

October 19, 2015

Dear VSU Faculty and Staff,

Thank you for your continued service and commitment to Valdosta State University. The role that you play as a member of the university's outstanding faculty and dedicated staff contributes to the ongoing success of our students. This university shines because of its employees and I am more than honored to work among each and every one of you.

Last year, the university kicked off its first-ever comprehensive capital campaign with a working goal of \$53,250,000. Faculty and staff have laid the groundwork for the campaign, with more than \$455,000 in gifts and pledges from current faculty and staff and more than \$17,350,000 in gifts and pledges from retired faculty and staff since its start. Many of our current faculty and staff also made five-year commitments toward the campaign. The overwhelming support from within represents the pride that we all share for this institution and demonstrates just how much YOU make a difference.

I invite you to join me in continuing our efforts by participating in this year's faculty/staff drive, which will run through November 25, 2015. Our participation demonstrates to businesses, alumni and friends that those who are closest to the university's mission are willing to support that mission both professionally and financially. It also serves as a shining example of our commitment to the success of our students.

We will be sending out weekly e-blasts specifically for the drive. These email updates are designed to keep the campus community informed about the progress towards our goal of 100 percent participation.

We encourage you to take a look at the different funds within the VSU Foundation and support the area or program that means the most to you. Each area and program is critical to our success as an institution. We hope that having an opportunity to make a tax-deductible gift to the fund of your choice will encourage greater participation and satisfaction in the philanthropic process. A complete list of funds is available online at www.valdosta.edu/fscampaign.

If you would like to discuss the faculty/staff drive in more detail, please contact the Division of University Advancement at (229) 333-5939 or annualgiving@valdosta.edu .

Enclosed you will find a pledge form that includes the option of payroll deduction for your convenience. Our goal is 100 percent participation and any gift – no matter the size – makes a difference.

Sincerely,

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James Baxter, Ph.D Chair