

For Iowa. Forever More. Impact Stories
Allison Kindig, College of Engineering

The University of Iowa helped Allison Kindig think—and act—globally. While she was a student in the UI College of Engineering, she studied solar energy for international development in Rajasthan, India; helped build and test solar cookers in rural villages in Cameroon, Africa; and completed an international-marketing course in London.

“Donors helped me travel new paths and discover in ways I never dreamed possible,” says the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, native, who was a Presidential Scholar and an active member of the UI Honors Program. She also was a fellow of the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates, an early recipient of a Stanley Award for International Research, and a UI College of Engineering Grand Challenges Scholar.

The Engineering Grand Challenges Scholars Program helps prepare students to solve the “grand challenges” of this century. The UI’s program is based on the National Academy of Engineering’s Grand Challenge Scholars Program, which identified 14 “grand challenges” for engineering in the 21st century. The college was among the first 10 institutions in the country to have an approved Engineering Grand Challenge Scholars Program and the first in the Big Ten. James R. Whiteley, a 1962 UI engineering graduate, was a major donor to the program.

This scholarship, and others like it, helped Kindig fulfill the college’s call to action to be “an engineer and something more.” She is one of the many UI innovators and problem-solvers who is helping to change the world thanks to the generous alumni and friends who have supported *For Iowa. Forever More: the Campaign for the University of Iowa*.

“I am forever grateful to those who decided to ‘give green,’” she says. “They helped me live my Iowa experience to the fullest.”