



IMPACT

A newsletter for recognizing benefactors to Sewanee and the impact of their gifts | OCTOBER 2020

SEWANEE FAMILIES COMPLETE RECORD-BREAKING CAMPAIGN

On June 30, 2020, *Stronger Truer Sewanee*—the Campaign for the University of the South concluded with a record-breaking total of \$293,377,925 in gifts and pledges. As impressive as that total is, what may be more impressive is that those gifts were contributed **by 20,183 Sewanee “families.”**

As a member of a multi-generational Sewanee family myself, I understand what it means for a family to love and support this institution, and I am grateful to the other 20,182 families that joined mine in helping build a stronger, truer Sewanee.

Your support gave us the courage to launch a program that will meet **100% of the demonstrated financial need of Sewanee students** and gave us resources to institute the **Sewanee Pledge**, promising to students that they would graduate in four years and have the opportunities of internships, research assistantships, and international travel.

Your support helped us build outstanding academic and co-curricular programs such as **pre-health, civic**



The Fisher Family, from left, Jett, C'11; Jay, C'79; Henry, C'21; Laurie (Edwards); John, C'16; and Elliott, C'13. Jett M. Fisher Sr., C'48, also attended the College.

engagement, and the FYP first-year program and sustain existing programs in the liberal arts and the Babson Center. Your support allowed us to make new and renewed space for students in the heart of campus including a **Wellness Commons** on University Avenue and a **Learning Commons** in the library. Your support provided **scholarships for seminarians and**

new programs in the Beecken Center at the School of Theology and made it possible for us to plan **significantly upgraded facilities** for the School of Theology.

And your support helped this University meet critical immediate needs.

From my family to yours, please accept this note of gratitude, as together we celebrate the conclusion of

this campaign. Your contributions have had the greatest impact on this University, and on behalf of all those who are benefiting now and will benefit in the future,

Thank You.

Jay

Jay Fisher, C'79
Vice President for University Relations

40%

CAME TO THE CAMPAIGN
AS PLANNED GIFTS (SOME
ALREADY REALIZED)

30%

GIVEN TO MEET
IMMEDIATE NEEDS

17%

CONTRIBUTED AS NEW
ENDOWMENT

10%

DESIGNATED FOR
BUILDINGS OR PHYSICAL
UPGRADES



A politics major, Carey Fellow, and member of the men's basketball team, David Johnson, C'19, earned paid internships, including one with the SEED Program (social entrepreneurship). He participated in an outreach trip to Haiti, and nurtured an interest in transitional justice. His accomplishments and focus helped him win a Watson Fellowship following graduation. With access to a valuable education at Sewanee, Johnson walked through the doors of opportunity toward postgraduate success and recognition.

PROVIDING ACCESS, VALUE, AND OPPORTUNITY

With nearly **\$70 million raised for student support** through scholarships and internships, the campaign expanded financial aid endowment and annually funded scholarships and internships through the Cornerstone Program to increase access and hold the line on costs to Sewanee families. The success of the campaign allowed the University to institute the Sewanee Pledge. Finally, the success of the campaign provided a financial foundation to make a commitment to meeting 100% of demonstrated financial need for all students entering in the fall of 2020 and following years. **While the University's partnership with alumni, parents, and other friends made possible a successful conclusion to the campaign, the work of "Access, Value, and Opportunity" continues to be urgent in times of unparalleled challenges to the liberal arts college sector.**

72
NEW CORNERSTONE
INTERNSHIPS

\$46.9
MILLION IN NEW
FINANCIAL AID
ENDOWMENT

2
NEW PIPELINE
PROGRAMS: HIPPOCRATES
FELLOWS AND BONNER
LEADERS

7/10/2020	Total (Goal)	PG Total	TOTAL
PROVIDING ACCESS, VALUE, & OPPORTUNITY (\$69,500,000)	Goal	Planned Gifts	Progress
Scholarships, Prizes & Recruitment for the College	51,000,000	35,492,110.94	62,056,171.22
Internships	4,500,000	770,637.40	5,167,832.74
Collaborative Research Opportunities	4,000,000	86,482	2,700,718.83
SUBTOTAL	\$69,500,000.00	\$36,349,230.34	\$69,924,722.79



Through his multiyear work with the Sewanee Haiti Institute, **Chris Hornsby, C'19**, (top) learned Haitian Creole and negotiated with Haitian farmers to establish payments for ecosystem services. Back home, he helped experiment with a larvae composting system at the revitalized University Farm. The Haiti program and the Farm were both generously funded during the campaign. Both **Abby Straessle, C'20**, (middle left), and **Haven Watson, C'20** (middle right), earned life-changing internships made possible by the campaign. Straessle's civic engagement internship gave her insight into the Syrian refugee community in Little Rock, and Watson went from her internship at the Yale Child Study Center to become one of the first neuroscience majors at Sewanee.

Sewanee asks all students to sign the Honor Code (at left) as one of their first acts as students. The Sewanee Pledge, made possible by the campaign, is the University's promise to students: to graduate in four years, to have a paid internship, and to have portability of financial aid when studying away.



Emma Zeitler, C'20 (above), found her *métier* in research. One project was a comparative study of amphibian development in Sewanee's constructed wetland, made possible by grants from the Coca-Cola Foundation and Coca-Cola Bottling UNITED. Chris McDonough (at right), the inaugural Alderson-Tillinghast Chair of Humanities, still teaches the conjugation of Latin verbs, but he has branched out to develop ambitious interdisciplinary project-based work. His award-winning "Mine 21" film, on a local mining disaster, and his research project on the Sewanee "medieval tapestry" were two examples of integrative, projects that gave students opportunities to learn lessons exactly when they needed to in order to solve problems. The Alderson-Tillinghast endowment, in turn, supports the professional development of all holders of endowed chairs and is a highlight of the campaign. It was established by Edwin Alderson, C'62, and honors his friendship with his classmate Richard Tillinghast.



Phase 1 of a new **Learning Commons**, a significant revisioning of the Jessie Ball duPont Library, was completed during the campaign and quickly became a favorite of students. Recognizing the importance of collaborative work in 21st century education, the Learning Commons created spaces for students to work together, both privately and in a large, fully networked common area. The Learning Commons is also the home of a new **Center for Speaking and Listening** and a new home for the **Writing Center**, which was relocated from upstairs. The Center for Speaking and Listening provides instruction, technology, and mentoring for students learning more about making oral presentations and understanding rhetoric. The Writing Center continues its previous mission but in a new space in the beautiful Learning Commons. This revisioning of a portion of the library was made possible by gifts from the Boeckman family of Fort Worth, the Engel family of Birmingham and Sewanee, the Cole family of Atlanta, and many others.

REINFORCING ACADEMIC DISTINCTION

With over \$54.7 million raised,

we have created a new Learning Commons in Jessie Ball duPont Library, bolstered pre-business and pre-health programs, created an innovative first-year program called "Finding Your Place," and built a nationally recognized Office of Civic Engagement (which earned Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation for Teaching and admission to the Public Interest Technology University Network, which puts Sewanee in a select group of universities working together to build a new field to produce civic-minded technologists).

We promised at the beginning of the campaign that we would develop 21st century academic programs, and we delivered, just at a time when the challenges of the 21st century are most salient and troubling. **While the campaign helped launch exciting new programs, based on the liberal arts, sustaining these new assets will require continuing investment of endowment and annual gifts.**



Donors continued to support the **Carey Fellows Program**, which gives business students superb opportunities, including excursions to business centers (top left), to align their liberal arts education with potential careers. Mandy Tu, C'21 (above), has come into her own as a writer, authoring two *Sewanee Features* in the past year. She also led a discussion of campus portraiture that was sponsored by the Office of Civic Engagement. Her writing inspired art students to produce portraits of staff, faculty, and students who played important if unrecognized roles in the Sewanee experience. Sewanee's pre-health programs received new funding through the **Hippocrates Endowment Challenge** as well as important assets beyond endowment, including support for new courses in anatomy and physiology, and a state-of-the-art anatomage table (at left) given by the LaRussa family of Birmingham..

77
DONORS TO CLASS OF 1964
ENDOWMENT FOR FYP

\$15.4
MILLION IN FUNDING
FOR "21ST CENTURY"
PROGRAMS

2
RECOGNITIONS FOR
OCE: CARNEGIE
CLASSIFICATION AND
PIT-UN MEMBERSHIP

REINFORCING ACADEMIC DISTINCTION (\$50,600,000)	Goal	Planned Gifts	Progress
Faculty Compensation and Support	13,000,000	8,986,537.91	13,526,846.52
FYP, Transition, Retention, & Other Academic Programs	3,050,000	7,407,382.14	15,495,363.76
Community Engaged Learning & Outreach	7,000,000	0	2,800,551.45
Interdisciplinary Programs	1,250,000	0	1,945,247.46
The Arts	1,300,000	368,014.95	1,513,070.66
Environmental Programs & Initiatives	4,000,000	25,000	601,239.20
The University Farm	1,000,000	0	186,046.01
duPont Library	3,250,000	233,902.94	5,825,773.48
The Babson Center	12,000,000	4,550,000	7,606,154.71
Pre-Professional Support	3,000,000	350,000	2,677,087.48
Maintenance and Modernization of Physical Plant, Technology, & Academic Equi	1,750,000	2,300	2,529,822.85
SUBTOTAL	\$50,600,000.00	\$21,923,137.94	\$64,707,203.68



Renovations to the baseball field were a result of part of the \$11.2 million given through the campaign for athletics facilities. Upgraded facilities for football, lacrosse, and soccer (converting to turf fields), a magnificent donated horse trailer, and tennis enhancements were all part of the campaign, and fundraising for these enhancements was led by Sewanee families. Below, the bookstore and Wellness Commons were centerpieces of the campaign.

ENRICHING THE SEWANEE EXPERIENCE

With over \$31 million raised, we have upgraded athletic facilities, built the striking and welcoming Sewanee Inn (made possible by many families, including the Harrigan family of Richmond), and taken the first steps toward building a learner-centered campus with renewed student life facilities. A large planned University Commons gave way to a “distributed commons” concept, with a Learning Commons in the library, a Wellness Commons on the site of the SUP Store (made possible by gifts from the Thomas family of Jacksonville, the Johnson family of Houston, and many others), and a Student Life Commons, currently in the planning stage and made possible by the Gray family of Birmingham and others.



1

LARGE PLANNED
UNIVERSITY COMMONS
GAVE WAY TO A
“DISTRIBUTED COMMONS”

2

ANCHORS TO UNIVERSITY
AVE.: A NEW SEWANEE
INN AND A REVITALIZED
VILLAGE

\$15.4

MILLION IN FUNDING FOR
21ST CENTURY
PROGRAMS



(Above) Sustain Leaders, supported by new gifts to the campaign, are doing their part to make the Sewanee campus more sustainable by focusing on green office programs, food waste, community gardens, eliminating single-use plastic, sustainability in residence halls, and sustainability literacy. From left, Shirley Li, C'21; Courtney Boucher, C'22; Emma Jacobs, C'20; Robert McCown, C'21; You-jin Sung, C'21; Lauren Newman, C'18 (Sustainability Coordinator); Melissa Montes, C'22.

Festivities for the **50 Years of Women celebration** included a banquet in the magnificent new Sewanee Inn. At top left, Linda Mayes, C'70, the first female valedictorian at Sewanee, speaks to the gathering. Mayes is director of the Yale Child Study Center and has developed an internship program that has benefited scores of Sewanee students. The Sewanee Inn is an important asset for the University in attracting students, providing superb hospitality for families and visitors to campus, and hosting University events such as the annual Fairbanks Luncheon for scholarship and internship benefactors.

(Top right) Klarke Stricklen, C'22, leveraged her summer internship with the Roberson Project on Slavery, Race, and Reconciliation into a staff position with the project. The Roberson Project is enhancing the Sewanee experience by enriching the Sewanee story, helping all who love Sewanee to understand its history in a way that will foster a more inclusive campus. Klarke spoke of her experience at the 50 Years of Sewanee Women celebration in 2019, telling about her research into the first black women to attend Sewanee, Theresa Weston Saunders and Stuwaski Broadnax, both C'75. As a first-year, Klarke participated in FYP and joined the New Orleans Outreach trip.

ENRICHING THE SEWANEES EXPERIENCE (\$33,950,000)	Goal	Planned Gifts	Progress
The University Commons	15,000,000	0	12,434,480.02
Residential Housing	500,000	0	269,852.50
The Sewanee Village	1,000,000	0	416,456.25
The Sewanee Inn	5,000,000	18,856.85	4,183,618.48
University Avenue Improvements	2,500,000	0	5,000
Athletics, Physical Education & Fowler Center	8,000,000	1,759,674.07	11,150,548.85
Cornerstone & Wellness Programs	500,000	0	520,344.35
All Saints Chapel	300,000	0	837,280.42
Student Programs	150,000	227,000	1,130,202.21
Sustainability Initiatives	1,000,000	0	1,071,855.71
SUBTOTAL	\$33,950,000.00	\$2,005,530.92	\$32,019,638.79



Robert MacSwain, associate professor in the School of Theology, recently completed an ambitious, grant-funded “hagiological argument” for the existence of God. MacSwain’s scholarship is but one indicator of a theology faculty that continues to grow in distinction and influence in the church—a stronger, truer School of Theology. With the success of the campaign and nearly \$4.9 million in new financial aid resources, the School of Theology was able to make a commitment that every incoming student could attend tuition-free. (Bottom left) Hannah Pommersheim, T’19, joined the Roberson Project on Slavery, Race, and Reconciliation as a student and developed with classmate Kellan Day a curriculum for training priests to lead fruitful discussions about problematic Confederate imagery in worship spaces. (Bottom right), Malcolm McLaurin, T’21, worked in youth ministry for more than 20 years before answering the call to ordained ministry. He is grateful for the financial and emotional support he’s received from the Sewanee community and for how well the School has been able to respond to his family’s needs.

EDUCATING TOMORROW’S CHURCH LEADERS

With \$27.4 million raised for the School of Theology, we’ve created innovative new programs and increased our resources for financial aid. A highlight of the campaign was a fundraising effort to revision the School of Theology campus, enhancing its ability to meet the needs of today’s students. Plans are underway to accomplish that goal, with nearly \$11 million raised for that purpose. In the future, **we will continue to build financial aid resources to ensure that seminarians graduate with as little debt as possible.**





Creation of the SUMMA Student Theological Debate Society, brainchild of the Very Rev. Christoph Keller, P'08, (above) was a highlight of the campaign. Each summer (except, sadly, 2020) high school youth ascend to the Mountain to learn formal debate and rhetoric practices and wrestle with important theological questions—all while enjoying one another's company in a fun, summer camp setting. SUMMA asserts the importance of faith, scripture, and reason, the triad that underlies authority in Anglicanism. Extending work initiated through a grant from the Lilly Endowment to support church leadership, Sewanee recruited Mary Parmer and her Invite Welcome Connect ministry to the Mountain. Invite Welcome Connect has reached Episcopal congregations throughout the country, including the gathering at left in Delaware, with a relational ministry that helps build stronger, mission-oriented, and welcoming congregations. The ministry, which has been delivered through weekend workshops, is now developing a coaching model.

100%

TUITION-FREE FULL-TIME RESIDENTIAL SEMINARY—THANKS TO THE CAMPAIGN

2

NEW OUTSTANDING BEECKEN CENTER PROGRAMS SERVE THE CHURCH

\$11

MILLION IN FUNDING FOR UPGRADED FACILITIES FOR THE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

EDUCATING TOMORROW'S CHURCH LEADERS (\$25,000,000)	Goal	Planned Gifts	Progress
Scholarships for Seminarians	3,000,000	1,896,874.47	4,885,391.03
Beecken Center Programs	1,500,000	1,500	2,837,157.20
Academic Programs	1,500,000	208,260.35	2,268,382.01
School of Theology Unrestricted Gifts and Annual Fund	4,000,000	2,374,498.29	6,599,592.62
Seminary & Beecken Center Facilities	15,000,000	2,127,861.60	10,959,590.13
SUBTOTAL	\$25,000,000.00	\$6,608,994.71	\$27,550,112.99



The Sewanee Tiger is no mysterious stranger to the Sewanee family, but the creature enjoyed a new incarnation as the mascot for Tiger Tuesday, a new annual giving day that helped the Sewanee Fund be a leading contributor to the success of the campaign. Alumni and other friends apparently loved their mascot and the annual giving day, with each Tiger Tuesday surpassing the giving total of the year before.

MEETING SEWANEE'S IMMEDIATE NEEDS

Almost a third of the campaign (**\$109 million**) came to the University during the campaign to meet current needs. Those gifts came as unrestricted annual giving; restricted gifts from institutional donors such as churches, dioceses, corporations, and foundations; and a restructured Sewanee Fund that now includes gifts from individuals that are restricted to scholarships, internships, the YSR athletic giving program, and specific departments and programs. An important milestone in the campaign was transitioning our annual giving program from one that focused exclusively on unrestricted gifts to one that solicited both unrestricted and restricted gifts, with a name change from the Sewanee Annual Fund to the Sewanee Fund.

72
NEW CORNERSTONE
SCHOLARSHIPS

20,183
FAMILIES HELPED MAKE
SEWANEE STRONGER
AND TRUER

500
ATHLETES PER YEAR HAD
ENRICHED EXPERIENCES,
THROUGH \$4.2 MILLION
GIVEN IN THE CAMPAIGN

MEETING SEWANEE'S IMMEDIATE NEEDS (\$88,500,000)	Goal	Planned Gifts	Progress
The Sewanee Annual Fund *	39,000,000	62,714.90	36,494,386.13
Unrestricted Campaign	27,000,000	42,398,857.47	48,914,873.31
General Support	6,000,000	5,308,191.93	13,315,430.64
In Kind Gifts (various programs)	10,000,000	2,930,664.01	10,451,556.98
SUBTOTAL	\$82,000,000.00	\$50,700,428.31	\$109,176,247.06
*During the campaign, the Sewanee Annual Fund became the Sewanee Fund, with the former being only unrestricted giving, while the Sewanee Fund solicited both unrestricted and restricted annual gifts (for such causes as Cornerstone Internships and Scholarships). This total for Sewanee Annual Fund only includes the unrestricted donations.			



All Sewanee students benefit from the Sewanee Fund, whether that benefit derives from financial aid, internships, support for faculty salaries and student services, or maintenance of a student-centered campus. Kelsey Arbuckle, C'19 (top left), a native of the South Cumberland Plateau and "talent" for the *Mine 21* film (see page 4) was drawn to the Civic Engagement program as a student. As a **Canale Intern**, she worked in New Haven for the National Diaper Bank Network. (Top right) Perpetual Motion is one of the most popular student events each year.

The annual YSR fundraiser for Tiger sports was also part of the Sewanee Fund and a significant part of the campaign. YSR donors made gifts to the athletic program in general as well as to particular sports.

Gifts and grants for civic engagement also counted in the Sewanee Fund. Sewanee students served as philanthropy interns and contributed to programs such as a summer meals program.

STRONGER TRUER SEWANEE

The Campaign for
the University of the South

Office of University Advancement
735 University Avenue
Sewanee, Tennessee 37383
www.sewanee.edu



Bonnie and John M. McCardell Jr. (here pictured at the Fifty Years of Women celebration) enthusiastically inspired and led the Stronger Truer Sewanee Campaign for the University of the South.

No fundraising effort at a college or university can succeed without the inspired leadership of the college president. The monetary success of the *Stronger Truer Sewanee* Campaign and its impact on the future of this University is very largely due to the roles played by John and Bonnie McCardell. John led us to consider a leadership role in containing the increasing cost of higher education and raised our sights not only to meet but exceed the campaign goals. Both John and Bonnie challenged us to consider the University's place here on the Mountain and to become an anchor institution, playing a lead role in building a flourishing community. We can only say thank you for their leadership and vision.

A FAREWELL TO THE MCCARDELLS