

# **Emerging Trends: Fresh Approaches** to Address Common Challenges

**Annual Member Meeting Development Learning Collaborative** 

### Agenda

- Northeastern University: Catalyst Project
  - Joseph J. Donnelly, Jr. Vice President & Campaign Director
  - Erin Martinovich, Director, Northeastern Fund
  - Valerie Paquette, Office of Alumni Relations
- University of Oregon: Prospect Identification Pool
  - Paul Elstone, Assistant Vice President, Schools and College Development
- Auburn University: Data Driven Gift Officer Goals
  - Karen McCauley, Interim Associate Vice President for Central Development and Operations
- Texas A&M Foundation: Leveraging Strategic Planning for Accelerated Campaign Priority Setting
  - James J. Palincsar, Senior Vice President for Development
- Relevant Eduventures Resources



# **Catalyst Project:**

Improving young alumni giving opportunities through innovative funding priorities generated and championed by current students





Northeastern is full of passionate and entrepreneurial students making an impact on the university community and beyond. Our innovative Catalyst program is a new opportunity for you to invest in specific student projects that are both inspirational and transformative.

Explore our website today to discover projects that need your support. **northeastern.edu/catalyst** 



## The Northeastern Fund

Be the Difference



### **About**

- Applies an online crowdfunding model to the Northeastern Fund operations.
- Donors contribute gifts directly to student organizations and academic programs on a project based level.
- Aims to engage young alumni with social and innovative priorities, reach new segments, and educate students about philanthropy.



#### The Northeastern Fund

Be the Difference

SUPPORT A PROJECT

SUBMIT A PROJECT



#### **Browse Projects**

Browse through projects on the Catalyst website to see the broad range of exciting work being done by Northeastern students.

#### Make a Gift

Choose your favorites and click on the "Support" button to make your gift. Gifts can be made in any amount starting at \$1.

#### See Results

Check back often to see your dollars in action. Updates on all funded projects will be posted on the project page.

#### **Current Projects**

Below is a listing of all our currently fundable Catalyst projects. Browse through and find the project that means the most to you, click on the title or image for more information or simply select the "Support" button to make your gift immediately.



<u>South Africa Field Study Trip</u> | *Social Enterprise Institute* Help us fundraise for our service projects with Nonceba, Niall Mellon, Red Cross, and Harvest for Hope.

99.00% funded \$25 remaining 31 days left

Support

#### Don't See a Project You Like?

We're always taking in new applications from student groups and organizations all over campus, so be sure to check back often for new opportunities.

If you would like to be notified when new projects are posted, follow us on Twitter (@heyJackNU) or like us on Facebook.



Village Technology & Entrepreneurship Center | Youth Action Africa

Help us empower a rural African village with access to computers, information and a fertile environment to start and grow businesses.

18.82% funded \$2760 remaining 27 days left

Support

### **About**

- Student project applications are reviewed by members of the Alumni Relations and the Northeastern Fund team.
- Selected groups are provided with a multimedia online platform to raise funds towards their project goal.
- Students are ultimately responsible for promoting their own project and driving donors to their site.
- Gifts to campaigns that do not reach their goal in the allotted time are directed to a general Catalyst fund.



#### TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER

#### 1. Tell Your Story

Alumni donors will respond to your passion along with the ability to relate to your Northeastern experience. When compiling your web profile try to answer the following questions: What is unique about your project? What impact will it have on Northeastern, the greater community, or the world? How is it innovative? How does this personally enhance your Northeastern experience?

#### 2. Be Creative

Sell your ideas to prospective donors through engaging video and photos. The sky is the limit with your video pitch. However, it does not necessarily need to involve complicated editing or spectacular footage – just honest and convincing testimony about your organization, why your project is important, and how prospective donors can help. The goal is to provide donors with a personal connection to you so let your personality and passion shine! Your efforts will also provide users with an enjoyable online experience, resulting in more visits and more donations.

#### 3. Set Obtainable Goals

We want to guarantee that the money contributed will result in a successful project so this program is based on an all-or-nothing funding model. Set a reasonable budget that will provide enough money to fund your project but do not overreach. If you exceed your goal, your group will retain all the funds earned to enhance your current project or apply to future projects. Larger or ongoing projects can be funded in stages so don't hesitate to ask us for help in determining a reasonable goal.

#### 4. Self-Promote

It's up to you to build momentum for your project. We'll do our part to spread the word to the alumni community but in order to be successful you must utilize your own networks to drive prospective donors to your project site. You can reach out to past members of your organization, pass out flyers on campus, and utilize social networking tools. Be sure to have a plan in place to spread the word to your family, professional contacts, and former and current classmates.

#### 5. Timely Updates and Sincere Acknowledgements

The sustainability of the platform and the success of future student projects rely on your commitment to the program. When your project is funded your group will provide us with a sincere thank you note that will be sent on your behalf to the donors. About a month after completing your fundraiser, you'll begin to send us monthly updates on your process which will be posted to the site, culminating in your completed project. We recommend that your completed project update includes either photos or video. Timely delivery of these pieces is of the utmost importance because if donors can see the direct impact of their gifts they are more likely to give again.

#### 6. Think About Incentives

Do you have any ideas for additional ways to incentivize or acknowledge your donors? Perhaps you could offer an invite to your next networking event or an organization T-shirt for a larger donation. This portion is optional but could result in an even more successful fundraiser.

#### CONTACT

For questions about the program or application please contact: Valerie Paquette, x7290, v.paquette@neu.edu



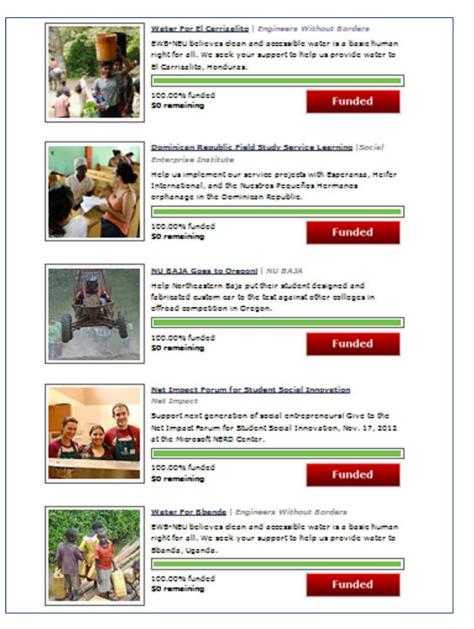
### Results

Since launch in mid-March:

- 9 projects have been accepted
- 6 projects have been fully funded
- 2 projects are in progress
- 1 project has failed to hit goal

Total Donors: 132

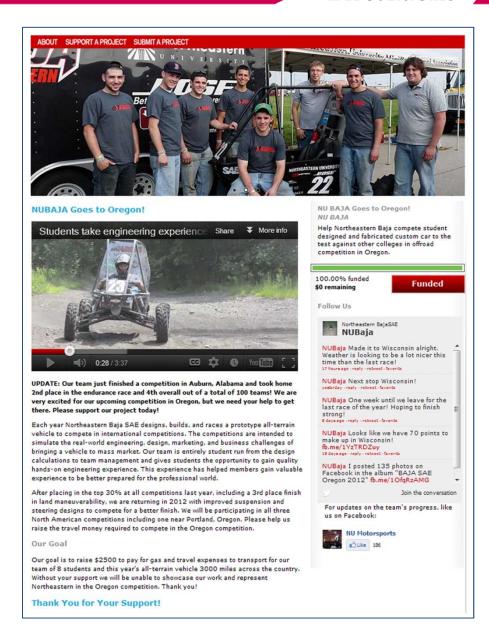
Total Funds Raised: \$16,663





### **Next Steps**

- Introduce project updates to ensure accountability to donors and drive repeat traffic
- Explore different sized projects beyond the typical project limits
- Explore how projects could be used as part of a direct appeal campaign to certain segments
- Promote student/alumni connections through Catalyst showcase events
- Attract a larger pool of applicants through fall campus promotions





**Questions?** 



## The Northeastern Fund

Be the Difference



# **Dynamic Prospect Management:**

Flexible referral system that reduces bureaucracy and territorial behavior for improved identification and qualification of new prospects

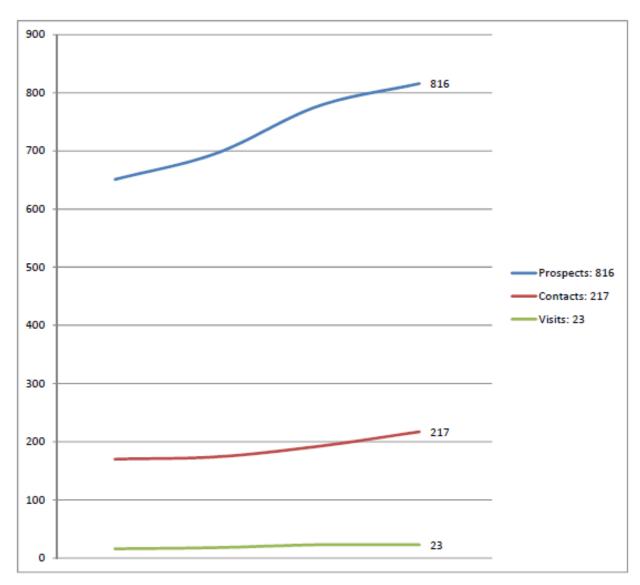


### **Background**

- Development officers' portfolios were becoming stagnate and potentially valuable prospects weren't being contacted or visited
- Need to build pipeline for upcoming campaign
- Increased research activity to identify new prospects
- Needed a less territorial way to work with prospects that matched a donor's variety of interest beyond one particular unit
- Hired 15 new development officers



### **Driving Activity to Revitalize the Pipeline**





## **Prospect Referral (Task)**

Barbara (Prospect#)
Prospect Type Major Gift (Major Prospect)

Task	New Prospect						
Status	Open	Scheduled	May 14, 2012				
Priority		Completed					
		Original					
Description	This prospect was identified through the March 2012  WealthEngine screening. Her home is valued at \$1.6M, plus she owns property in						
Responsible	•						
Assignment	t	Office					
Contact Rpt	ţ						
	Strategy	Recur Month					
Frequency		Recur Week					
Purpose		Recur Day					
Source	Ms. Anne F. McGinle	y #655779					
Unit	Library						



## **Monthly Referral Report**

	Entity ID	Task Type	Date	Description	Contacted after Assignment by	Evaluations	Туре	City	State Degree
New/qualifed discovery prospects date range: co/01/2012 - co/01/2012 Task: NP Unit:									
Oraritzs D. & Deboreh	004	New Prospect	05/01/2012	Prespect identified via Wit diedronic screening, 10/2011. Reterred to klares Shaw (quident effects op, despring activity. Money with test to leavel gag Additional Info in Research Reports. PMA thinks may be closer to \$3000. cplite HI progestly.	!	\$1,000,000 -\$1,999,990	WE Velicited - Prospect		ол
christophe		New Prospect	02/01/2012	Talk prospect was identified through the March 2012 Measoning in schedule. He owns with a combined value of \$18 to \$1000. His businesse are included in Schedule i		\$1,000,000 -\$1,999,999	Well silosted - Prospect		O.
Description					Contacted after	· Assignme	ent by	Eva	luations

## **Next Steps**

- Increase visit activity with newly identified prospects
- Determine how to utilize the new process for campaign success
- Continue to refine the referral process to make sure the right prospects are being seen



# **Interactive Goal Setting Tool:**

Interactive tool combining national and institutional performance data to generate individualized gift officer goals for increased accountability



### **Background**

- Auburn continues to make strides in professionalizing fundraising operations with a focus in the coming year on increased gift officer productivity
- Staff have varying responsibilities and support many different units of the institution with vastly different prospect pools
- To generate buy-in from gift officers it is important that goals be data driven; based on a combination of industry norms and adjusted for specific elements of fundraising at Auburn
- Partnered with Eduventures to create an interactive tool that unlocks national gift officer benchmarks



## **Goal Setting Data Inputs**

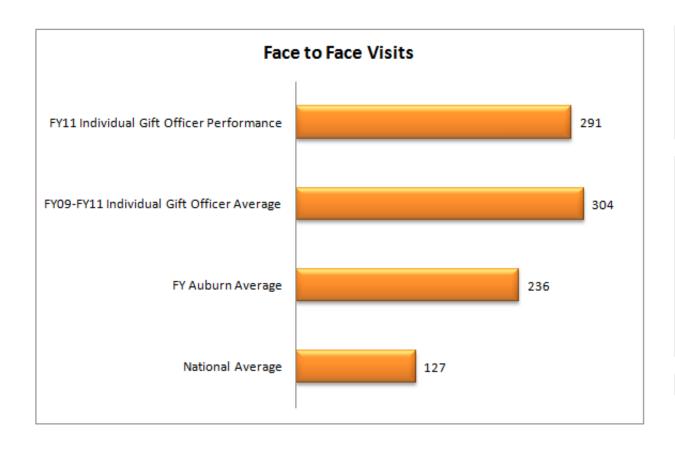
Past Productivity	FY11 Ind. Results	FY10 Ind. Results	FY09 Ind. Results	Individual 3-Year Average	FY11 Inst. Average Overall	% Individual Is Ahead/ Behind Inst. Overall Average	Nat. Avg	% Individual Is Ahead/ Behind Nat. Avg
Face to Face								
Visits Goal	240	240	240	240	235	2%	154	56%
Face to Face								
Visits Actual	291	334	287	304	236	23%	127	129%
Percent of								
Visit Goal								
Achieved	121%	139%	120%	127%	100%		82%	
Number of								
Prospects								
Visited	116	133	94	114	80		66	



## **Prospect Rating and Stage Considerations**

	Qualification	Active Cultivation or Solicitation	Stewardship	Predicted to Close by End of FY	Planned Solicitation Value
Not Rated	39				
\$25K or Less		20	50	7	\$175,000
\$25K-\$99K		10	24	3	\$300,000
\$100K-\$1M		10	20	4	\$4,000,000
\$1M+		4	4	2	\$2,000,000
Total	39	44	98	16	\$6,475,000

### **Graphs and Discussion Questions for Key Metrics**



Percent Gift Officer Is Ahead/Behind Auburn Overall Average

23%

Percent Gift Officer Is Ahead/Behind National Average

129%

#### Discussion Questions

Consider the answers to these questions and the "Visit Planning Worksheet" to determine face to face visit goals.

- •Is the gift officer above/below/on target? What led to this in FY11?
- Are there other characteristics that would influence the gift officer being above/below Auburn's or the national average?

FYXX Face to Face Visit Goal:



## **Gift Officer Activity Planning**

	Total	x Visits Per	x Goal of	= Number	Number of	Percent
	Prospects	Prospect	Percentage	of Visits	Prospects	Unique
			Visited		Visited	Visits
Qualification	39	1	50%	20	20	100%
Cultivation (no						
solicitation						
expected this						
year)	28	1.5	75%	32	21	67%
Cultivation						
(solicitation						
planned this						
year)	16	2.5	100%	40	16	40%
Stewardship	98	1	50%	49	49	100%
TOTAL	181			140	106	75%

### **Next Steps**

- Roll out the new goal-setting process to managers and gift officers
- Make adjustments to the tool based on feedback after initial launch
- Continue to collect performance data and assess which metrics drive productivity at Auburn



# **Accelerated Campaign Priority Setting:**

Leveraging institutional strategic plans and key stakeholders to develop inspiring donor-centric campaign themes in one day



SPIRIT AND MIND®

### **Background**

- Preparing to launch the University's third comprehensive campaign
- Need to move away from a laundry list of funding projects and move to a donor-centric model focused on themes and areas of excellence
- Need to focus on aspirations rather than needs
- University has gone through a series of strategic planning processes over the past decade



# Vision 2020

Vision 2020 Mid-Term Review Report

The Twelve Imperatives

Visioning Process Reports

In Pursuit of the Vision

Academic Master Plan

Advisory Council

College and Division Five-Year Plans

Peer Institutions

Related Links

Feedback/Contact

### The Twelve Imperatives

The process of Vision 2020 produced hundreds of ideas supporting our goal. Almost all of these suggestions have merit, and most earn acknowledgment in the body of this report. The precepts, focused goals, and measures can be summarized in twelve overarching ideas. We call these the twelve imperatives.

(from the Vision 2020: Creating a Culture of Excellence Report)





#### 1. Elevate Our Faculty and Their Teaching, Research, and Scholarship

The world today is knowledge-based and constantly changing. In such a world, the quality research university is "a creator, organizer, preserver, transmitter, and applier of knowledge." The foundation of these functions is an excellent faculty in adequate numbers. We need to increase substantially the size of our faculty (perhaps by half), and we must attract and retain many more top scholars, teachers, and researchers. We will have to review and strengthen hiring and tenure policies, enhance compensation, focus our scholarship, and transform our administrative culture. We cannot achieve our goal without a nationally recognized faculty with a passion for teaching and an academic environment that values and rewards innovation, great ideas, and the search for the truth.

### 2. Strengthen Our Graduate Programs

We must have a shift in our thinking about the role of graduate education to attain the level of excellence we desire. A substantially expanded graduate studies effort is critical to our academic aspirations and to our effectiveness as a great research university. Outstanding professors attract superior graduate students and, in many instances, the money to help support their research. But these professors by themselves will not be enough. We must create a dynamic, exciting, discovery-driven intellectual environment that will draw superior graduate students, comparable to those in the nation's best graduate programs.

### 3. Enhance the Undergraduate Academic Experience

The core of Texas A&M University must be a residential, learner-centered community that attracts excellent students and provides quality learning and mentoring experiences. We must better prepare learners for lives of discovery, innovation, leadership, and citizenship by better inculcation of writing, thinking, and self-expression skills. Texas A&M University is proud of its history of

### **Campaign Priorities Think Tank**

- Think tank model launched in early 2012 securing participants and date for all-day workshop on theme development
- President, Provost, 3 Deans, 2 University/Academic Leaders, and 3 Alumni Leaders serving as members of the think tank
- One all-day planning session held end of March 2012 with a trained facilitator and VP level note takers
- Prior to the one-day session, members reviewed the extensive reporting that had been created from past university strategic planning initiatives



## **Theme Development Workshop Agenda**

- Welcome and Introductions
- Campaign Planning Process
- Academic Planning Process
- National Perspective/Themes
- Concepts of Themes
- Theme Development
- Wrap up/Action Item Review

### **Timeline**

- Recruit workshop attendees in February
- Conduct workshop on theme development in March
- Draft 5 to 6 campaign themes April/May/June
- Prepare a discussion draft for the Deans to help move the University closer to establishing campaign themes
- Seek feedback from Deans in June/July
- Begin testing themes with a larger audience in August
- Begin promoting themes and prepare to launch campaign silent phase in January 2013



# **EDUVENTURES RESOURCES**

### **Relevant Resources Available to Members**

- Aligning Fundraising Efforts for a New Generation of Donors: Research Brief
- Sharpening Prospect Research Metrics and Understanding ROI
- A Guide to Setting Gift Officer Goals for Managers
- Generating Big Ideas
- <u>Testing Feasibility While Deepening Donor Relationships</u>



For more information about this session, please contact:

Josh Keniston, Senior Analyst 617.532.6057 <a href="mailto:jkeniston@eduventures.com">jkeniston@eduventures.com</a>

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