

The University of Vermont Proctor Maple Research Center Leadership Campaign

The University of Vermont has launched a \$1.5 million campaign in conjunction with the 70th anniversary of the Proctor Maple Research Center, the nation's oldest and largest facility dedicated to basic and applied research on sugar maple trees and maple syrup production. The campaign will fund an endowed professorship in maple biology and biochemistry and expand endowment funding for basic and applied maple research.



Campaign Objectives



Endowed Professorship in Maple Biology and Biochemistry (\$1,000,000)

An endowed professorship will attract and retain an accomplished scientist who will make important contributions to the study of the sugar maple through scholarship in forest ecology, tree physiology, microbiology or biochemistry as well as engage in outreach to the maple industry.



Maple Research Endowment Funding (\$500,000)

New gift commitments totaling \$500,000 are being sought to expand the Proctor Maple Research Center's endowed research fund and add endowed undergraduate student research assistantships and graduate student fellowships. These resources will ensure the availability of funding for long-term maple research, intensive studies of a shorter duration and the regular participation of undergraduate and graduate students in maple research activity.

Established in 1946 in Underhill Center, Vermont, the Proctor Maple Research Center has contributed directly to the expansion of the maple syrup industry through studies which have led to technical advances in the refinement and popularization of high yield sap collection tubing systems, development of improved techniques for syrup handling and storage, and the design of more efficient evaporator systems.



Research conducted at the Proctor Maple Research Center on the biology of sugar maples has led to a vastly improved understanding of the basic physiology and ecology of sugar maple trees (particularly the dynamics of sap flow as well as sap chemistry and microbiology) and the long-term health and sustainability of forestland in the Northeast. This work is of prime importance given the increasing challenges of acid rain, nitrogen saturation, elevated carbon dioxide levels, and global climate change to forest health.

The Proctor Maple Research Center's state-of-the-art laboratory, sugarhouse and maple production research facility are ideally positioned to support the growing maple industry's research needs. The Leadership Campaign will ensure that the maple industry can rely on the Proctor Maple Research Center's unparalleled staffing resources and research capabilities for generations to come.

The University of Vermont Proctor Maple Research Center Leadership Campaign Maple Research Endowment Funding Opportunities

❖ Maple Research Endowment Fund



The Proctor Maple Research Center's endowment fund was established in 1998 and has grown to become a reliable source of funding for long-term studies and short-term projects which support the Center's research mission – *to study the ecology, physiology and genetics of sugar maples; the biochemistry and microbiology of its products; and the methods to improve tree health and maple syrup production.* Gifts at all levels are being sought to strengthen the endowment's ability to fund an expanding list of maple research projects. Donor recognition opportunities are available for contributions of \$5,000 or more.

❖ Undergraduate Student Maple Research Assistantship - \$50,000

Each endowed undergraduate student research assistantship funded at the \$50,000 level will equip the Proctor Maple Research Center with the financial resources necessary to attract undergraduate students to work on maple research projects of varying duration. Whether students are seeking field or laboratory-based experiences working with scientists at the Proctor Maple Research Center or are undertaking an Honors College or distinguished undergraduate research project, the Proctor Maple Research Center will be able to offer prestigious maple research assistantships from a dedicated funding source.



❖ Graduate Student Maple Research Fellowship – \$250,000



The Proctor Maple Research Center welcomes the creation of one or more endowed graduate student fellowship funds at the \$250,000 level knowing each will be used to advance important maple research projects with the assistance of graduate students who are dedicated to the study of maple research topics such as sap production, syrup quality, sugar maple tree biochemistry, genetics, forest ecology and global climate change. Graduate students help advance important maple research topics in a timely

manner and are also ideal candidates to join the workforce where they can apply their knowledge at more senior levels of employment within private industry, academic, governmental or non-governmental settings.

For more information about the Proctor Maple Research Center Leadership Campaign, please contact Howard Lincoln at the UVM College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 146 University Place, Burlington, VT 05405-0106; (802) 656-2509; howard.lincoln@uvm.edu.