During Homecoming 2006 last fall, the Black Alumni Reunion at Truman State University celebrated its 20th anniversary by announcing that more than $10,000 had been raised to endow the newly established Black Alumni and Attendees Scholarship fund. A majority of the funds were generated by two challenge events that encouraged both students and alumni to make a gift in support of the new scholarship.

Alumni Dwyane Smith ’84(’91), Michelle McClure ’95(’97), Charlene Goston ’83, Rolland Garrison ’80(’81), Billy Smith ’82, and Michael Ferrer ’80(’81) served as members of a committee that led the fund-raising effort. Truman alumni were encouraged to show their support by participating in an All Greek Challenge, while the Black Student Organization Challenge created a competition among student groups on the Truman campus.

Dionté Thompson, a senior business management major from Homewood, Ill., single-handedly raised enough money on behalf of Phi Beta Sigma to give the fraternity the highest giving level for the Black Student Organization Challenge. The Delta Sigma Theta sorority won the All Greek Challenge.

Thanks to the generosity of alumni and students, the inaugural Black Alumni and Attendees Scholarship award will be made for the 2007-08 academic year. The scholarship fund is designed to produce awards in perpetuity.

A scholarship that started as a tribute to the two photographers killed in the tragic airline crash in Kirksville, Mo., more than two years ago has received a substantial boost. Alicia Talley, the widow of Paul Talley, recently made a gift of $90,000 to add to the endowment of the Paul Talley and Matt Johnson Memorial Scholarship at Truman.

Talley and Johnson were among 13 people killed aboard a commuter plane crash on Oct. 19, 2004, near Kirksville. They were part of a team assisting Truman with the creation and design of new University publications and were traveling to campus for a photography session.

The fund was created in the fall of 2004 with gifts from Truman’s faculty and staff, Foundation Board of Directors, and Creative Communication of America. The endowment now exceeds $105,000 and is expected to eventually produce $5,000 in annual awards to deserving students.

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To receive our complimentary brochure, “Your Guide to Making a Will,” please contact Jamie Hansen, Office of Advancement, (800) 452-6678, jhansen@truman.edu.

MORE STUDENTS TO BENEFIT FROM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Black Alumni Reunion Celebrates Anniversary by Raising Funds to Assist Students
**Couple Creates Scholarship in Honor of Family Business**

The Howard and Anne Elsberry Opportunity Scholarship was created by Truman alumni Anne (Westlake) Elsberry (’64) and Howard Elsberry (’64), in honor of Westlake Ace Hardware, one of the nation’s largest hardware retailers in the country. Westlake Hardware opened in 1905 in Huntsville, Mo., and through the core philosophy of serving the neighborhood, family values and meeting customer needs, a century later has grown to more than 80 outlets in eight states.

The scholarship was established to assist students with financial need earn a degree and begin a career in business. Two scholarships for $3,000 will be awarded annually for the next five years.

**Parents Project to Provide Enhancements for Baldwin Auditorium**

The latest Parents Council Project plans to provide significant renovation to Baldwin Auditorium, the University’s main performance hall, where the wear and tear over the years has taken its toll. The project calls for replacement or refurbishment of the seats in the auditorium, as well as a new floor cover in the lower level of the auditorium.

Baldwin Auditorium is the University’s main performance hall and is used for large lectures, dance troupes, campus ceremonies, and many other performances from groups brought to campus through the Student Activities Board and the Kohlenberg Lyceum Series. This project, combined with last year’s Parents Council campaign to replace the auditorium’s sound system, will help restore Baldwin Auditorium and provide an impressive performance venue for the campus and community.

Each year, the Parents Council, a group of Truman parents appointed by University President Barbara Dixon to serve as an advisory council for the University, selects a special fundraising project to benefit Truman students. For the past decade, parents have contributed more than $600,000 in resources for projects that enhance the students’ educational experience at Truman.

Steve Rose (’69), the chair of an initiative to name a theatre in Truman’s Fine Arts Building after long-time professor James G. Severns, has made another substantial gift to the effort. Rose, of Potomac, Md., has made a contribution of $56,213 to the theatre endowment. A portion of this gift has been earmarked to purchase a new sound system for the theatre.

To date, 80 donors have committed more than $300,000 in cash, pledges, annuities and deferred gift arrangements to the endowed fund, which provides resources to benefit the theatre program. The James G. Severns Theatre was dedicated in the spring of 2006, and the fund remains open for additional contributions.

Rose made an initial gift of nearly $101,000 to jump-start the naming effort in December of 2005. He received the 2006 President’s Leadership Award and is a member of the Truman State University Foundation Board of Directors.
A New Way to Support Truman through Tax-free IRA Transfers

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 provides a new tax incentive for charitable gifts from donors who are 70 1/2 or older by allowing transfers from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to a qualified charity, like the Truman State University Foundation, without tax consequences.

Under the new law, you can make a lifetime gift using funds from your IRA without undesirable tax effects. Previously you would have had to report any amount taken from your IRA as taxable income, then take a charitable deduction for the gift, but only up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. In effect, this caused some donors to pay more in income taxes than if they didn’t make a gift at all.

Fortunately, now these IRA gifts can be accomplished simply and without tax complications. Plus, you can make the gift now while you are living and able to witness the benefits of your generosity.

You may support Truman this way if:

- You are age 70 1/2 or older on the date the gift is made
- The gift is $100,000 or less each year
- You make the gift on or before Dec. 31, 2007
- You transfer funds directly from an IRA or Rollover IRA
- You transfer the gift outright to Truman State University
- You cannot receive benefits from Truman in exchange for the gift

New Annual Scholarships

Annual scholarships can be established at Truman with a gift of $1,000, and a four year commitment of $1,000 per year is recommended. The following annual scholarships were recently established through the Truman State University Foundation:

- Laura J. Downey Bell Nursing Scholarship
- Aminah Jamal Scholarship
- LMB Memorial Scholarship
- Tricia M. Mason Scholarship
- Carrie T. Nauyalis Scholarship
- Mark Nordstrom Scholarship
- UHY Advisors Scholarship

Memorial Scholarship Assists Members of Debate/Speech Team

Alumna Elizabeth Evans (’52)(’60) has made a gift of $25,000 to establish the Craig V. Evans Memorial Debate Scholarship in memory of her late son, Craig Evans (’75).

Craig graduated valedictorian, summa cum laude, from Truman State University with a bachelor of science degree in law enforcement and corrections, and a minor in speech. He was a member of Blue Key, active in ROTC for four years and a member of the debate team. At the time of his death, Craig served as general counsel for the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Elizabeth Evans graduated from the University with a bachelor of science degree in elementary education, and a master of arts degree in elementary education. She retired from teaching at Truman in 1988, and was given the title of assistant professor emerita of education. Elizabeth had been an educator for 49 years, including 29 years of service to the Truman community.

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These companies, along with 1,000 others, match gifts made by their employees to Truman. We hope that you will take advantage of this employer benefit and help support areas of need at Truman State University. Go to http://www.matchinggifts.com/truman/ or contact your company’s human resources department to find out if your employer has a matching gift program.

Giving Opportunities at Truman

For more information on gift opportunities at Truman and how charitable planning might benefit you and your family while helping others contact: Office of Advancement, McClain Hall 100, 100 E. Normal St., Kirksville, Mo. 63501-4221; (800) 452-6678 or (660) 785-4133. Visit our Web site at http://giving.truman.edu.