Dear Friends -

Athens in the spring is truly spectacular. With the flowers and trees in bloom and greenery filling our beautiful campus from end to end, there is no more special place on earth! Yes, I am biased in that assessment, but I know there are many of you who hold the same opinion.

Spring is also the time of year when graduation is just around the corner and many of our best and brightest students are preparing for the next phase of their lives.

In this edition, we have some great news to share about the foundation, the scholars and faculty that you, our donors, support through your generous gifts. With the State of Georgia's budget challenges, private support of the University of Georgia has never been more important, and your financial investment is much appreciated. I want you to know that every donation you make to the University through the UGA Foundation is a gift we regard as sacred. We strive to assure your gifts provide the maximum benefit and that UGA continues to attract the state's (and the nation's) top students for the next phase of their lives.

For your unwavering dedication to the university and your consistent support of the foundation, I offer my sincerest thanks!

Sam Holmes, Chairman

Three UGA students awarded midterm Foundation Fellowships

Three University of Georgia students have been awarded 2010 midterm UGA Foundation Fellowships: Matthew Sellers of Perry, a Ramsey Honors Scholar, who is pursuing a joint bachelor’s and master’s degree in English with a minor in chemistry; Jacob Rooney of Roswell, a National Merit Scholar, who is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and a minor in Spanish; and Victoria Akin of Macon, also a Ramsey Honors Scholar, who is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in mathematics.

"It is a great pleasure to welcome Matt, Jacob, and Tori to the Foundation Fellowship," said David S. Williams, director of the Honors Program and Foundation Fellowship. "As individuals and as a group, they are sure to enrich the community of Fellows."

Trustee Garry Bridgeman among nation’s top financial advisors

University of Georgia Foundation Trustee Garry Bridgeman, a private wealth advisor with the Private Banking and Investment Group at Merrill Lynch, was named as one of the 2010 “Top 1,000 Advisors: State-by-State” by Barron’s Magazine.

A 30-year veteran at Merrill Lynch, Bridgeman provides a broad array of financial and consulting services to endowments and foundations.

Garry received a Bachelor of Science in business from Indiana University and is a certified investment management analyst. He recently served a two-year term as president of the Investment Management Consultants Association (IMCA), a 7,000-member industry association. Garry also served on the board of directors of the Metropolitan Atlanta YMCA, chairing the investment committee, and is an active member of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Atlanta.

Congratulations Garry, we are honored to have you as a member of the board of trustees!

UGAF portfolio seeing strong returns

The economic downturn impacted philanthropic organizations of all types and sizes, and the University of Georgia Foundation was no exception. During this time, the investment committee carefully reviewed their asset allocation and investment managers. We are pleased to report that the foundation has achieved very respectable returns which outpace the market indices and the policy index based on the asset allocation of the portfolio. For the fiscal year to date, returns are 19.6 percent, while returns for the 12 months ending March 31, 2010, are even more robust at 33.3 percent.
John Crawford joins board of trustees

We are very pleased to welcome John Crawford IV to the University of Georgia Foundation board of trustees. A 1988 UGA graduate with a BBA in finance, John is director of investments and client service at Atlanta-based Crawford Investment Counsel, Inc. He is active in charitable endeavors in the Atlanta area, serving on boards and committees for the Atlanta Botanical Garden, the Orion School, the Atlanta Society of Financial Analysts, Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation and Gamma Advisors Capital Campaign.

Welcome John, we are very pleased to have you as a member of our board and look forward to the unique perspective your experience will bring.

Roberto Docampo named AAAS Fellow

Roberto Docampo, who holds the UGAF-funded Barbara and Sanford Orkin/GRA Eminent Scholar Chair in Tropical and Emerging Global Diseases, was recently named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Docampo’s investigations into the organism that causes malaria and other human parasites have led to the discovery of unique cellular structures, shared by both bacteria (cells lacking a nucleus) and eukaryotes (cells that contain a nucleus), which offer new approaches to treatment.

UGA’s department of microbiology is now home to seven AAAS fellows, including Robert J. Maier, GRA Ramsey Eminent Scholar (see Chairman’s Letter, winter 2010). This is an outstanding achievement for a department of only 15 faculty, which underscores the quality of scholarship these researchers pursue.

Two Fellows awarded prestigious scholarships

Muktha Natrajan receives Udall Scholarship

UGA Foundation Fellow Muktha Natrajan has received a 2010 Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Scholarship. This national award recognizes sophomores and juniors who are pursuing careers focused on environmental or Native American issues. Natrajan, a third-year student from Martinez, Georgia, was among a group of 80 Udall Scholars, and is the sixth UGA student to receive the scholarship. She is pursuing a combined bachelor’s/master’s program in which she will earn a Bachelor of Science in genetics and a Master of Public Health in environmental health science. Muktha also was a recipient of a Goldwater Scholarship in 2009.

Tracy Yang receives Truman Scholarship

UGA Foundation Fellow Tracy Yang has received a Harry S. Truman Scholarship, a national award recognizing outstanding juniors who are planning careers in government or other public service. Tracy, who is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in anthropology has served in several leadership roles with UGA’s chapter of the Roosevelt Institution, a national student-run think tank. With her interests in health disparities and improving public health, Yang is currently interning with the OneAthens Health Team, part of a community-based initiative to address poverty issues in Athens. Tracy, who is from Macon, Georgia, is one of only two Truman Scholarship recipients from Georgia.

UGAF Emeritus Trustee C.L. Morehead Jr. receives 2010 Regents’ Hall of Fame Award

Athens entrepreneur and University of Georgia Foundation Emeritus Trustee C.L. Morehead Jr. was recently honored with the University System of Georgia 2010 Regents’ Hall of Fame Alumni Award.

A native of the South Georgia town of Fitzgerald, Morehead earned a bachelor of science degree in agriculture from UGA in 1950. After graduation, he remained in Athens and taught horticulture classes at the university and took a job at a flower shop downtown. In 1959, he opened his own wholesale-retail greenhouse business, Flowers, Inc., which continues to thrive today.

An avid art collector, Morehead was a close friend of the late Lamar Dodd, who founded the university’s art program and for whom the university’s School of Art now is named. Over the past 20 years, Morehead has assembled the largest known collection of Dodd’s work, consisting of nearly 700 oil paintings, watercolors and drawings appraised at $10 million. Morehead has bequeathed his entire Lamar Dodd art collection to the Georgia Museum of Art, of which he has been a leading patron and benefactor.

The University of Georgia Foundation accepts and manages gifts to the university according to donor wishes. For more information, please call (706) 542-6677 or visit the foundation’s Web site at www.ugafoundation.org.