Heart & Mind campaign gathers momentum

Don Lineback
Furman University
The Heart & Mind campaign is due in large measure to the enthusiasm of people who feel for the Bell Tower and the library, says Neel Hipp '73, chair of the Heart & Mind Committee. “Some think of this as their ‘capstone’ gift for the Forever Furman campaign, which is in its final months.” Hipp is assisted by Matt Miller ’99, chair of the Young Alumni Council’s Heart & Mind Task Force, and a dozen other volunteers.

Another reason for the surge of support for this project is the opportunity to name a brick in the “Anniversary Walk,” the pathway that leads from the mainland to the Bell Tower. Donors of $250 per year for four years (or $125 a year over four years for alumni and students in the Class of 1987 and after) may have their own or a loved one’s name engraved on a brick. Donors of $5,000 or more will be recognized on plaques in the library or on the Bell Tower.

Aside from alumni and friends, current students are also working to generate support for Heart & Mind. The 30-member Young Alumni Council and the Student Alumni Council have both weighed in at 100 percent, and fraternities and sororities on campus are volunteering for phonathons to their respective alumni groups. Each participating fraternity or sorority that reaches 100 percent among its current members will be recognized in the Anniversary Walk or on the Bell Tower plaque.

If you would like to name a brick in the Anniversary Walk and contribute to this effort, please call Craig Waldon, associate director of major gifts, at (864) 294-2157, or e-mail him at craig.waldon@furman.edu.

— Don Lineback
Vice President for Development

$500,000 grant boosts programs for teachers

Furman has received a $500,000 federal grant that will bolster an existing education program on campus and support the school’s new Center for Teaching and Technology.

Republican congressmen Jim DeMint and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina and Charles Taylor of North Carolina presented the grant to Furman April 4 on behalf of the Education and Research Consortium of the Western Carolinas (ERC), a non-profit organization Taylor founded in 1997 to help bring educational and technological innovation to the area.

The ERC’s board is composed of the presidents of Brevard College, Mars Hill College, Montreat College and Western Carolina University. Furman is affiliated with the consortium and serves as the group’s point of contact in Upstate South Carolina.

The $500,000 grant will support the university’s Adventure of the American Mind (AAM) program, a Library of Congress-sponsored initiative that trains teachers of kindergarten through 12th grade how to use the library’s vast on-line resources. Furman joined the program, which began in western North Carolina in 2000, in January 2001. Last year it brought 40 Upstate teachers to campus for training, and an additional 10 teachers are enrolled in this year’s program.

The AAM program at Furman was originally funded by a $250,000 grant from the Library of Congress. The new $500,000 grant will also support Furman’s Center for Teaching and Technology, which will serve as the home for the Upstate AAM program. The center will be housed in Furman’s newest academic building, Herman N. Hipp Hall, which will open this fall.