

**Chairman's Corner – September 2005**  
**Faculty/Staff/Retiree Campaign for Students**

TO: UW Foundation, Campaign Cabinet, Deans, Development & Alumni Staff  
FROM: William H. Gates, Chair, UW Foundation

Dear Friends,

We all work very hard to bring resources into this University. But how many of you are aware of the remarkable giving that goes on “within the family,” so to speak?

Last year, almost 3,500 faculty members made gifts to the University of Washington. All told, more than 6,800 faculty, staff, and retirees contributed \$6.4 million—and I don't have to tell you that their salaries are not exactly at the top of the academic heap. (You should also know that the UW—which is to say, UW employees—is always the largest single contributor to the statewide Combined Fund Drive, through which state employees can give to charities of their choice.)

Consider the wonderful response to the Faculty-Staff-Retiree Campaign for Students. Back in May, UW employees were invited to create named endowments for student support—scholarships, fellowships, and academic activity funds. The minimum gift was set at \$5,000, and the UW matches each gift up to \$10,000. Only four months after its start, the program has already raised almost \$1 million in gifts, pledges, and matching funds. This generous vote of confidence in the students and mission of the University, made by the faculty and staff who know both best, is deeply moving to me.

Which brings me to the highlight of this message: Just about a month ago, I learned that Arts and Sciences Dean David Hodge and his wife, Valerie, have quietly pledged \$100,000 to create an endowed scholarship for first-generation college students. Under the campaign's Matching Initiative, their pledge will be eligible for a \$50,000 match. The resulting endowment will provide annual funding for a UW student's full tuition (at current levels) plus some additional expenses.

Most of you know David and Valerie (a UW alumna) and the depth of their passion for learning and for the University. Some of you may also know that they themselves were first-generation college students, with a special understanding of what opportunity means for young people in that situation. Still, this is an extraordinary gift, and one that none of us could have expected. It gives new luster to that old adage, “Charity begins at home.”

UW faculty are also amazingly generous with their time and expertise. In my experience, they never say no. The campaign's Dinner Series is a case in point. The dinners were a triumph of planning and hospitality. But they depended crucially on finding 45 faculty members who would give up an evening (and surely much preparation) to come and tell us about their work. No problem—nobody turned us down. I hosted or attended a number of those dinners, and every one of them was riveting. No one who heard Geri

Dawson, for example, who talked about her research on autism and her work with autistic kids, will ever forget it.

I don't know whether such generosity of spirit is common in academic institutions. But I certainly cherish it here—as I cherish the contributions of all of you.

Bill

#### Looking Back

- As of August 31, 2005, our total **Campaign giving since July 1, 2000, reached \$1,463,288,629** toward our Campaign goal of \$2 billion.
- The August 2005 Report of Contributions Notes is attached and contains fundraising details.

#### Looking Ahead

- **Friday, January 27, 2006**, Foundation Board & Campaign Cabinet Meeting, 8:30 a.m. coffee; 9:00-11:00 a.m. meeting.
- **Friday, April 28, 2006**, Foundation Board & Campaign Cabinet Meeting, 8:30 a.m. coffee; 9:00-11:00 a.m. meeting. Washington Weekend April 27-29, 2006.
- **Friday, September 8, 2006**, Foundation Board Campaign Cabinet Meeting, 8:30 a.m. coffee, 9:00-11:00 a.m. meeting.
- **Friday, September 8, 2006**, Fifth Annual Recognition Gala, Suzzallo Library.
- **Friday, January 26, 2007**, Foundation Board & Campaign Cabinet Meeting, 8:30 a.m. coffee; 9:00-11:00 a.m. meeting.
- **Friday, April 27, 2007**, Foundation Board & Campaign Cabinet Meeting, 8:30 a.m. coffee; 9:00-11:00 a.m. meeting. Washington Weekend April 26-28, 2007.
- **Friday, September 7, 2007**, Foundation Board Campaign Cabinet Meeting, 8:30 a.m. coffee, 9:00-11:00 a.m. meeting.
- **Friday, September 7, 2007**, Sixth Annual Recognition Gala, Suzzallo Library.