Closing In: Annual Fund Giving is Ahead of Last Year

UB Law Forum
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The race is on to reach the most ambitious goal ever in UB Law School’s pledge drive for the Annual Fund. And the smart money is betting on a record response from alumni for this crucial giving campaign.

“I’m very optimistic that we will reach our goal, and we are definitely ahead of last year’s pace,” said Associate Dean Alan S. Carrel, who oversees the fund drive.

“The alumni have been wonderfully responsive, despite the difficult economic situation. They seem to realize that we need alumni support to help us with the devastating budget cutbacks by the state.”

The drive’s goal is $300,000, up from $279,000 in 1991. Carrel said giving to date is about $10,000 ahead of last year’s pace.

However, Carrel said, “We’ll need something of a push towards the end.” The fund-raising year ends June 30.

Phonathon volunteers, calling in the early evening, are informing alumni of some critical needs that the recently passed, bare-bones New York State budget has created at the Law School.

Last year, they point out, gifts supplied 45 percent of the school’s non-salarial operating budget. In 1991 more than 84 percent of the faculty, over 350 students and more than 2,000 alumni/aie made donations, with the average gift being under $150.

Contributions are used in areas as diverse as subsidizing the nationally recognized clinics; maintaining a first-class law library; supporting Moot Court, which is generally acknowledged as one of the most practical legal educational programs; assisting the Buffalo Public Interest Law Program, which creates summer jobs for law students in public service agencies; and sustaining all of the school’s alumni programs, including UB Law Forum magazine.

Said Dean Carrel: “Many of our alumni appreciate having obtained a high-quality education at UB much more economically than they could have elsewhere, and that education was the springboard for their career.”

Now the challenge is to translate that appreciation into a strong showing for the Annual Fund.

If you’ve already donated, thank you! If you have yet to be contacted and would like to make a pledge, please call 636-2054 or write: UB Law Annual Fund, 318 O’Brian Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260.