In your own words
Faculty recruitment, investment in people, giving back to help others: Why alumni support the MIT Sloan Annual Fund

**Christopher McLeod, SM ’79**
“My philanthropy is focused on education. I have benefited greatly from the education I received, in particular from MIT Sloan where I had a very positive experience. I know firsthand the thrill and intellectual stimulation of learning from faculty who are on the leading edge of management theory. In my case, for example, I learned options pricing theory from Nobel laureate Robert Merton when I was a student. I know my money is going toward a great institution, and it will be put to optimal use. Annual Fund gifts enable the recruitment and retention of the best world-class faculty and support their research, which is critical to the School’s mission and reputation. As students, we had the benefit of being taught by an outstanding faculty, supported by the gifts of alumni who came before us. Now it is our turn to see that MIT Sloan continues in that tradition.”

**Eric Silverman, SM ’91**
“I believe in unrestricted annual support, and I think of it like investing. As an investor, I’m a backer of people—and I think the managers of MIT and MIT Sloan, in particular, can do a better job of figuring out where the money needs to go. When I invest in a business, while I want to know what the managers of the business will do with the money, they are in the best position to make the best use of the money; so I see that similarly in giving to MIT. I give my trust to MIT that they will use the money for the best purposes, and I believe in the management of MIT Sloan: the dean, the faculty, and all the people involved. That is what my dollar vote is for and that is how I demonstrate my belief in the people at MIT Sloan, by giving.”

**Marcelo Saad, SM ’91**
“I had an extraordinary life experience at MIT and MIT Sloan, which, besides being a very happy period, made me much better prepared for a professional career. Giving back is not only ‘fair,’ but also the best way to help maintain MIT as a premier, world-class teaching institution—and indirectly to help many others to have the same benefits that the School provided me. MIT Sloan is much more than just a school with a few or even several areas of excellence, and its continuous development requires the pursuit of excellence in a multitude of areas. Finally, donating to MIT Sloan has allowed me, indeed pushed me, to keep myself more involved with the School over time. This serves as an important source of continual knowledge, and also gives me great satisfaction to interact more with the MIT community.”

**Karen Mazer, SM ’89**
“When I was a student at MIT Sloan, I participated in the fundraising evenings when we would call alumni for their donations; so I had early exposure to the needs of the School. My overall Sloan experience was so positive, both academically and personally, that I knew I wanted to be part of the alumni giving program when I could. I have been contributing to the MIT Sloan Annual Fund since I graduated. And over time, as I got rid of my loan debt, I have increased my annual giving to higher levels. For anyone fortunate enough to be able to take care of their own needs, it is important to be generous to the communities that matter to you, and Sloan comes to the top of the list for me.”

**Richard Rabinow, SM ’68**
“There are several reasons why I support MIT Sloan’s Annual Fund. I really enjoyed my education at MIT Sloan, and I think it has been very helpful. It created opportunities for me that I have been able to take advantage of, and I feel a responsibility to repay the huge value that I received. Virtually all of us have been successful, and a part of that, perhaps a significant part, we owe to MIT and the contacts we made. We know education is expensive, and our tuition, then and now, doesn’t cover the full cost. It is important that those of us who have been successful are able to give back in appreciation of that success.”