Capital Campaign Funding Opportunities – The Graduate School

Theme: Even Higher Education; a Catalyst for Global Innovation

Funding Opportunity: A Transformative Model for Graduate Education at UNC Charlotte; $56 million

1. The Collaborative Institute for Excellence in Graduate Education - Including Center for Graduate Life - $6 million. New Horizons and Big Ideas, The Complete College Experience, The Power of Education
   - A collaborative but centralized community for graduate students, faculty, scholars, post-docs and administrators that offer soft skills development, interdisciplinary and intercultural opportunities responsive to industry and community needs. Can include Living-Learning Environments for graduate students and faculty which promote community/service-based learning in an interdisciplinary setting.
   - Capitalizing on the Graduate School’s advocacy role in graduate education, offer specialized training for Graduate Faculty and Program Directors focused on graduate education imperatives – developed through partnerships with CTL, OIP, OASES, VA and Academic Affairs.
   - Long-term (10 yr) vision includes: Central location on campus to provide place-based support for Center for Graduate Life, conference and training needs, Graduate School administration, and graduate student housing with a possible focus on international students.

2. UNC Charlotte Graduate Center; an Incubator for Interdisciplinary Programs and Global Partnerships - $5 million. New Horizons and Big Ideas, The Power of Education
   - Regional and Global Centers to increase access to UNC Charlotte’s world class Faculty and academic programs, and to facilitate interdisciplinary research and educational opportunities.
   - Promoting and developing Professional Science Masters (PSM) degrees targeted to community and industry needs.
   - Developing new Accelerated Graduate Certificate Summer Programs and Executive Education Models.
   - Partnerships with Alumni Affairs, Distance Education and Continuing Education to engage community and expand UNC Charlotte’s impact throughout the greater metropolitan region.

3. Graduate Community of Scholars $40 Million - $1.6 million annual; The Power of Education
   - Prestigious unrestricted 1st-year and dissertation year Fellowships in all disciplines. Avg $40,000 x 40; increase the number of these fellowships from 4 to 44

4. Scholars For Tomorrow $5 million - $200,000 annual; The Power of Education
   - Funding to bridge gap to allow students to conduct research where research funding is lacking. Avg $6,000 x 12
   - Student travel grants for research, data collection and information sharing; Avg $10,000 x 10
   - Support U.S. students to study and research abroad and international students to study in the U.S. Avg $10,000 x 5
Introduction

The Chancellor has charged the Division of University Advancement with taking steps to plan the next comprehensive campaign. We anticipate launching the leadership phase (silent phase) in 2014 and concluding the campaign in 2019. Overall, pending the next twelve months of due diligence and an extensive feasibility study, we should expect a campaign goal in the range of $200,000,000 to $250,000,000.

The campaign’s case will rest on four pillars:

The Power of Education. This pillar will focus on providing access to funding opportunities to help remove barriers to both entry to the University and academic progress. This pillar includes need-based and merit-based scholarships/fellowships for undergraduate and graduate students, and funds to support student internship opportunities and programs which address the needs of particular student populations, including low income and first-generation students, returning adults, veterans, etc. We might expect that total fund raising for this pillar will total $75,000,000.

Building Upon the Past, Ensuring the Future.

This pillar focuses on ensuring that the academic and research programs that have built UNC Charlotte’s reputation remain valuable assets to the region and our students. One of our top priorities must be to ensure that these programs are successfully stewarded and nurtured for future generations. The two primary questions which should be addressed are: 1) What priorities must be addressed to ensure the quality, reputation and relevance of the program; and 2) What priorities must be addressed to enhance the program? Examples of priorities that might be included in this pillar are endowed faculty positions, funds (endowed or otherwise) to support academic research, and capital/equipment needs. Total funding for this pillar will be in the $50,000,000.

New Horizons and Big Ideas. The primary elements of this pillar will be a limited number of transformational opportunities identified in the Colleges and endorsed for future development by the Chancellor based upon the breadth of their potential impact on the academic reputation of the University, the condition of the regional and state economies, and the quality of life in the region. These opportunities need to be similar in scope to EPIC and the business analytics/data science program currently in development. Our intent is not to present a lengthy list of college and unit-based priorities, but to focus on less than a handful of priorities that require cross-college and discipline collaboration and can make a demonstrable impact on defining UNC Charlotte’s position in the academic and economic arenas. Although it is likely that these transformational opportunities will require a mix of funding sources–state, federal, and private–we will want to focus our private fund raising efforts on distinguished professorships and other endowed faculty positions that can help provide senior faculty leadership for program development. Total fund raising in support of this pillar is expected also to be in the range of $50,000,000.

The Complete College Experience. This pillar addresses the continuing development of a stimulating and meaningful academic and co-curricular environment that builds students’ intellectual and personal development and long-term emotional attachment to the University. Athletics will be a significant element—funding for both football and additional women’s sports to be added in the years ahead. Student affairs initiatives and academic programs (e.g., Honors College, International Programs) will also fall within this section of the case. Total fund raising for this pillar is expected to be in the $75,000,000 range.