The Don G. Creamer Fund

More Progress Made in 2007

New Programs are Created and the Creamer Fund Crosses the $50,000 Mark

A new cohort was admitted this past fall and a revised curriculum was rolled out for the Master’s program in Higher Education. While the core is still much the same, 12 hours of instruction is now being devoted to assessment and a capstone project now serves as the independent study.

A new 12-hour certificate program, for those who want additional knowledge about higher education but are unable to devote themselves to doctoral study also, has been developed and is now working its way through the approval process.

In addition to these important initiatives, alumni and friends continued to give generously to the Don G. Creamer Fund for Excellence. The fund has just crossed the $50,000 mark in total gifts and pledges! As the books closed on the fourth quarter of 2007, 84 separate gifts were received totaling $50,590.00.

Major Purpose Achieved Again
Research Grants Awarded

In keeping with one of the major purposes of the fund, applications for research grants were received in mid-fall and the second annual research awards were made just before the end of the year. Because of your support, the total amount awarded increased by 33% in just one year!

This year’s recipients were all doctoral candidates: Bethany Flora (shown second from the right) for her project on Professional Lives of Higher Education Center Administrators; Tonya Saddler (shown at the center) for her project on the Role of Collaborative Research Experiences in Preparing Doctoral Students For Faculty Careers; and Rachael Stimpson (second from the left) for her project on Senior Student Affairs Officers Life and Career Paths.

The Selection Committee included Don Creamer, Professor Emeritus (shown at the far left); Diana Ridgwell (’02), Director of Student Services for the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (shown at the far right); and Ellen Plummer (’06), Chair and Director of the Women’s Center (not shown). Congratulations everyone for a job well done.
Make Giving a Habit

Gifts and Pledges
In the past six months (through 12/31), Sean Blackburn ('03), Jason Shank ('06), Kelly (Crawford) Sorey ('92), and Liz Yates ('05) 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 Elizabeth Creamer ('83), Joan Hirt, and Steve ('87) and Rhoda Janosik for their continued giving.

Special Thanks and Recognition

Benefactors Named
Most importantly, Donna Cassell Ratcliffe ('84 & '88) and Sam Ratcliffe ('04) became the Foundation's third Benefactors this December. Their specially designed lapel pins are in the mail!

A complete list of contributors appears below. Additional information and forms for those who would like to contribute can be found at the Fund's website - www.epls.vt.edu/hsa/Fund. Given the current economic climate, your gifts are even more important. They support our students AND our program.

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