The Haas Socially Responsible Investment Fund was created through gifts from Doris and Charlie Michaels, BS 78; Marguerite and Al Johnson, BS 62, MBA 69; and Vicky and Larry Johnson, BS 72. The $1.3 million fund is intended to train students for careers in both traditional and socially responsible investing.

In February, six MBA students were chosen to take over the fund from its first team of managers, who developed investing criteria, fund governance procedures, and portfolio management strategy. Three Master’s of Financial Engineering students joined the group in May to work on fund modeling, weightings, and analysis.

“What excited me about this was taking investing a step further and making the decisions by doing the financial work,” says Megha Doshi, MBA 09, one of the fund’s managers.

Lloyd Kurtz, a lecturer and an adviser to the Haas Socially Responsible Investment Fund, discusses how to value a company’s financial and sustainability performance with four of the fund’s student managers.

Dow Grant Focuses on Sustainable Business

The Dow Chemical Co. Foundation has made the largest corporate pledge in the Haas School’s history. Haas School students are getting cutting-edge training in sustainable business strategies thanks to The Dow Chemical Co. Foundation’s $10 million, five-year gift.

The initial gift was used to create the Sustainable Products and Solutions (SPS) Program, based at the Haas School’s Center for Responsible Business. The SPS Program will distribute $1.7 million to 23 graduate-student and faculty projects, including a new fellowship program that will award Haas student teams up to $10,000 to research sustainable business concepts.

Tony Kingsbury, executive-in-residence at the Sustainable Products and Solutions Program, teaches a Metrics in Sustainability course this fall.