The second half of fiscal year 2009 was an extremely difficult one. Despite the economic downturn, our alumni and friends continued to give at a steady pace. Pledges and gifts reached $2,100 for this semi-annual reporting period.

As you probably know the budget picture in Virginia is not good. We expect to cut another $32 million from Virginia Tech’s budget in the next two years. Your gifts make a tremendous difference in what we do for our current and future students.

As we close the books on the 2009 calendar year, current pledges and gifts total $61,500.

Major Purpose Achieved
Research Grants Awarded

In keeping with one of the major purposes of the fund, applications for research grants were received in the fall and the fourth annual research awards were made this past November.

This year’s recipients are: Dexter Bush-Scott and Valerie Shayman for their project titled, Assessing Case Management Services for Virginia Tech Employees and Students; Fulya Marsh for her project titled, Revisiting Transition: Experiences of Middle Eastern Graduate Students in the United States; and Cara McFadden for her project titled, Sense of Competence Scale-Revised (SCS-R): An Instrument Development and Validation Study.

The Selection Committee included Don Creamer, Bethany Flora, and Diana Ridgwell (Chair). If you have the occasion, please congratulate these students on their noteworthy accomplishments.

These awards were made possible by all of those alumni, friends, and colleagues who have contributed to the Don G. Creamer Fund for Excellence. Thanks so much to everyone who makes this possible.

Make Giving a Habit

In the past six months, Lori Baker (‘93) and Elaine Humphrey (‘07) added their names to our list of donors. Several individuals also extended their commitment to the Don G. Creamer Fund by making multiple gifts.
The Foundation would like to recognize and thank Don Creamer, Barbara Donelson ('94) and Steve ('87) and Rhoda Janosik for their continued giving. Joan Hirt and Matt Scruggs also continued their giving by completing automatic debt forms. Using this process allows small amounts to be withdrawn from a bank or credit card account each month or quarter. It’s easier than finding a good place to write one large check. Whether his most recent gift involved a golf wager of some sort or a couple of cold Newcastles cannot be divulged. Thanks so much Jon.

A complete list of contributors appears below. Benefactors have contributed $1000 or more through one or multiple gifts. Leaders have contributed between $500 and $1000 to the Fund, and Patrons have contributed between $250 and $500. Additional information for those who would like to contribute is available at: http://www.soe.vt.edu/highered/Fund/

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- Ed & Norrine Spencer

Special Thanks and Recognition

**Donor Reclassified**

And finally, Jonathan Fife became the Foundation's eighth Leader this past December. Whether his most recent gift involved a golf wager of some sort or a couple of cold Newcastles cannot be divulged. Thanks so much Jon.

Questions or comments should be directed to Steve Janosik, HED Program Coordinator -sjanosik@vt.edu

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