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\$2 Million gift benefits renewable energy and forest management

ARCATA -- Two million dollars, the second-largest cash gift in Humboldt State University's history, will enhance continued research in renewable energy and forest management thanks to businessman and longtime benefactor, Dr. Louis W. Schatz. In 1995 Dr. Schatz made a \$4 million gift to Humboldt -- one of the largest cash gifts ever received in the 23-campus California State University.

"The gift of \$2 million is the latest in a series of direction-shaping charitable contributions from Dr. Schatz," said Humboldt State President Alistair W. McCrone. "It's simply remarkable that he has done so very much to advance the fine work being performed at both the Schatz Energy Research Center and the Schatz Tree Farm.

"We are deeply honored by the substantial, tangible measure of the faith that Dr. Schatz has placed in Humboldt State and are determined to further demonstrate that it is well placed."



Dr. Louis Schatz

According to Dr. Schatz, the founder and board chairman of General Plastics, his primary interest is "to continue the progress that faculty and students are making in forestry and energy research for the university and the world."

One million dollars of the gift will go toward endowing Humboldt's Schatz Energy Research Center which is committed to promoting the use of clean and renewable energy. Peter Lehman, Humboldt State environmental resources engineering professor and director of the center, has successfully led efforts to create a hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicle -- an alternative to the internal combustion engine.

Lehman noted that he and his colleagues are "extremely delighted for the support Dr. Schatz has generously provided and will put the funds to good use in the continuing development of clean and renewable energy." The other million dollars of the gift permits Humboldt State researchers to continue forestry research at the Schatz Tree Farm. Dr. Schatz donated a 385-acre tree farm and \$800,000 endowment to Humboldt State in 1987.

"This gift permits us to further our study of emerging forestry issues," said Gerald Allen, professor and chairman of the Department of Forestry. "The generosity of Dr. Schatz also enhances the education of hundreds of students annually through his gifts to the tree farm."