Public Abstract First Name:Heather Middle Name:Joy Last Name:Hoffman Adviser's First Name:Bradley Adviser's Last Name:Curs Co-Adviser's First Name: Co-Adviser's Last Name: Graduation Term:SP 2016 Department:Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis Degree:MA Title:Alumni Social Mobility and Giving to their Alma Mater

The study utilized a quantitative correlational research design to examine the association between alumni social mobility and giving at a large, public research university. The findings revealed that as alumni social mobility increased the probability of being a donor, and total giving levels, increased. The findings have implications for fundraising practitioners as alumni social mobility can serve as indicator for propensity to give and for targeting fundraising efforts. The study contributes to the research on higher education fundraising by demonstrating how to incorporate both theory and educational mission into the alumni characteristics selected for analysis.