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Campaign Raises Record \$2.6 Billion For Teaching, Research

In a letter being sent this week to all contributors to Harvard's University Campaign, which ended on December 31, President Neil L. Rudenstine thanked them for advancing the University's teaching and research missions while establishing a new milestone in the history of philanthropy for higher education.

*See President
Rudenstine's
Letter on page 6.*

The University's donors contributed a total of \$2.6 billion to Harvard since the campaign began in May 1994. Previously, during a meeting of the campaign's volunteer leadership at the Harvard Club of New York last October 6, Rudenstine had announced that the campaign would exceed its original goal of \$2.1 billion.

The campaign's national co-chairs were Robert G. Stone Jr. '45; Rita E. Hauser, Law '58; Sidney R. Knafel '52, MBA '54; Thomas H. Lee '65; Katherine B. Loker; Richard L. Menschel, MBA '59; and William F. Thompson '50, MBA '54. Under their leadership, the campaign received broad support from more than 174,378 donors.

Thanks to the campaign's success, and an extensive and ongoing University-wide academic planning process,

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Harvard has made significant new investments in all aspects of its educational programs, including the sciences, the humanities, international studies, a broad range of interdisciplinary initiatives, and the educational uses of information technology. Another campaign priority has been assuring the accessibility of Harvard's degree programs to all admitted students by increasing the availability of financial aid.

Among the campaign's many achievements were the establishment or strengthening of numerous academic centers, from the Hauser Center for the Study of Nonprofit Organizations to the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, from the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs to the Carr Center for Human Rights. The campaign also enabled Harvard to improve the infrastructure for teaching and learning through both the creative renovations of historic buildings such as Langdell Library and the Barker Center to the construction of new facilities such as Maxwell Dworkin and the Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights.

A comprehensive report on the campaign's impact, and how it has helped the University become better positioned to meet the challenges of the new century, will be available in May.

"The fundamental measure of a campaign's success, of course, lies not primarily in the number of dollars raised, but in the vastly strengthened educational programs and opportunities that will together shape the future of our university: programs and opportunities that will enable us to attract the best possible faculty, students, and staff to Harvard, and to provide them with the essential resources they need to do their very best work," Rudenstine wrote in his letter.

A Letter from President Rudenstine

January 21, 2000

Dear Alumni, Alumnae, and Friends,

I write with a simple purpose: to thank you, on behalf of the entire Harvard community, for taking part in the most ambitious fundraising campaign in the history of higher education.

By December 31, 1999, when the campaign drew to a close, 174,378 graduates and friends had given a total of \$2.6 billion to the first university-wide fundraising effort in Harvard's modern history, surpassing by a wide margin the original goal of \$2.1 billion. Your unprecedented demonstration of support affirms our shared belief in the vital importance of education and research that is eloquent beyond words.

The fundamental measure of a campaign's success, of course, lies not primarily in the number of dollars raised, but in the vastly strengthened educational programs and opportunities that will together shape the future of our university: programs and opportunities that will enable us to attract the best possible faculty, students, and staff to Harvard, and to provide them with the essential resources they need to do their very best work.

Thanks to the campaign, our

financial aid programs are keeping Harvard's doors fully open to undergraduate and graduate students of exceptional talent and promise. Dozens of newly endowed professorships are augmenting our educational capacity in fields both traditional and new. With farsighted help from alumni and friends, we are now far better equipped to meet the challenges of a strikingly more "internationalized" world; and to take creative advantage of the power of new information technologies to enhance and extend education and research.

The campaign has enabled Harvard to emerge even more strongly as a leader in the extraordinary scientific revolution unfolding before us, while also making possible major new academic resources in the humanities and the arts, in the social sciences, and across the professions. Not only has the campaign advanced the efforts of each individual faculty and school, each library and museum, but it has given added momentum to crossdisciplinary and interfaculty collaborations that are essential to our future.

It would take far more than a brief letter to describe the full scope of the campaign's impact. Each student on financial aid, each participant in new courses and new programs, each scholar at the leading edge of discov-

ery — indeed, each and every member of our academic community — has in some way benefited from the willingness of our graduates and friends to secure Harvard's continuing excellence and its capacity for leadership and change. A comprehensive campaign report will be prepared soon.

For now, I simply want to recognize the campaign's volunteer leaders for their remarkable energy and commitment, and to salute all of you who have contributed to the effort for your unprecedented generosity. The campaign we began more than five years ago could not have been imagined, much less carried to so successful a conclusion, without your ideas and your support. Like any great and enduring institution, Harvard is forever a work in progress. It is only with your confidence and engagement that we can continue to build on that progress, imaginatively and ambitiously, in the decades that lie ahead.

With many thanks, and warm wishes for the new year.

Sincerely,



Neil L. Rudenstine

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