Attachment B DONOR/HONOREE PROFILE

Oscar H. Gandy, Jr., earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from The University of New Mexico in 1967. Oscar made his big move to New Mexico after having earned an Associates of Arts degree at Nassau Community College in New York, and a brief period working at Sperry Gyroscope Corporation. He considered his time at The University of New Mexico (UNM) to be transformational.

While at UNM Oscar enjoyed a full and adventurous life that exposed him to new ways of thinking and new professional opportunities. He lived in an adobe apartment, attended Native American ceremonies on local reservations, enjoyed his motorcycle club, and became engaged in peace and social justice organizations. At the same time, Oscar started to hone his research skills working with Professor Harold Meier on campus. He became adept at data analysis using the newly available punch cards and computing systems. These skills prepared him well for his next steps in academia. After graduating from UNM, Oscar went on to pursue a Master's degree at The University of Pennsylvania and completed his PhD at Stanford University. He met his wife Judy at The University of Pennsylvania.

Judy was also an accomplished student and received an undergraduate degree in biology from the University of Pennsylvania and attended graduate school in the University's Department of South Asian Studies. She was also very engaged in her community and social movements. She has pursued her own career as a medical editor and author's editor. Oscar spent most of his professional life as a professor at two prestigious campuses, spending ten years at Howard University and then twenty more years at The University of Pennsylvania.

Oscar and Judy deeply understand the importance of higher education and the opportunities it offers students to expand their horizons. Although Oscar is fond of each university he attended and worked for, he is passionate about the role UNM played in setting the foundation for his life and future successes. Oscar and Judy believe that establishing a scholarship in the Department of Sociology would be a meaningful way to show their affinity for and gratitude to UNM, and to encourage students now and into the future. They are eager to support Sociology majors who are trailblazers in their own families by being the first to pursue a Bachelor's degree.

Oscar and Judy have one daughter, Imani Gandy, who currently resides in California. Oscar and Judy are retired and live in Tucson, Arizona.