



2008-09

# Parents Fund REVIEW

THE MIAMI UNIVERSITY CAMPAIGN FOR LOVE AND HONOR

## PARENTS FUND SUPPORT REMAINS CRITICAL TO STUDENT EXPERIENCE

If there has been one mainstay throughout Miami University's 200 years, it has been its unwavering focus on a balanced student experience that educates and inspires both in and out of the classroom.

A 2008 study by Eduventures, a research and assessment consortium, revealed that Miami ranks among the very top institutions nationally for providing leadership opportunities. An impressive 70 percent of Miami students are engaged in some form of leadership activity, compared to 55 percent nationally.

This co-curricular involvement takes many shapes, as evidenced by Miami's more than 350 student organizations, and provides real-world opportunities for growth through community service, cultural exploration, and much more.

Your support of the Parents Fund helps make it all possible. Through your generosity, Miami students have attended national conferences, brought in renowned speakers, and lent helping hands to neighbors both near and afar.

That support remains even more critical during these difficult economic times. Universities throughout the nation are tightening their budgets, and Miami is no exception. While the student experience remains Miami's top priority, funding has been trimmed throughout the university, and resources are stretched thin.

At a time when students need support not only for co-curricular learning but also in navigating their own financial challenges, the Parents Fund is a valuable ally. Every dollar provides direct support to Miami students and their families while ensuring that learning and personal growth doesn't stop in the classroom.

Thank you for your support of the Miami Parents Fund. I hope you will enjoy learning about what those dollars have done in the past year while realizing just how important they are in 2009-10.

Barb Jones  
Vice President of Student Affairs

## PARENTS FUND PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

During the 2008-09 school-year, Miami University's Parents Fund provided more than \$390,000 in support for Miami students and their families.

Among the activities and initiatives supported were numerous opportunities that promoted growth outside of the classroom in areas such as service, leadership, and education. Following is a sampling of some of the activities and initiatives that your Parents Fund dollars helped support during the last year.

- National Conference on Undergraduate Research
- Coca-Cola Scholars Leadership Summit
- Mali Water Pump Project - Phase II
- America Reads Program
- Honors & Scholars Civic Engagement Symposium
- Columbus City Schools Visit Program
- Interfaith Circle - Day of Service and Meal
- Combatting Childhood Obesity Program
- Exploring State and Federal Government Conference
- Miami Student Opera Company
- Guatemala Delegation for Peace and Justice
- STAND Miami - Guest Speaker Emmanuel Jai
- Over the Rhine Student Service
- Outside the Classroom - Alcohol Prevention Program
- Off-Campus Affairs

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE CARDS EQUIP STUDENTS WITH INFORMATION

As recent tragedies at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois have illustrated, colleges and universities today can be faced with the same volatile situations as society-at-large.

While Miami's students come to school with different backgrounds and vary in their coping abilities, according to Dean of Students Susan Mosley-Howard, one thing the university can do for all its students is equip them with information that can guide them during a crisis.

This fall, more than 25,000 wallet-sized cards are being distributed to every Miami undergraduate, courtesy of the Parents Fund. They provide

students with safety information that achieves four critical purposes:

- Educating students about self-care strategies during an emergency
- Making students aware of institutional emergency support systems
- Emphasizing the importance of taking advantage of early alert systems
- Promoting awareness of support systems that are available to students

According to Mosley-Howard, Miami began focusing on ways to prepare its faculty/staff

for crisis situations in the wake of the Virginia Tech and NIU shootings, but a situation last fall alerted the administration to the need for students to be made more aware.

"Last fall's city-wide power outage revealed that our students could be better prepared to handle emergencies of all types," Mosley-Howard said. "Through the insightful feedback of the Parents Council, it became clear that we needed to provide emergency information to students on all of our campuses in a format that is portable, usable, and readily accessible."

THE MIAMI UNIVERSITY CAMPAIGN FOR LOVE AND HONOR

## PARENTS FUND SUPPORT OPENS NEW DOORWAYS FOR MIAMI STUDENTS

"Few universities can match the breadth and depth of Miami's historic strengths in curricular and co-curricular activities that together provide an exceptional foundation for total student development and a rich context for developing the student as scholar."

— President David Hodge

"I'm just a student," won't cut it at Miami University. Under the guidance of President David C. Hodge, the university seeks to engage its students in collaborative projects and interactions both in and out of the classroom that make a real difference in the world and empower students in their own educational process.

The Parents Fund has been crucial in supporting these types of opportunities in the past, and the importance of this support is only growing. Following are just some of the opportunities undertaken by Miami students to grow their awareness and allow for new discoveries.

**Freedom Summer Conference** — On the 45th anniversary of the Mississippi Freedom Summer Project, hosted at Oxford's then-Western College for Women, Miami students are hosting a conference

to explore the history and importance of the civil rights movement in today's society. Parents Fund dollars are supporting a series of workshops, speakers and other events related to the conference, which in 2004 involved more than 500 Miami students.

**First Book** — This service learning program assists Miami students in providing tutoring to underprivileged children in kindergarten through third grade. Along with learning necessary skills about working with children from diverse backgrounds, the more than 660 Miami students committed to this tutoring program enjoy the opportunity to contribute to the welfare of nearby communities. The Parents Fund is enabling these tutors to provide a free book to each of their students while teaching them reading skills and enjoyment.

**National Conference of Undergraduate Research** — Research is at the heart of the student as scholar paradigm, and Parents Fund support allowed accepted Miami students to attend the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, where they presented research findings to more than 2,000 students from 300 colleges and universities. After experiencing first-hand the processes of scholarly research and discovery, these students were able to return to Miami University's campus and share their experiences with fellow students.

## 2008-2009 PARENTS COUNCIL

Becky & Tony Alexander	Lori & Greg McMillan
Maria & Frank Angelo	Sandra & John Miller
Charles Bachman & Stephanie Catalano	Beth & Doug Morgan <i>National Chairs</i>
Susan & Jim Bakke	Susan & Robert Morrison
Dawn & Bob Bullard	Karen & Dennis Nally
Nancy & John Challenger	Marilee & Bob Neff
Elizabeth & Tim Cullen	Judy & Haluk Nural
Janice Dobbs	Janice & Scott Oldach
Sarah & Tony Earley	Anne & Jack Partridge <i>National Vice Chairs</i>
Marilyn & Ramon Garcia	Amy & Bob Rupp
Rochelle & Harley Gross	Juanita & Alex Sarkisian
Mikie & Dan Hay	Susan & Robert Savage
Tom Holmberg	Miami & Vince Sheehy
Jenny & Mike Hoy	Barbara & Robert Stone
Wendy & Greg Joseph	Rachel & Todd Stukey
Elizabeth & Kevin Kelly	Sharon & Pete Thomas
Anne & Dean Kereiakes	Lisa & Peter Thorén
Mary & Paul Klotman	Lynn & Don Wilson
Terry Livingston & Debra Cafaro	Diann & Turner Woodard
Margaux & Mark Maybell	

## 2008-09 PARENTS FUND SUPPORT

