



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the *Law Firm Challenge*?**

The *Challenge* is a giving program designed to encourage alumni at law firms and organizations to reconnect with their *alma mater* and promote giving in a fun and challenging way. Firms and organizations with five or more Hastings graduates are encouraged to participate. Within each law firm, volunteer representatives take the lead in inspiring their Hastings colleagues to join together and meet the 100% giving challenge.

The *Challenge* runs from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

### **How can I support the *Law Firm Challenge*?**

Hastings accepts gifts by check or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover) gifts.

You may make a gift online: <http://www.uchastings.edu/giving>

To pay by check, please send your payment to the following address

**UC Hastings Law  
Hastings Alumni Center  
200 McAllister Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102**

### **What does the Annual Fund support?**

The Annual Fund supports all aspects of educating a student at Hastings. Annual fund dollars support:

Financial aid & scholarships  
Academic & clinical programs  
Public interest programs  
Faculty Retention & Recruitment  
Loan repayment assistance

The Law Library  
Journals  
Conferences  
Technology

In any given year, Annual Fund dollars might be used to recruit and retain faculty, as well as provide scholarships and financial assistance to qualified students who might otherwise be unable to attend Hastings. The Annual Fund includes unrestricted funds that are integral in allowing Hastings the flexibility to respond to its greatest needs.

### **Why is the Annual Fund so important to Hastings?**

The Annual Fund is particularly important to the law school because the law school has a smaller endowment than most of the schools with which it competes for students and faculty. Because of its smaller endowment, Hastings relies on Annual Fund dollars to pick up where the state appropriation and tuition revenue leave off to address the school's most pressing needs.

### **Who supports the Annual Fund?**

UC Hastings relies on alumni, parents and friends. Alumni participation continues to be an important focus because many of Hastings' peer law schools have much higher participation rates. Hastings needs to do as well as these schools to maintain its quality and reputation as a top law school.

### **Why does your Annual Gift make a difference?**

Tuition alone doesn't cover the entire cost of educating students at Hastings. Competition for the best faculty and students is increasing, as are the costs of providing a rigorous legal education. Hastings needs to build its Annual Fund in order to maintain its tradition of excellence and pursue even higher goals.

### **What is an unrestricted gift?**

These gifts, which are used to fund the school's highest priorities, lend Hastings the flexibility to direct resources where they are most needed and enable us to stay competitive with our peer institutions.

### **What is a restricted gift?**

Restricted gifts are donations designated to a specific program at Hastings. If you have a special interest in an organization, department or fund at the law school, you may designate your donation and your gift will be given to that entity.

### **Annual Giving Participation**

Hastings relies on gifts, and also on the number of alumni who give. This number, known as the Alumni Participation Rate, is a common measurement of alumni giving among educational institutions and is one of the factors considered by outside sources in the law school's overall ranking when compared to peer institutions.

### **Does a gift of any size to the Annual Fund really make a difference?**

A gift to the Hastings Annual Fund - in any amount - helps the law school reach its participation goal. Participation is important because it sends a message to potential students and sponsors that UC Hastings Law graduates appreciate the degree they received. Participation also inspires other classmates to give and helps alums and friends feel connected to the law school.

**How do matching gifts work?**

Many firms and companies have matching gift programs that match all or a portion of an employee's charitable contribution to UC Hastings. Matching gifts are an increasingly valuable source of unrestricted dollars to the law school. Check with your human resource manager to see if your firm or company has a matching gift program. If so, simply obtain a matching gift form, complete it, and send it along with your gift to the Hastings Annual Fund.

**Am I recognized for my matching gift?**

Yes. If you give \$100 to the Annual Fund and your firm or company matches your gift with \$100, you get credit for a \$200 gift. Please note, however, that for IRS purposes, a donor may only deduct his or her personal contribution.

**How do multi-year pledges work?**

A donor pledges his or her support over a specified number of years, often during a reunion cycle. For example, an alumnus may pledge \$12,500 payable in installments of \$2,500 per year for five years.

There are many advantages to making a multi-year commitment. For the donor, it saves on the number of solicitations you receive from the law school and allows you to support your *alma mater* in a consistent manner. For the law school, multi-year pledges save on solicitation costs and allows us to anticipate planned cash flow.

**I would like to make a five-year multi-year pledge to the Annual Fund in honor of my reunion, but I am hesitant to do so because of the current economic climate. If I must default on this pledge, are there any credit ramifications?**

Absolutely not. Although we hope you will be able to fulfill your pledge, we understand that circumstances change. We are willing to work with donors to restructure, reduce or re-write multi-year pledges.