EDUCATION & PHILANTHROPY: BETHLEHEM STEEL’S IMPACT ON HIGHER EDUCATION EXPANSION

1. The founding of Lehigh University and its prosperity over the years are due to large philanthropic donations. Asa Packer donated 57 acres of land on south mountain and $500,000 to establish Lehigh University.

2. Throughout its history, Lehigh University had a deep financial and academic relationship with former neighbor at Bethlehem Steel. The relationship led to massive academic expansion.

3. Founded in 1857, Bethlehem Steel was one of the largest steel producers in the world. Bethlehem Steel became the center of the American steel by 1873, producing almost 400,000 tons that year.

FUNDING FOR ACADEMIC BUILDINGS
Bethlehem Steel has donated to found buildings such as Fritz Laboratory, named after former chief Engineer of Bethlehem Steel, John Fritz, donated to build the laboratory. John Fritz is largely credited as a pioneer of iron and steel technology.

ESTABLISHED THE FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATING ACROSS MAJORS
Bethlehem Steel opened and named its Homer Research Laboratory as a need to branch several different academic fields within engineering to foster technological progress. Mountaintop campus follows in the footsteps of the Homer Research lab to advance innovation at the cross-section of different fields of academic study.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROVIDED TO LOWER INCOME STUDENTS
Lehigh University was named as a beneficiary of a $5.5 million trust founded in 1986 originally to protect Bethlehem Steel from and legal liabilities in the future. The money was state by Lehigh to be used as scholarship money for students which will advance the scholarly conversation going forward.

HOW PHILANTHROPY HAS AFFECTED AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION AS A WHOLE

- International Affairs: 4%
- Public-society benefit: 7.1%
- Health: 10.1%
- Gifts to foundations: 11.1%
- Education: 16.2%
- Human services: 12.1%
- Religion: 31.3%

Based on data from Giving USA in 2014 of donations totaling over $335.17 Billion Dollars