Charlie Nolan’s innovative and creative approach to college admissions at Olin College is truly unmatched. Olin college will forever be shaped by his work - which has built an exceptional student body that is truly and distinctively Olin. Charlie will be retiring from his position as Vice President for External Relations and Dean of Admission at the end of May 2015. While we are sad to see him go, we are happy that he will be embracing the opportunities that retirement holds and we will cherish his lasting legacy at Olin. Through his years at Olin, Charlie has given his time, expertise, personal financial support and, most importantly, his individualized interest in the well being of every student. In Charlie’s honor, the Charlie Nolan Candidate Endowment Fund has been created to ensure that no qualified candidate is denied the opportunity to attend Candidates’ Weekend.

In President Richard Miller’s words:
"Charlie Nolan, together with Duncan Murdoch, created our unique and enormously successful Candidates' Weekend program that nearly all students describe as the most important factor in their decision to attend Olin. More recently, Charlie has built our culture of admission around the concept of 'recruiting students one at a time.' His legendary responsiveness and his willingness to drop everything to answer any question and come in on weekends to meet unexpected visitors has become his hallmark and is WAY beyond the norm. Many students tell us Olin is the only engineering school they considered and their conversations with Charlie were a key factor in their decision to attend."

"Charlie also successfully guided our admission program through uncharted waters during the recent financial crisis. While others saw a million reasons why difficulties would prevail, Charlie wouldn’t take ‘no’ for an answer and reminded us that we have always embraced ‘impossible’ challenges. His fearless optimism and commitment to do whatever it takes has inspired us all, from his first day here. Charlie’s legacy at Olin is simply enormous."

Charlie may be leaving the Olin campus, but students, alumni, parents and the rest of the Olin community have created the Charlie Nolan Candidate Endowment Fund in order to ensure that his name and legacy will continue forever. Spearheaded by a group of Olin alumni, the fund is fast on its way to reaching the minimum endowment level of $25,000.

Adam Horton ’06 expressed a sentiment shared extensively by students and alumni:
“Charlie gave an enormous amount of personal attention to me and other applicants in the admission process. His openness and straightforwardness inspired trust and loyalty from the students he admitted.”

Please consider a gift to the newly created Charlie Nolan Candidate Endowment Fund to honor Charlie. Our goal is to secure enough gifts to permanently endow the fund by March 31st. Click here to make a gift or make a pledge to this fund.