Charles Rodgers, PhD’78 and his wife Francene established the Charles and Francene Rodgers Endowed Scholarship in 2005. They created the fund to support students pursuing a degree at the Heller School where Charles received his doctorate degree.

Francene and Charles serve as chair and president, respectively, of the New Community Fund, a Boston-based foundation providing support to local, national and overseas organizations. They are committed to supporting initiatives that generate sustainable social and political change and to institutions that improve the communities in which they live.

Charles is actively engaged in a variety of non-profit and civic organizations in Boston. He is a director and former board president of the West End House Boys & Girls Club of Allston-Brighton, trustee of The Institute of Contemporary Art, and board member of The Institute for America's Future, among others. For several years, he has been actively engaged in a number of organizations working to increase the representation of women and candidates of color in greater Boston elected offices. He also previously served on Heller’s Board of Overseers.

Francene is the chair of WFD, Inc. She founded WFD in 1983. WFD was a pioneer in developing a new generation of employee benefits and services especially addressing the needs of women. At the time of the sale, WFD was one of the largest female-owned
businesses in the country. A graduate of Barnard College and Tufts University/MGH professional training program in clinical psychology, she also has dedicated her time to many boards, including BankBoston, Fleet Boston Financial, NARAL Foundation, Progressive Majority, and Brigham and Women's Hospital. She is currently representing BWH on the board of Partners Continuing Care which oversees a variety of rehab and post-acute care organizations as well as a number of home care businesses.

Francene and Charles live in Boston and remain interested in hearing from the Rodgers Fellows.