E. Lechler '48 to make financial assistance to Clarkson Faculty and Staff (and their immediate family) with extraordinary medical expenses not covered by insurance.

# II. History and Purpose

Howard E. Lechler '48 was a member of the Clarkson College of Technology Civil Engineering faculty in the early 1950's.

In 1952, Mr. Lechler's first wife (since deceased) became seriously ill. His faculty colleagues took up a collection to assist Mr. Lechler in meeting extraordinary medical expenses. In gratitude, Mr. Lechler in 1972 made a charitable gift to establish the Lechler Medical Assistance Fund. The fund was dedicated to Clarkson Faculty and members of their immediate families who faced unusual medical expenses, which in turn created a financial emergency.

By 1991, the original fund was depleted. Mr. Lechler again made a generous charitable contribution to restore the Lechler Medical Assistance Fund, with the stipulation that accessd to the fund be broadened to include all permanent employees.

In April 2000, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Lechler made a generous charitable contribution to endow this fund, thereby ensuring its continuance in perpetuity.

# III. Funding

This endowed fund was created by a generous give of over \$30,000 from Mary Lou and Howard Lechler. Any interested parties may make additional gifts to this fund in the future at any time.

#### IV. Investment

All contributions to this endowment fund may, for investment purposes, be co-mingled with the investment assets of Clarkson University, but these gifts shall be entered in the University's accounting records as the **Howard Lechler '48 Endowed Medical Assistance Fund.** 

The distributed income from this endowment shall be used for the purposes authorized by these guidelines. The investment, management, and expenditure of all funds shall be in accordance with the University Policies and Procedures then in effect and consistent with the wishes of Mr. and Mrs. Lechler. Income that is not distributed will be added to the principal of the fund.

As of April 2000, Clarkson University followed its established endowment policy rate and rule of 5% net of all fees and commissions, of a three-year moving average of December 31 market values of the endowment fund. Such rata is reviewed annually.

# V. Administration

The **Howard Lechler '48 Endowed Medical Assistance Fund** will be administered according to the following guidelines:

- Only employees who are in an employment group classified as 'regular' (permenant) are eligible.
- Fund assistance is available only for extraordinary medical and other related expenses (no covered by any insurance) incurred by employees and their immediate family members. Immediate family members shall include spouse, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, In limited cases, a request for assistance of another direct relative who (a) is a member of the immediate family, (b) a resident of the household, and (c) a dependent of the employee, will be considered.
- A committee comprising the vice president for Business and Financial Affairs and director of Human Resources will review and approve/reject all requests.
- Fund awards will be limited to \$1,000 per household within a fiscal year. The committee may elect to award up to an additional \$1,000 to an applicant, in extreme hardship cases.
- Applications for assistance from the fund must be directed to the Human Resources Office. The director of Human Resources has primary responsibility for the administration of the fund.
- Once each semester, the director of Human Resources will advertise the existence of the **Howard Lechler '48 Endowed Medical Assistance Fund** in the *University's Employee Newsline*. The fund will not be mentioned in any other University publications.

# VI. Reporting

The director of Human Resources will report to Mr. Lechler on awards from the fund on an annual basis.

#### VII. Amendments

This agreement may be amended from time to time by the mutual consent of Clarkson University and Mr. Lechler (or his appointed designee).

If circumstances at some future time cause this endowment fund to be inappropriate or impractical, the University may re-designate the purpose of the endowment and in income there from as to as close a purpose as possible to the original intent of this endowment. In such circumstances, the fund shall continue to bear its original title or as close a title as possible to the original title.

Donor:

Howard E. Lechler '48

For Clarkson University

James V. Manaro Vice President for Business & Financial Affairs

2

Brian C. Sischo Director of Development

\*Retyped 8.20.2018 keeping original signature/TG