Dear Friends…

It was great to see everyone at our fall board gathering in Athens and to participate in very productive meetings that focused on our primary objective of supporting and enhancing the academic mission of the University of Georgia.

It was a real treat to spend a day at the UGA Health Sciences Campus and to enjoy use of their beautiful facilities. It is exciting to see the progress that is taking place there and I believe we are witnessing the growth of a tremendous new medical program that I am confident is on its way to being one of the best in America.

Experiencing the medical campus firsthand tells me that our increased financial commitment to the university as a whole is well placed. As evidence, our fiscal year 2012 budget surplus is now at work for the betterment of the institution. We were honored to reallocate $2.2 million to several areas within the university, including the Washington Semester Program, two professorships and need-based and professional school scholarships. That surplus – and the ability to apply it to such worthy initiatives – is a tribute to the foundation’s stewardship of donor funds and to prudent management by you and your fellow trustees.

The recent successes underscore just how important it is for you to continue with your involvement and commitment to the foundation and the university. As such, allow me to remind you that our winter board meeting is February 21-22 in Athens. I hope you will make plans to be with us at the UGA Hotel and Conference Center. I should also note that the Foundation Fellows Interview Weekend follows after our full board meeting on Friday afternoon and runs through Saturday February 23.

If you have never participated in Interview weekend, I highly recommend it. The kids that are competing for Foundation Fellowships are incredibly gifted and will make you realize immediately that we are indeed attracting the best and brightest students.

Thank you for all that you do in service to the foundation and the University of Georgia. Your financial support and hard work are filling a vital need from which our students, faculty and university as a whole are realizing great benefit.

Sincerely,

Bill Young, Jr.
Chairman
The 2012 edition of the UGA Foundation Annual Report is hot off the presses. My thanks to the hard work of the Communications Subcommittee within the Development & Public Affairs Committee in leading this effort. Advance copies were shared at the board meeting and distribution to our donors is near completion. In addition to the hard copy, there is also an electronic version online that you can view and/or download by clicking here.

If you desire additional copies of the printed edition, a limited number are available by contacting Chip Stewart at (706) 542-4583 or via email at chips@uga.edu.

I hope you’ve had a chance to see the very informative and thoughtful video message that President Adams shared via email recently.

If you haven’t had an opportunity to view it, I encourage you to set aside five minutes and take a look … it really showcases the best of the University of Georgia and underscores the importance of what we as trustees of the UGA Foundation are supporting with our gifts and our service.
Five professorships endowed by the UGA Athletic Association in the UGA Foundation held by top educators on campus

Congratulations to five outstanding faculty members who were recently awarded UGA Athletic Association Professorships. All of the awards are made possible by endowments established by the UGA Athletic Association in the University of Georgia Foundation.

In a demonstration of its commitment to academic excellence, the UGA Athletic Association has funded a total of 14 professorships since 2006.

"We take great pride in funding these professorships," said UGA Athletic Director Greg McGarity. "Our faculty serve as the backbone of our entire enterprise, and we are fortunate to be able to assist the university in this manner."

The professorships are held by:

**John Grable**, College of Family and Consumer Sciences, department of housing and consumer economics.

**Robert Grafstein**, School of Public and International Affairs, department of political science and associate dean.

**Gerald Henry**, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, department of crop and soil sciences.

**Harold Mulherin**, Terry College of Business, department of banking and finance.

**David E. Shipley**, School of Law, professor of copyright, administrative law and civil procedure and a former dean of the law school.
Giving to UGA is once again very strong

It was gratifying to learn at our fall board meeting that, in spite of a challenging economy, the final numbers of giving to the university in fiscal year 2012 were very strong.

Senior Vice President for External Affairs Tom Landrum (right) noted that gifts to the University of Georgia in the fiscal year that ended June 30 totaled $102.7 million which came from more than 56,000 donors.

Landrum added that the fundraising effort was off to a great start in 2013. He credited the development team for their efforts in establishing a solid base for this success by securing gifts that are advancing the university’s academic mission and for their work that will continue to provide benefit for many years to come.

UGA President Michael Adams also lauded the efforts of those that have worked so hard for years to help the university achieve its fundraising objectives.

Both Adams and Landrum encouraged UGA Foundation trustees to consider the importance of assisting the development team in securing new gifts and as they plan their own giving.

UGA Foundation trustees supporting the fundraising effort

It was great to hear that many of our trustees have stepped up and are helping the university’s development team. John Spalding (right), who chairs the Fundraising Subcommittee, has done a great job in helping move this effort forward.

At our fall board meeting we learned that John, along with Neal Quirk, Trey Paris, Stan Shelton, Abby Irby, Rusty Lindner, Susan Waltman, Charlie Williams, Kathryn Ash, John Crawford and Bill Douglas have recently hosted and/or participated in donor cultivation activities. I’m certain there are others on the board who have initiated such actions and I look forward to hearing and reporting on those endeavors in future newsletters.

Also, please be aware that if you would like to stage a donor cultivation event, the foundation’s staff is ready and willing to assist in any way from planning to execution. Contact Karin Usry at (706) 542-8385 or kusry@uga.edu if you have an idea you want to pursue.
Cortona study-abroad program remains a top destination for UGA students

One of the oldest and most revered study-abroad programs offered to students and faculty at the University of Georgia is one that takes them to the ancient town of Cortona, Italy (below) in the hills of Tuscany. Focused on, but not limited to, an art curriculum, the Cortona program hosts UGA students year-round and offers many opportunities to earn course credits in a setting that is as breathtakingly beautiful as it is unique.

Daniel Smith is a UGA student who is doing research in photo and video art and was able to study in Italy this summer thanks to the Cortona Experience Scholarship which he was awarded in honor of his outstanding academic achievements at the University of Georgia.

Daniel decided to focus his efforts on the arts in Cortona that included coursework in areas that did not involve use of his camera. He felt that by expanding his knowledge base into other artistic mediums he would ultimately enhance his skills with still photography and video.

“This photo-phobic approach enabled me to see and understand things otherwise impossible,” Daniel says. “The painterly, sculptural, and architectural body of Italian Renaissance art, which forms the foundation for all photographic art, revealed itself entirely in non-photographic materials.

“By retreating from studio and computer oriented work to study Italian language, art history and drawing, I was able to understand the words and marks of the Italian innovators.”

The Cortona program began in 1970 and has provided memorable experiences for thousands of University of Georgia students during its 42 years. For more information, visit their website by clicking here.
Honoring her children through giving to UGA: Nancy Wech

There are many stories of UGA donors that are inspirational and demonstrate the true goodness of people and that is certainly true when one recounts the story of Nancy Wech. Her two children, Scott Kelly and Lauren Kelly both graduated from the University of Georgia and both achieved academic success despite suffering from Cystic Fibrosis.

Scott Kelly today has a family and is a partner in an Augusta law firm and, with medical treatment, has kept his condition in check.

Sadly, Lauren’s condition was much more severe and claimed her life shortly before graduation in 1992. She had completed her coursework and was awarded a degree posthumously.

Nancy fights back tears when she talks about how the University of Georgia made accommodations to make sure Lauren had every opportunity to fulfill her degree requirements. She talks about how important it was to Lauren and how grateful her daughter was to have been able to study at the University of Georgia.

“They even moved an entire class from one building that didn’t have an elevator to another that did so she could complete her studies, and they did things like that all the time.”

Nancy is particularly grateful for the assistance of UGA’s Disability Resource Center which leads an effort to assure that individuals with disabilities have the same opportunities all other students have to learn. As such, Nancy has set up an endowment to help fund the needs of students with chronic ailments – and that includes more than just tuition and books. Funds from the endowment help students with medical care and prescriptions.

“Because the Disability Resources Center was there for my children, I want to help make sure it is there for others,” she said. “It’s a way of honoring the memory of my daughter and giving a lasting gift to my son and his family.”

Margaret Totty, assistant director of the Disability Resource Center says, “Nancy has been great to us ... I can’t say enough about her and what she has done to help us help students that really need and deserve assistance.”

Nancy adds that she is glad she can place her funds with the UGA Foundation because it is an organization that she can trust to maximize the benefit every dollar provides.

“The success with which the foundation invests its assets, makes it very encouraging to entrust funds to their management,” she said. “The stewardship publication they send me every year shows how well they do investing the funds in my endowment. It is much better than I could do on my own and, for me, that’s a feel-good thing.”

Clark Howell Hall on Lumpkin Street, in the heart of campus, is headquarters for UGA’s Disability Resource Center.
Dates to remember

November 3, 2012:  Homecoming
                 UGA vs. Ole Miss Football
                 Sanford Stadium
                 Time TBD

November 10, 2012:  Football
                      UGA at Auburn
                      Time TBD

November 17, 2012:  Football
                     UGA vs. Georgia Southern
                     Sanford Stadium
                     1:30 PM

November 24, 2012:  Football
                     UGA vs. Georgia Tech
                     Sanford Stadium
                     Time TBD

December 14, 2012:  Fall semester commencement
                     Stegeman Coliseum
                     Undergraduate ceremony 9:30 AM
                     Graduate ceremony 2:30 PM

February 21-22, 2013:  UGA Foundation winter board meeting
                        University of Georgia Hotel and Conference Center

February 22-23, 2013:  Foundation Fellows interview weekend
                        Various campus sites in Athens

February 28, 2013:  UGA Board of Visitors meeting
                     Atlanta History Center
                     Atlanta
                     11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

May 10, 2013:  Spring semester commencement
                Graduate ceremony – 10:00 AM Stegeman Coliseum
                Undergraduate ceremony – 7:00 PM Sanford Stadium (rain or shine)

May 16, 2013  UGA Board of Visitors meeting
              Visual & Performing Arts Center on the UGA Campus in Athens
              10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

June 20-21, 2013:  UGA Foundation spring/summer board meeting
                    St. Simons Island, Georgia


University of Georgia Foundation
394 South Milledge Ave., Suite 100
Athens, Georgia 30602-5582
Telephone (706) 542-6677
www.ugafoundation.org