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Trustees authorize two new initiatives

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DeLany Medal in Mathematics: 60 years and counting

For the last 60 years the outstanding graduating mathematics major has been selected by the department faculty to receive the DeLany Medal in Mathematics.

The award is a gold medal that recognizes the highest grade-point average in advanced mathematics. Virginia Thomason DeLany established the DeLany Medal during the 1943-44 academic year in honor of her son, William J. "Bill" DeLany '42.

Bill DeLany was a member of the tennis team at Furman and graduated with a B.S. degree in mathematics. He went on to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology to study meteorology and then served in England during World War II as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps. Following the war, DeLany worked at Furman from 1946 to 1949, coaching the tennis team, managing athletic ticket sales and teaching freshman math.



Bill DeLany

During the late 1940s, in addition to his work at Furman, DeLany and his brother started a business that eventually became DeLany Sporting Goods. The success of the business diverted DeLany from his original intention to earn graduate degrees in math. Now semi-retired, DeLany is a partner in Awards and Sports, a small company that engraves trophies and plaques.

At its scholarship dinner last fall, the Department of Mathematics honored DeLany for his continuing support and for his planned gift that will ensure the future of the DeLany Medal in Mathematics.

— Betsy Moseley '74
Director, Planned Giving

Reunion classes launch special fund drives

When you think of giving back to Furman, most likely you get out the checkbook, write a check, send it off and are done with it. But this year, three reunion classes are taking the act of giving to Furman to a whole new level.

■ The **Class of 2004** designated its class gift toward restoration of the Bell Tower and hopes to raise \$50,000 to complete the funding for the \$1 million project. Members of the class have been asked to donate their housing deposit to the fund drive; contributors will have their names engraved on a brick in the Anniversary Walk leading to the Bell Tower.

Class president Ryan Sills and 20 class agents are hoping for a participation rate of 50 percent. "The Bell Tower is Furman," says Ryan. "No matter how much the campus changes, the Bell Tower remains a constant reminder of the ties we share as members of the Furman community."

■ Two years ago, a group led by Mark Weston established the **Class of 1979** Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will provide an annual award to a Furman student. Mark says, "I wanted to remember my friends, classmates and professors who have gone on before me. Our class should leave a legacy to the university because it's

the right thing to do. Furman is a good investment and I think it's the best place to put my money."

Weston, a fighter pilot and a major in the United States Air Force Reserves, is hoping his class can raise \$100,000 to activate the scholarship by the time they celebrate their 25th reunion at Homecoming November 5-7. "If 300 people pledge \$50 per year for five years, this would fund the endowment," he says. "This equates to two tanks of gas a year or one night out with the spouse. This is an insignificant amount of money that can do something significant."

■ This fall the **Class of 1954**, led by reunion chair and head agent Edna Wells Boyd of Albuquerque, N.M., will mark its golden anniversary by raising funds (goal: \$50,000 to \$100,000) to name a room in either Daniel Memorial Chapel or the forthcoming Younts Conference Center in tribute to their deceased classmates. Class members will receive information about the project later this summer.

— Jason Curtin
Associate Director, Annual Giving

To learn more about these projects, e-mail jason.curtin@furman.edu or call him at (864) 294-3717.

Trustees authorize two new initiatives

Furman's new strategic plan will list a stronger endowment and greater annual support among the university's most pressing needs. The board of trustees, in conjunction with trustees of the Hollingsworth Funds, has recently authorized two new initiatives to support these vital areas.

One is an endowment-matching program for which the board has allocated \$1.5 million from the sale of property located near the campus. A gift of \$10,000 or more toward any of the following programs will be matched dollar-for-dollar from the available funds, forming a permanent endowment that you may name in honor of a family member or influential professor.

The programs:

■ **The Furman Advantage**, which funds student research, internships and teaching assistantships. *Matching funds available: \$500,000.*

■ **The Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics and Public Leadership**, which brings exciting

programs to campus and which requires a larger endowment to ensure continuing success. *Matching funds: \$500,000.*

■ **Faculty research and development**, which are essential to great teaching. *Matching funds: \$400,000.*

■ **The Center for Collaborative Learning and Communication**, which helps faculty and students apply the latest in technology. *Matching funds: \$100,000.*

To support any of these programs — and, in so doing, honor a mentor or loved one — contact Skip Leonard, director of development, at (864) 294-2123 or e-mail skip.leonard@furman.edu.

In addition, Furman's board has announced The Hollingsworth Initiative, which will encourage donors to move to higher annual gift levels. Details about this plan, to be implemented during the 2004-05 academic year, will appear in the summer issue of *Furman*.

— Don Lineback
Vice President for Development