

To: Board of Visitors  
Executive Committee  
Center Advisory Boards

From: Patrick M. Rooney, Executive Director

Date: January 25, 2010

Subject: Center on Philanthropy Activities

The Center on Philanthropy has begun the New Year with a number of exciting ventures. We eagerly await the challenges and successes which lie in store for us in 2010. As always, we enjoy sharing our successes and updates with you in my monthly letter.

### **Board of Visitors**

- The Board of Visitors will be meeting at the end of January to begin the preparation of an update of the Center's five-year strategic plan and reviewing key priorities for the coming year. This new plan will be vetted with a number of key constituency groups through the spring and approved by the Executive Committee.

### **Academic Programs**

- The Center, in partnership with the School of Journalism and SPEA, launched a new graduate-level course about examining the reporting on nonprofits and philanthropy. Professors Les Lenkowsky (IUB SPEA) and Jim Bright (IUB Journalism) collaborated to develop this new course entitled "Nonprofits in the Media: Good News?" The enrollment has sold out with 19 students (15 from Journalism and 4 from SPEA nonprofit management), exceeding our goal of 12-15 students. The course is being funded by a grant from the McCormick Foundation.
- Richard Turner, Professor Emeritus, will be assisting the Center as a volunteer with the new undergraduate program and other academic issues. We welcome him to the Center.

### **Development-Communications**

- The Center was called upon to provide commentary and data on the recent earthquake in Haiti. Our research, including previous disaster giving, was cited in articles in [USA Today](#), [Agence France-Presse](#), the [Washington Post](#), [Chronicle of Philanthropy](#) and [Smart Money Magazine](#) and NPR's "All Things Considered." In addition, the Center is using the web to communicate about important research and resources regarding disasters and philanthropy. We are tracking [giving to Haiti earthquake relief efforts on a daily basis](#), and we continue to share resources from our [2009 philanthropy summit](#) that convened 35 national experts to discuss philanthropy's role in anticipating and responding to disasters. To respond to current needs, we created new web content to help visitors find this information quickly, and utilized [Twitter](#) to distribute new links.

### **International**

- Dr. William M. Plater, Director of IUPUI's Office of International Community Development, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Philosophy in Development

Administration by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Our warmest congratulations to Bill for his achievement. Please visit this link for a full article: <http://newscenter.iupui.edu/4406/Plater-Receives-Honorary-Degree-in-Thailand-from-Royal-Princess>

- As part of our partnership with Peking University, Ms. Sungyan Chu will be visiting the Center from January 18-February 17, 2010. She is a Professor of Political Science and her research interest is in governance and civil society organizations.

### **Lake Institute**

- Rich Klopp spoke to leaders of the Presbyterian Church World Mission in Louisville about “the altered landscape of religious giving.” This half-day presentation was similar to the one Bill Enright delivered to executive-level administrators of the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) in December. Both presentations were given by invitation from the Director of Mission Interpretation at PCUSA to educate church leadership about evolving challenges and opportunities for faith-based organizations.
- Bill Enright met with the acting Secretary General of the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) to discuss ways in which the two organizations could work together for the upcoming 2010 Lake Lecture. Mr. Ahmed El Hattab indicated his intention to develop a lasting partnership and invited Bill to give a presentation to ISNA’s board in March.

### **Millennium**

- Professor Dwight Burlingame (IUPUI) spoke at an “Art of Giving” meeting with Native Americans in Philanthropy in Albuquerque on Dec. 11-12 to help in the fine tuning of the design of a culturally grounded curriculum in fundraising for Indian country as a final part of the Millennium project which was completed at the end of 2009.

### **Public Service – Outreach**

- The Fund Raising School’s first course of the year, Principles & Techniques of Fundraising (January 11-15), was a sellout, with 43 registered participants. There was similar enthusiasm for TFRS’s contract course for the YWCA Mid-Atlantic Regional Council, with 61 participants attending a one-day customized contract program on “Fundraising in a Challenging Economy” held on January 8 in Baltimore.
- January also saw the roll out of a new look for TFRS’s materials, including updated binders featuring the Indianapolis skyline and flash drives containing indexed PDF files of study guides for easy reference. The materials update is one of the action items resulting from the external review of TFRS conducted last fall.

### **Research**

- On January 13<sup>th</sup>, IUPUI Faculty including Gene Tempel (Board of Visitors Member), Patrick Rooney, Melissa Brown, and Larry Smith (former Millennium staff who is now with the YMCA Indianapolis) travelled to the 2010 NCAA Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. They participated in a panel discussion on the topic of “Building Community Champions: Youth, Student Athletics and Philanthropy.”
- Una Osili, Director of Research, presented the Center’s research results and recommendations at the annual United Way CEO Summit in Dallas on January 12th.

Serving on a panel with Brian Gallagher, Una explained key research findings to United Way CEOs and staff from over 100 local United Ways around the country.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the Center on Philanthropy. We look forward to your continuing collaboration and championship in 2010. Please contact me if you have any questions about the Center.