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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Scholarships for Higher Education to be Awarded – Legacy of Servant-Leader and Former CEO Continues**

Dayton, OH – The WPCU Sunshine Community Fund, a (501)(c)(3) public foundation and the charitable giving arm of Wright-Patt Credit Union (“WPCU”), is excited to offer up to 10-thousand dollars in scholarships for higher education to two eligible students annually. The Douglas A. Fecher Excellence in Learning Scholarship (“Scholarship”), seeks eligible high school and university students in need who want to improve their lives through academic opportunity.

Each year, the Scholarship will award at least two eligible students enrolled to attend Wright State University or the University of Cincinnati, a \$2,500 scholarship. Each recipient will have the option to renew their scholarship for an additional year bringing total funding to \$5,000 per student. Any second-semester high school senior or full-time student currently enrolled at Wright State University or the University of Cincinnati, may apply for a scholarship. Each student must meet eligibility requirements including membership in Wright-Patt Credit Union, school GPA requirements, demonstrated service to their community, demonstrated leadership potential, and a commitment to higher education.

The Scholarship is named in honor of longtime WPCU President/CEO, Douglas A. Fecher, who throughout his career, committed himself to helping Main Street Ohioans live the lives they wanted to live. Fecher, a proud University of Cincinnati graduate, exemplified a servant-hearted leadership approach to life, and this included the time he spent at Wright State University serving as a Board Trustee and a former Chair. The Scholarship is a continuation of his efforts to help others achieve their hopes and dreams.

“We want to help students who are moving on to higher education and have a goal to positively impact the lives of others in our community,” said Tracy Szarzi-Fors, Executive Director of the Sunshine Community Fund and Vice President of Marketing and Business Development for Wright-Patt Credit Union. “The Douglas A. Fecher Excellence in Learning Scholarship is a fitting way to honor the legacy and leadership of our former CEO who demonstrated great leadership in helping others. It’s a pay it forward opportunity in his name!”

The Scholarship aligns with the WPCU Sunshine Community Fund’s “Education” building block of financial wellbeing. By providing an opportunity for higher education, the Scholarship promotes literacy and academic



preparation, which are critical to creating career opportunities.

To learn more about the Douglas A. Fecher Excellence in Learning Scholarship, including application requirements, please visit [wpcu.coop/SCFscholarship](http://wpcu.coop/SCFscholarship).

### **About The Sunshine Community Fund**

*The (WPCU) Sunshine Community Fund is the charitable giving arm of Wright-Patt Credit Union and a 501(c)(3) public foundation that exists to transform and strengthen the financial wellbeing of communities. The WPCU Sunshine Community Fund supports organizations, projects, and programs that align with its financial wellbeing building blocks: Education, Employment & Income, Food, Financial Services, Homeownership, Healthcare, Justice & Law Enforcement, and Mentoring Development Programs, in order to help vulnerable populations, overcome barriers to financial prosperity.*

### **About Douglas A. Fecher**

*Douglas A. Fecher was President and CEO of Wright-Patt Credit Union, Inc., for more than 20 years. Throughout his tenure, he was a tireless advocate for the credit union movement, actively promoting the positive effects credit unions have on America, the communities they serve, and everyday people. As a vocal champion at the federal, state and local levels, Mr. Fecher left an indelible impression on public policy that will benefit credit unions and their members for many years to come. His unwavering commitment to service segued into many volunteer and charitable endeavors during his career that focused on helping people live better lives. Mr. Fecher continues that commitment today by promoting opportunities for higher education as a means to build stronger communities.*

### **About Wright-Patt Credit Union**

*Established in 1932, Wright-Patt Credit Union is a member-owned, not-for-profit financial cooperative proudly serving Central and Southwest Ohio with more than 446,000 members and over \$7.1 billion in assets. As a cooperative, Wright-Patt Credit Union joins members together, pooling financial resources to meet the needs of all. The pooled resources provide the capital to run a strong and efficient operation. Wright-Patt Credit Union is headquartered in Beavercreek, Ohio, and has convenient Member Centers throughout Central and Southwest Ohio. Wright-Patt Credit Union's mission is to help people through life by allowing members to achieve a greater degree of economic independence. Visit Wright-Patt Credit Union's website at [www.wpcu.coop](http://www.wpcu.coop) for more information.*