

4-1-2009

## Building a program that is second to none

Furman University

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### Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2009) "Building a program that is second to none," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 52 : Iss. 1 , Article 11.  
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol52/iss1/11>

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## Hubbard siblings join forces as Young Benefactors

**It's a Furman first** (we think)! Three siblings have joined leadership gift societies.

Bob Hubbard '97 (at left in photo), Betsy Hubbard Vance '03 and Bill Hubbard '99 are all Young Benefactors — graduates of the last 15 years who make annual unrestricted gifts to Furman of \$1,000 or more.

Was there a common factor in the Hubbards' experience that led them to provide such support? No doubt their parents' guiding principle — "If you can help, do it!" — was a major influence. But the Hubbards say that they came to their decision independently.

"Furman helped all of us develop as individuals, so it makes sense that we would all give back," says Betsy. As a former Furman Singer, peer educator and member of Kappa Delta, Betsy had many options toward which to designate her gift. But she chose the unrestricted route, allowing the university to apply her donation toward the area it deems best.

Bill says he was encouraged by Ben Barnhill '98, a Furman friend (and annual giving volunteer), to take advantage of the Hollingsworth Initiative, which helps donors boost their gifts to a leadership level over a three-year period.



Bob says he connected to Furman quickly through his freshman Dialogue group, led by David Shi. He and his wife, Susie Nabors Hubbard '97, are both alumni volunteers and have provided consistent yearly support. He says they are delighted to see that today's students have even more opportunities to learn and grow than were available just a decade ago.

For information on Young Benefactors, e-mail [john.kemp@furman.edu](mailto:john.kemp@furman.edu) or call (864) 294-3717.

*More campaign news on page 29 and by visiting [www.becausefurmanmatters.com](http://www.becausefurmanmatters.com).*

## Building a program that is second to none

**One of the key** strategic initiatives in the Because Furman Matters campaign is expansion of the university's emphasis on Asian Studies.

Since 1988, when Furman created the Asian Studies major, the program has become the largest of any liberal arts college in the South, with 16 faculty members in eight departments. And its influence is clearly expanding, as the story about Jim Eubanks on page 16 illustrates.

Thanks to the financial assistance of The Beth and Ravenel B. Curry Foundation, The Duke Endowment and many individual supporters, Furman today offers more than 60

Asian Studies courses, has Chinese and Japanese language houses on campus, and has established partnerships with Chinese and Japanese schools.

Given the importance of Asia in international politics, Because Furman Matters seeks resources to expand language study; continue to develop internship and study abroad opportunities in Asia, such as the Furman in China program; attract and retain top faculty; and offer scholarship aid to recruit students from Asia.

*Visit [www.furman.edu/depts/asianstudies](http://www.furman.edu/depts/asianstudies) to learn more.*

## Texas foundation's grant supports admissions

**In recent years** the Dallas-Fort Worth area has become a significant source for some of Furman's brightest students. In fact, during the 2007-08 academic year, more students applied to Furman from Highland Park High in Dallas than from any other school in the nation.

Now, thanks to the assistance of some Furman parents from Texas, the university will be able to strengthen its presence and recruiting efforts in Dallas-Fort Worth and the surrounding area.

The parents helped the university establish a relationship with the Amon G. Carter Foundation in Fort Worth. As a result, Furman received a four-year, \$200,000 grant from the foundation to support the work of an admissions counselor based in Dallas-Fort Worth.

The position is expected to allow Furman to further capitalize on its presence in Texas and expand its recruiting base. As Brad Pochard, director of admissions, says, "The counselor will help us deepen our admissions network and relationships in Texas, which, in turn, will increase our yield."

The Amon G. Carter Foundation is known for its community involvement, interest in education and philanthropic generosity. John Robinson, the foundation's executive vice president, says, "We commend the commitment Furman has made to attract students from this area. We are pleased to help Furman establish this recruiter/admissions counselor and assist students and families in learning more about this great school and the educational opportunities it provides.

"Furman graduates will continue to make a positive impact on our local community, as well as the entire country, through the outstanding education they receive."