



LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY

Advancement Report

July 17, 2026

Agenda Item #1: Dashboard

☒ Information

☐ Action

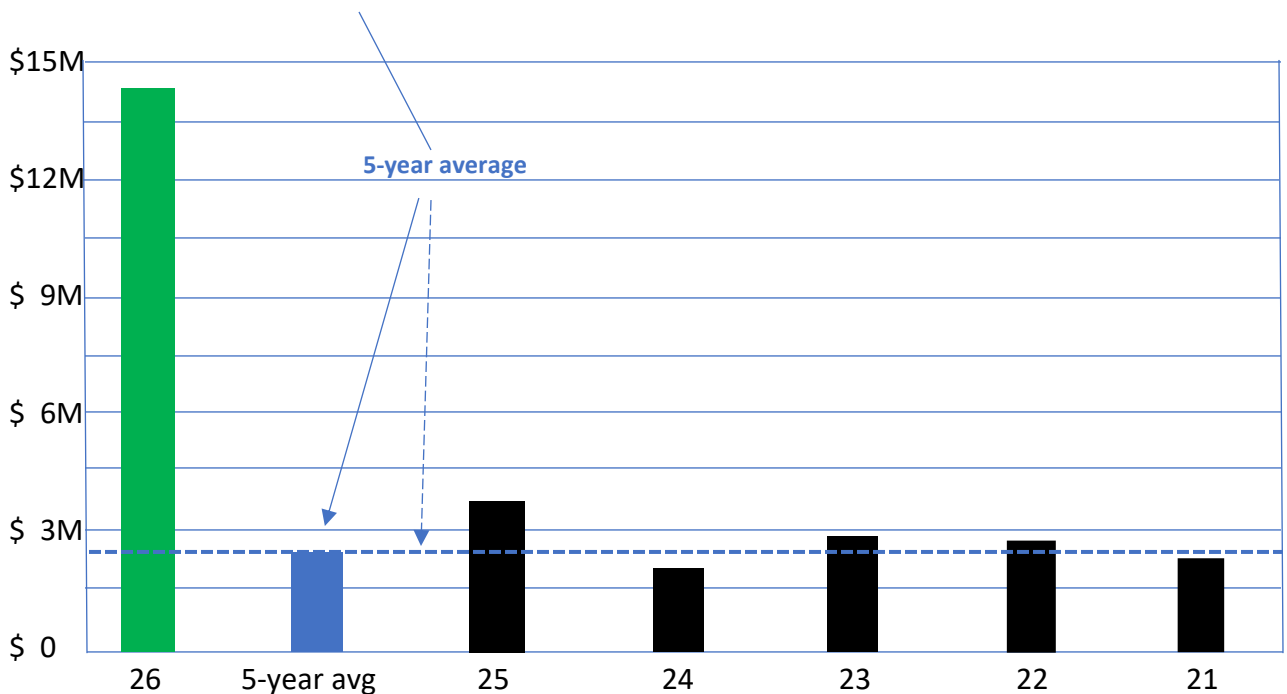
☐ Discussion

Purpose: The dashboard below compares **current fiscal year fundraising** to the previous five years by quarter. The **five-year average** is also included for comparison.

Note: Financial data follows CASE industry standards and represents cash gifts, and documented pledges and estate gifts.

Dashboard 1 ~ Total Fundraising Five Year comparison: Year to Date (YTD) by Quarter (Q#)

Fiscal Year (7/1 – 6/30)	To date 2026	'21 – '25 5-year avg	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
YTD							
July - Sept Q1	2,266,415	416,459	148,898	277,550	450,901	586,835	618,111
Oct – Dec Q2	190,683	543,577	527,192	241,543	289,855	1,347,312	311,982
Jan – Mar Q3	4,914,036	443,067	169,406	428,669	530,640	573,531	513,088
Apr – June Q4	7,233,601	1,187,626	2,785,324	717,111	1,643,509	198,225	593,960
Total	14,604,735	2,590,729	\$3,630,820	1,664,873	2,914,905	2,705,903	2,037,142



FY26 Gift breakdown:

Cash + pledges	\$ 9,654,735
Estate	<u>\$ 4,950,000</u>
TOTAL	\$14,604,735

Suggested Action/Motion:

No Action Required

President's Recommendation:

N/A



Advancement Report July 17, 2026

Agenda Item #2: Major Gifts, Planned Giving, and Grants Update

☒ Information

☐ Action

☐ Discussion

Background:

Major Gifts:

Major Gifts are defined by LSSU Advancement as gifts received in excess of \$10,000. The following summary represents the recent major gift activity in support of the University's current key initiatives since the May, 2026 meeting.

Gail Glezen made a \$14,000 gift designated to the *Steven Glezen Memorial Fund*. Gail and her family established the scholarship in honor of her husband, Steven Glezen '86, LSSU Alumnus and community leader. This gift is the net proceeds from an annual golf tournament honoring Steven held each July at Wild Bluff Golf Course in Bay Mills. The scholarship benefits a student entering their junior year who is majoring in a Lukenda School of Business program.

The Sault Ste. Marie Visitors and Convention Bureau made a generous gift of \$10,000 in support of the Campus and Community Partnership Fund, with funding designated for the LSSU sign project in downtown Sault Ste. Marie.

Planned Giving:

Planned gifts are contributions that require advance planning and are typically made through a donor's estate plan. These gifts are made during a donor's lifetime but take effect later, often after their passing or they involve the donor retaining some benefit such as lifetime income. Examples include bequests in a will, charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities, or non-cash assets like real estate or retirement funds.

An increased communication cadence is underway. We are actively working with Crescendo to enhance our planned giving page and in a recent outreach three donors requested additional information about estate gifts. Moving forward we will engage all respondents in a timely way.

FY26 Documented estate gifts by quarter:

Quarter	Amount	Purpose
Q1	\$1,000,000	Laker Hockey Challenge
Q2	\$0	
Q3	\$1,000,000	TBD
	\$ 800,000	Scholarship
	\$ 150,000	Laker Hockey Challenge
Q4	\$2,000,000	Scholarship
FY26 TOTAL	\$4,950,000	

Grants:

To restart grant writing efforts, fifty six prospective grant making organizations were identified by a consultant based on LSSU's stated strategic priorities. They have been prioritized by proposal date and subject.

FY26 Grant tracker by quarter:

Quarter	Submitted	Approved	Declined	Purpose
Q1	\$0			
Q2	\$0			
Q3	\$0			
Q4	\$ 25,000			Schmuckal Foundation – Simulation Defibrillators
	\$257,000			Towsley Foundation – Anatomage Tables
FY26 TOTAL	\$292,000			

FY27 Q1 and beyond:

- Three proposals valued up to \$1M are being vetted by the deans.
- Four proposal outlines are being constructed for review by the provost.
- Ongoing coordination with the provost, deans, faculty, and staff for proposal content.

Suggested Action/Motion:

No Action Required

President's Recommendation:

N/A



Advancement Report July 17, 2026

Agenda Item #3: Annual Fundraising & Alumni Relations Update

☒ Information

☐ Action

☐ Discussion

Purpose:

This agenda item provides a summary of the LSSU Advancement's recent Annual Fundraising and LSSU Alumni Relations activities.

Background:

Annual Fundraising activities provide financial support for University initiatives and assist in the identification of potential major gift donors. Alumni Relations activities and communications facilitate the initial engagement of alumni and friends to LSSU beginning the cultivation process for joining the Alumni Association and participating in future giving.

LSSU Advancement Annual Fundraising Activities:

Laker Club and Athletic Related Activity

Fiscal Year	Gross Revenue	Number of Donors
2025-26	\$83,824	151
2024-25	\$78,954	126
2023-24	\$61,819	120
2022-23	\$49,802	85
2021-22	\$54,411	113
2020-21	\$50,855	103



Laker Meal Sponsor Program

The 2025-26 campaign was a resounding success adding over \$20,000 to the Laker Club campaign. The program has made an impact across all sports, and has increased both the number of donors and revenue attributed to Laker Club.

Laker Hockey Challenge

LSSU has launched a \$1,500,000 challenge match campaign on the heels of the initial \$1,500,000 anonymous gift to Laker Hockey. Over \$1,350,000 has been committed towards the campaign. The majority of this is through estate gifts, with the remainder coming through cash commitments. The campaign is a part of celebrating 60 years of Laker Hockey throughout the course of the 2026-27 season.



Annual Lake State Golf Classic

The 37th Annual Lake State Classic will take place on Friday, August 7th at Wild Bluff. The “Classic Bash” will be returning once again this year at Wild Bluff on Thursday, August 6th. The Classic has sold out for three consecutive years, and we expect that it will sell out for a 4th year in a row.

Sign up your team, or commit to your sponsorships through the link below.

<https://advancement.lssu.edu/lake-state-classic-2026/>

The 2026 event will be on Friday, August 7, 2026.

Fiscal Year	Gross Revenue	Net Revenue	Golfers	Location
2025	\$55,872	\$43,045	*144	Wild Bluff
2024	\$50,620	\$38,604	*144	Wild Bluff
2023	\$52,892	\$35,931	*144	Wild Bluff
2022	\$45,450	\$34,315	110	Wild Bluff
2021	\$41,686	\$34,161	108	Wild Bluff

* Sold Out

Laker Women’s Basketball Golf Outing – September 26, 2026

The inaugural Laker Women’s Basketball golf outing hosted over 120 golfers and netted over \$18,000. The 2026 outing will be held on Saturday, September 26, at 1:00pm at the Sault Ste Marie, Country Club. Click the below link to sign up to play or become a sponsor.

<https://lssulakers.com/sports/2026/4/29/2026-womens-basketball-golf-outing.aspx>

LSSU Annual Fund and Alumni Related Activity:

Superior Give-a-thon

The 2026 Superior Give-a-thon started February, 16 and ran through May 1. The student callers were able to connect with alumni and donors. The Superior Give-a-thon was supported by email and social media to further connect with our supporters, raise campaign awareness, and expand our reach.

Fiscal Year	Gross Revenue	Number of Donors
2025-26	\$21,690	159
2024-25	\$19,175	171
2023-24	\$19,925	143
2022-23	\$20,395	144
2021-22	\$16,485	137
2020-21	\$15,860	109
2019-20	\$8,971	104

Alumni Association

Upcoming Events



LSSU Day at the Tigers – Saturday, July 25, 2026

LSSU Day at the Tigers is planned for July 25th at 1pm vs Kansas City Royals. A pregame social will take place prior to the game. RSVP for the pre-game social and purchase game tickets at <https://alumni.lssu.edu/lake-state-day-at-the-tigers/>



Lake State Classic – August 7, 2026

The 37th Annual Lake State Classic is set for Friday, August 7 at Wild Bluff. Once again, the Thursday night “Classic Bash” will return on August 6 at Wild Bluff, offering a great opportunity to connect with LSSU supporters and raise additional funds for Laker Athletics.

Register your team or become a sponsor here: <https://advancement.lssu.edu/lake-state-classic-2026/>



Lakers at University of Windsor – Oct 2 & 3, 2026

Laker hockey will take on the University of Windsor to open the season. The game on Saturday, October 3rd will take place in Essex, Ontario, and a pre-game social will be held for LSSU alumni and supporters. Time and location are TBD.



Great Lake State Weekend – Oct 23 & 24, 2026

GLSW is set for October 23-24, 2026. Plan to join us for a memorable homecoming celebration that includes exciting Laker hockey games vs. Bowling Green State University, Alumni Awards and Hall of Fame ceremony, LSSU Hockey Ring of Honor, Board of Trustees Tailgate Party, and more! Visit our website for more information as it becomes available: <https://alumni.lssu.edu/great-lake-state-weekend-2026/>

2026 Alumni Award Recipients



Outstanding Alumnus Award
Claude 'Bud' Denker '80



Kenneth J. Shouldice Award
Pete Stauber '90



Paul Ripley Award
Austin Lowes '12



Finlayson Award
H. James Bourque '56

The LSSU Alumni Awards and Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026, as part of Great Lakes State Weekend.

This year's Outstanding Alumni Award recipient is Bud Denker, Class of '80, originally from Brimley, Michigan. Denker exemplifies that legacy through his leadership as President of Penske Corporation, Executive Vice President of Human Resources for Penske Automotive Group, and Executive Vice President of Team Penske, where he oversees its IndyCar, NASCAR, and Porsche Penske Motorsports programs.

The Kenneth J. Shouldice Achievement Award recipient is Pete Stauber, Class of '90, originally from Duluth, Minnesota. Stauber currently serves as the U.S. Representative for Minnesota's 8th Congressional District. A former law enforcement officer, he also wore the Laker uniform as a member of the 1988 NCAA Division I national championship hockey team.

The Paul E. Ripley Award for Young Alumni recipient is Austin Lowes, Class of '12, from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Lowes has built an impressive professional record and currently serves as Chairman of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

The Dr. Donald and Catherine Finlayson Distinguished Citizen Award recognizes H. James Bourque, Class of '56 (MCMT), a longtime businessman in Sault Ste. Marie whose enduring commitment to Lake Superior State University has made a lasting impact. Through decades of involvement and support, Bourque has remained a dedicated champion of the university and its mission.

2026 LSSU Hall of Fame Inductees



This year's inductees into the Lake Superior State University Athletic Hall of Fame represent a wide range of talent, eras, and athletic achievement that have helped shape Laker history.

The 2026 class includes Clayton Beddoes '94, a standout Laker hockey player from 1990–94 and a native of Bentley, Alberta;

Maria Blazejewski '13, who made her mark on the women's basketball program from 2009–13 and hails from Beulah, Michigan;

Dennis Bolton '74, a key member of the Laker hockey team from 1970–74, originally from Copper Cliff, Ontario; and

Chris Wooley '90, a scoring leader for the Laker basketball team from 1986–90 and a native of Detroit, Michigan.

Suggested Action/Motion:

No Action Required

President's Recommendation:

N/A



Advancement Report July 17, 2026

Agenda Item #4: Legislative Affairs Update

☒ Information

☐ Action

☐ Discussion

Purpose:

The purpose of this submittal is to provide a summary of state legislation related to LSSU.

Tracking

Budget Timing: A budget was reached early in the morning of Friday, July 3, 2026.
LSSU received \$30M (75%) in capital outlay funding for a \$40M CASET renovation.
LSSU is obligated to raise a minimum \$10M (25%) to meet the state required match.

History of LSSU's recent state capital outlay projects.

FY26	FY21	FY18	FY05
\$30M CASET Approved	\$8.8M Barch CFRE Approved	\$9M Considine Approved	\$11.5M Arts Center Approved

Other key LSSU budget issues:

No change	Charter School 3% funding reporting requirements
+1.6%	General Fund
\$0	ITEMS (Infrastructure, Technology, Equipment, Maintenance, Safety)
Funded	ITW (Indian Tuition Waiver)
Increased	Prison program funding (\$850,000 to \$1.95M state wide)
4% / \$651	Tuition increase – whichever is greater
No change	Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)

Suggested Action/Motion:

No Action Required

President's Recommendation:

N/A