

Curtin University



Look Ever Forward Society

Gifts in Wills

Make tomorrow better.

» curtin.edu/giftsinwills

A gift left in your Will represents your closely held hopes for the future. It signifies who you are and what you care passionately about. It is an enduring way of acknowledging your values and accomplishments, while supporting the University's work and becoming part of its future achievements.



Heroes in the present. Hope in the future.

Universities are always investing in the future. They unlock the potential of individuals through learning and change the course of lives. They create new possibilities for communities through research. And they provide environments where we can constantly challenge, question and explore new ideas.

Since I joined Curtin, I have been amazed by the myriad of ways in which the University is making tomorrow better. Knowledge is an incredibly powerful resource and, as I congratulate graduating students and celebrate the latest breakthroughs of Curtin researchers, I feel enormous hope for the future.

Curtin has a bold, innovative, and inclusive reputation that will continue to drive its efforts to build a smarter and fairer world, transforming lives through education, research and service to our communities.

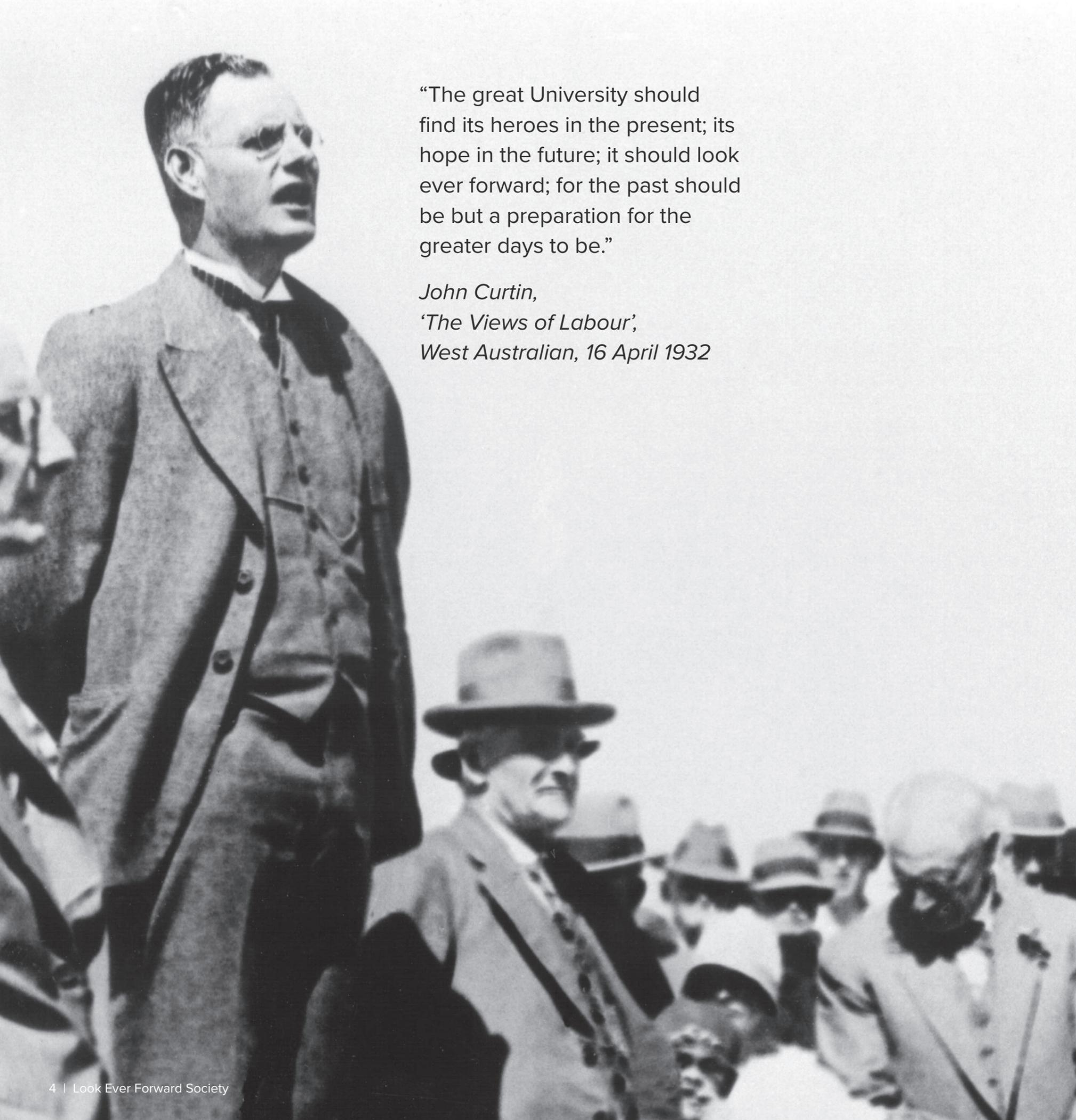
I invite you to join us in this very important mission by remembering Curtin in your Will. A generous act like this is an expression of your own vision for the future, underscoring who you are and what you care about in this world. It will also make an important difference to the lives of students for generations to come.

Making a gift in your Will is one of the most significant, meaningful donations a person can make. It's not a decision to be taken lightly. I want to personally assure you that if you choose to leave a bequest to Curtin University, we will treat your gift with the deepest respect and gratitude. We will look after your money, ensuring it is spent wisely and in accordance with your wishes.

Thank you for considering Curtin in your Will.

Professor Harlene Hayne
Vice-Chancellor, Curtin University





“The great University should find its heroes in the present; its hope in the future; it should look ever forward; for the past should be but a preparation for the greater days to be.”

*John Curtin,
‘The Views of Labour’,
West Australian, 16 April 1932*

The *Look Ever Forward Society*

The *Look Ever Forward Society* was established in 2021 to recognise the generosity and vision of a growing number of staff, alumni and friends who have pledged to support Curtin University through a gift in their Will.

Should you choose to pledge a gift in your Will, you will automatically be invited to become a member of this special group, which will keep you closely connected with University life. This includes opportunities to hear firsthand from students, researchers and other members of the Curtin community.

Members of the *Look Ever Forward Society*:

- have the opportunity to meet Curtin staff and students
- are kept informed of key Curtin developments and activities
- are invited to bespoke events, such as tours of Curtin’s state-of-art facilities, live performances in Curtin’s Hayman Theatre, private viewings within the John Curtin Gallery, and more
- are acknowledged on our webpage and in publications (if desired)
- receive a beautiful pin featuring the black cockatoo drawings which were commissioned for our Gifts in Wills program.



Bequest Stories



Ailsa West: Encouraging and rewarding future generations in the arts

Ailsa West (above) is leaving a gift in her Will to enable high-achieving screen arts students in their final year or undertaking postgraduate studies to pursue their dreams.

When Ailsa applied to study a Bachelor of Arts in English and Media at the WA Institute of Technology, little did she know how much it would change her life – she would go on to travel the globe working for leading universities and media organisations.

However, Ailsa's degree was hard fought for, as her family could not support her financially through university, forcing her to find time between studies to wash dishes and wait tables to pay her own way.

Ailsa decided to leave a bequest to future Curtin students similarly committed to their field, enabling highly motivated screen arts students to pursue important projects they might otherwise be precluded from.

“I hope my bequest will encourage and reward future generations. It is for those people who are highly motivated and passionate. I hope it might allow someone to travel overseas and make that important film or documentary.”



Paul Robinson: A gift in reconciliation

In 2001 Paul Andrew Digby Robinson left a bequest to Curtin in his Will to support research and projects to aid underprivileged Aboriginal children.

Paul's bequest helped fund the launch of an innovative Nyungar Language and Culture course and has most recently supported the Moorditj Yorga Scholarship Program. The Scholarship assists mature-aged Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women to enter and succeed at university, enabling them to become strong leaders and role models within their own families and communities.

Curtin is truly grateful to Paul for his unwavering commitment to Nyungar culture and his significant contribution to reconciliation.



How your gift will make a difference

Investing in the future – a bequest to the Curtin University Endowment

Some individuals have a clear idea about what they would like to support through a gift in their Will, whereas others are left asking the question “How can I make the biggest impact?”. Tertiary education and research are evolving at a rapid pace, making it difficult to predict what the University will need in the future.

The Curtin University Endowment is an investment fund maintained by the University with the objective of ensuring long-term capital growth and providing an annual income stream in perpetuity. The power of the Endowment is in its continuity as an evergreen fund.

By leaving an unrestricted gift to the Endowment in your Will, you can be confident that your donation will address the University’s most critical needs for generations to come. No matter the size of your gift, you will be investing in the future of Curtin and making it possible for the University to Look Ever Forward.



Supporting your passion – a bequest to a specific area of study/research

Whilst an unrestricted gift provides the University with the greatest degree of flexibility in the future, we appreciate that some donors wish to support a specific area they are passionate about.

Perhaps you would like to extend a helping hand to students from a particular background or studying in the same field that you did; or support research addressing an issue close to your heart? Beyond our teaching and research activities, much-loved institutions such as the John Curtin Gallery and our Curtin FM community radio station might also be worthy of your contribution.

Wherever your passion lies, please get in touch with us to discuss the details of your bequest and to ensure that Curtin can fulfil your wishes. In the rare event that circumstances change – e.g., should an academic discipline be discontinued – the suggested wording on page 11 will ensure that Curtin still applies your gift to the most appropriate purpose, in line with your intentions.



How to include Curtin in your Will

If you are thinking of leaving a gift to Curtin, we encourage you to reach out to us to discuss your wishes before you draft or update your Will, especially if you are leaving a gift for a specific purpose or giving an asset, such as an artwork. This will ensure that your wishes can be fulfilled by the University.

To ensure the wording reflects your exact wishes, we recommend you seek legal advice when drafting your Will or amending an existing Will with a codicil. Curtin is unable to provide specific legal advice, but we may be able to refer you to a solicitor or trustee service specialising in this area.

We also encourage you to share your wishes with your loved ones and explain to them why your decision to include Curtin in your Will is important to you. We welcome family members at *Look Ever Forward Society* events.



Nelly Hodges (pictured here with Mr Truffles) is leaving a gift in her Will to fund a prize for a medical science student.

Types of bequests

There are four types of gifts in Will that you may wish to consider:

Residuary

A residuary gift is made from the remainder balance of your estate after all other financial commitments have been honoured, including taking care of your loved ones. You can choose to give all, or a percentage, of your residuary estate to Curtin. This type of gift will keep up with inflation, meaning its value will remain relative and will automatically adjust to the value of your estate.

Pecuniary (specific or gift-in-kind)

A pecuniary gift provides a specific amount of money or gifts a specific asset such as works of art, the proceeds of property, a life insurance policy, stocks or shares. In the case of a specific amount of money being gifted to Curtin, please note that inflation may impact the value of your gift. As such, you may wish to include a clause to account for inflation to preserve its value.

Percentage or fractional

With this type of gift, a percentage or fraction of the value of your estate is bequeathed. This takes into account the changing value of an estate over time.

Whole estate

Some donors may wish to leave their entire estate.



These drawings by Curtin graduate Andrew Nicholls were especially commissioned for the Gifts in Wills Program. The black cockatoo is an Australian native bird and a familiar sight at Curtin's Bentley campus.

Suggested wording for your Will

As mentioned, it is important that you seek appropriate legal advice when making or amending your Will. However, we have provided some suggested wording which you may wish to share with your solicitor.

Bequest to the Curtin University Endowment

I give to Curtin University, Western Australia (ABN 99 143 842 569) [the whole of my estate] or [x% of my estate] or [the sum of \$_____] to be included within the Curtin University Endowment to ensure excellence in education and research in perpetuity.

Bequest to a specific area of study/research

I give to Curtin University, Western Australia (ABN 99 143 842 569) [the whole of my estate] or [x% of my estate] or [the sum of \$_____] for the specific purpose of [name of intended scholarship/department/research area, etc.]. However, if circumstances change and my wish cannot be fulfilled, I direct that a duly authorised officer at Curtin University allocates the bequest in such a manner that best approximates my wishes.



How can we help?

Writing or amending your Will, and deciding to leave a philanthropic donation, is a major decision. It's one that will take time and careful consideration. We hope that the information we have provided will assist you in the process, and we encourage you to contact us for a confidential discussion about your wishes. When you are ready, our Gifts in Wills Coordinator is here to help.



Anna Eisenhauer
Gifts in Wills Coordinator

Anna joined Curtin's Advancement team in 2013 and has worked in both alumni relations and fundraising. She is now managing the Gifts in Wills program.

"I've been working at Curtin for several years and during that time I've had the opportunity to meet many of our inspirational graduates from around the world and to hear their stories. It is a privilege to now work on the Gifts in Wills program. Leaving a bequest to Curtin is the greatest gift – one which I truly believe will benefit students for generations to come."





Thank you for considering leaving a bequest to Curtin University.

University Advancement

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Make tomorrow better.



For further information please visit:
curtin.edu.au/giftsinwills

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