What Is The SU Fund?

Some of you might be asking yourself this question when you get a piece of mail or a phone call from one of our students asking for your support. Well, the answer is simple. The University Fund provides:

- Support for academic scholarships and financial aid
- Improved academic facilities
- State-of-the-art classroom and teaching technologies
- Updated technology sources and publications in the Blackwell Library
- An array of outstanding lectures and cultural events for students, alumni and the community

Now that you know what the support is used for, you might be asking yourself: “How can I help?” The Salisbury University Fund embraces support from virtually every constituency of the University: alumni, parents, friends, corporations, foundations, faculty and staff. This support helps to not only strengthen the financial standing of the institution, but also many organizations use alumni support as a benchmark in determining how the University ranks among its peers.

We have over 25,000 alumni. If each person gave just a $10 gift each year, the University Fund would provide $250,000 annually for the needs listed above. Some alumni do more and some less, but just the simple act of making a gift can have a long range impact.

If you would like more information on the University Fund or would like to make a gift, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving at 1-888-SBY-ALUM or visit our Web site at www.salisbury.edu/univfund.

Leaving A Legacy

Many friends of Salisbury University find pleasure and peace of mind in giving back to the University that has educated them, educated their children or bettered their community. Some chose legacy or planned gifts as ways to better the future of Salisbury University. From parents to children, from one generation to the next, legacies of assets, and also values, are the building blocks of the future. A gift of this nature is a legacy that tells others that you support the work and share the values of Salisbury University. Several recent examples of this type of generosity toward Salisbury University are:

- **Ron Sisk ‘99** made the Salisbury University Foundation, Inc. the beneficiary of his life insurance policy. The premiums Sisk pays on this policy, which are tax-deductible, fit into the budget of a young alum. Moreover, knowing that the long-term results of this planned gift will greatly benefit the athletic programs of Salisbury University gives him the personal satisfaction of giving back to his Alma Mater in a meaningful way.

- **Dr. William Wrotten ‘41**, faculty emeritus, is using the fruits of his labor to benefit generations of Salisbury University students to come.

- **An anonymous benefactor** established a Charitable Gift Annuity to provide herself with an income stream for her lifetime and Salisbury University with a substantial gift upon her passing. The donor has derived much pleasure from working with University and Foundation administration to structure the guidelines for the future governance of a scholarship endowment and she knows what a difference this gift will make in the lives of many students and the future of Salisbury University.

- **Bobbi Biron**, long-time friend of Salisbury University and its theatre program, passed away December 2004. Ms. Biron’s generosity and her love for the theatre were expressed in a bequest, which now permanently endows the Bobbi Biron Theatre Program at Salisbury University. Ms. Biron will be missed in the audiences of future productions, but her legacy will live on through the enhancements that her gift has made.

SCHOLARSHIPS: A Need For Students—
A Priority For SU Foundation

The statistics tell the story. Salisbury University has the highest graduation rates, the highest amount of loan debt per student and the lowest amount of state funding per student of all institutions in the University System of Maryland. In short, SU has talented, qualified students and not enough scholarships to truly assist them.

The Salisbury University Foundation, Inc. considers these statistics a call to action. At a recent meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors, Chairman Ed Thomas said, “The members of the SU Foundation believe in the mission of this institution and in the students that attend here. We hope that our efforts can make a difference in their successes and lessen the burden that the cost of an education places on them and their families.”

Scholarship funding has become a priority for this 31-member board of directors. Chairman Thomas initiated a $200,000 campaign to create a scholarship program from the board members themselves. Within the first four months of the two-year campaign, more than $150,000 has been raised toward this effort. Additionally, more than a dozen new scholarships were created and numerous existing scholarship programs have been enhanced by generous friends of the institution. Salisbury University is still not able to offer scholarships and grants to the level of many other institutions in Maryland, but the recent efforts of the SU Foundation have made a quality education at the University more affordable for many.