



Sam Houston State University

A Member of The Texas State University System

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Russell,

Happy Holidays!

In this season of giving it only seems appropriate to extend my deepest level of gratitude on behalf of the Biology Department for your generosity. Your contribution to Biology students is a gift that extends far beyond monetary value. Sure your gift relieves some of the financial burden for students earning a college degree; however, your gift goes well beyond that. Your gift, in a sense, is a gift of knowledge. You have made it easier for a student to gain knowledge. Your gift is a reward to the student seeking knowledge. Through your gift, you have sent a message that knowledge is appreciated by those beyond the halls of academia. Your gift is a form of encouragement for students to keep seeking knowledge.

I personally know that a scholarship sends such a message. I was a scholarship recipient as an undergraduate and graduate student. My scholarships were not big; they were rather small. But, the impact those rewards had on me were enormous. I was proud of my accomplishment in earning the award, and I was honored to be acknowledged by the donor who made the reward possible.

It may appear that you as a donor go unnoticed. Despite this you continue to give out of kindness, and not acknowledgement. However, I want you to know that you are indeed noticed. The students who receive the award know you. The parents of these students know you. The faculty in the Biology Department who distribute the award know you. I know you. And, the SHSU community knows you.

Not only do we know you but we all appreciate you!

So, on behalf of the students, their parents, the faculty and SHSU, I say *Thank You* from the bottom of my heart. Your generosity truly does great things.

Yours Truly,

Chad W. Hargrave
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