

To: Board of Visitors
Executive Committee
Center Advisory Boards

From: Patrick M. Rooney, Interim Executive Director

Date: January 30, 2009

Subject: Center on Philanthropy Activities

“For last year's words belong to last year's language and next year's words await another voice.” – T.S. Elliot

With the start of a new year we look forward to the opportunities ahead of us. With your help we will continue to increase the understanding of philanthropy and improve its practice. May ours be a voice of reason and insight in a world of challenges and changes.

Strategic Planning Retreat

We started the year off right with a strategic planning retreat. Thanks again to those of you who were able to attend. As you know from our follow up letter, we covered some important topics that we want to keep you aware of. We discussed the need and timeliness of developing a marketing and branding campaign for the Center. We also have a need to create a policy regarding sponsorship. We discussed the Board's structure and purpose and agreed to make some changes in the format and focus of our meetings. We reviewed the steps necessary to becoming a department within the School of Liberal Arts or a separate school. We also decided it is time to update the Center's strategic plan. Progress will be reported and further discussions will be arranged for these issues at our next Board meeting in March.

Students

The students are back on campus with the beginning of Spring Semester. We are happy to welcome two students visiting from Italy in the University of Bologna exchange program. Marco Gil, originally from southern Switzerland, is pursuing a Masters in International Philanthropy and Social Entrepreneurship at the University of Bologna in Italy. Sevinc Seveda Kilicalp is in the same program and is focusing her research on social justice philanthropy and social change. Both have notable work experience in the nonprofit sector in Europe, which adds a wonderful dimension to our program.

American Humanics Conference

Faculty and staff from the Center provided integral support to the American Humanics Management Institute (AHMI) conference this month. With almost 1,000 attendees from around the country, including 650 students, it was the largest AHMI meeting to date. Seven representatives from the Center served on the planning committee and thirteen of us spoke at the conference. In addition, The Fund Raising School provided a full-day development workshop. The Center's strong presence at the event made it a success in promoting the Center on Philanthropy as a leader in the nonprofit sector.

Tim Fisher

Welcome to Tim Fisher our new Director of Finance. He is replacing Beverly Ernest who retired on January 16 after 20 years with IUPUI including eight years at the Center. Tim also has a long tenure with the university having worked on campus for the past 19 years, most recently with University Information Technology Services.

Moi University

Last year at this time we sadly informed you of the postponement of our international work in Kenya. The protests and disturbances in Kenya directly impacted the efforts we had begun with Moi University in Eldoret. We are pleased to inform you that the Harambee Center at the university is now open. The institute, named after a Kenyan philanthropic tradition, studies and documents the philanthropic culture, philanthropic behaviors, and the dynamics of philanthropy in Kenya. They have also adapted The Fund Raising School courses to be offered through the institute. This is a direct result of the sabbatical David Some, former Vice Chancellor of Moi University, spent with us in 2006, and Gene Tempel, Bill Plater, and Josh Sprunger's great work at Moi in offering the development workshop for senior leaders. Bill Plater, Director of International Community Development, reports, "It is interesting that there are now several community groups going to Kenya and East Africa to donate time, talent, goods, and services and they speak of their efforts as philanthropic in a manner that should make us all proud of the manner in which the community has come to understand philanthropy and be able to talk about it in such a sophisticated way."

Thank you for your continued support and guidance as the Center's influence continues to grow. As always, your comments and suggestions are welcomed.