# Retention

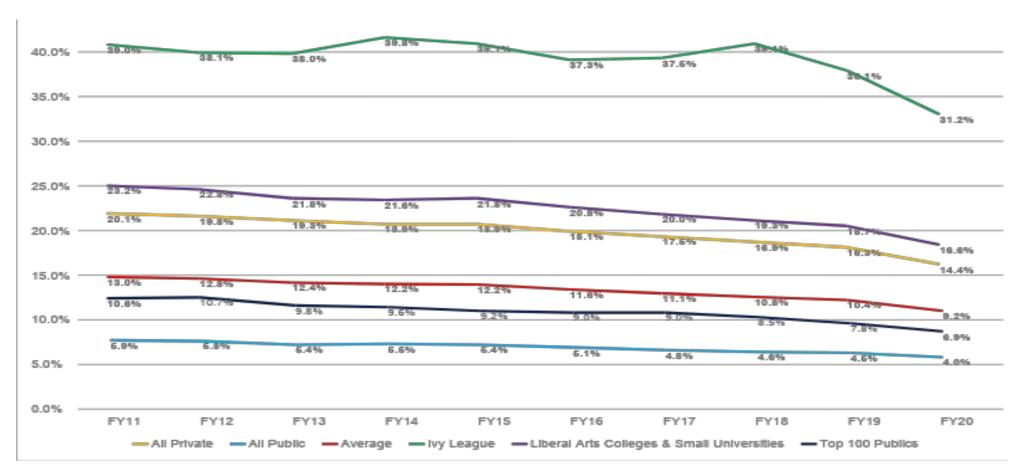


#### **Agenda**

- Measuring donor retention rates
- Developing renewal messages
- Coordinating renewal appeals across multiple channels
- Evaluating your efforts and reporting results

# MEASURING DONOR RETENTION RATES

#### Consider the national decline in participation



Source: Voluntary Support of Education Survey accessed via AMAtlas Data Miner

## Demonstrate the importance of donor retention

Starting # of donors	Retention rate (% kept)	Attrition rate (% lost)	Donors remaining after 1 year	Donors remaining after 3 years	Donors remaining after 5 years
1,000	80%	20%	800	512	328
1,000	60%	40%	600	216	78
1,000	40%	60%	400	64	10

# Calculate your retention rate

# of Returning Donors

**Example = 600** 

# of Donors from Previous Year

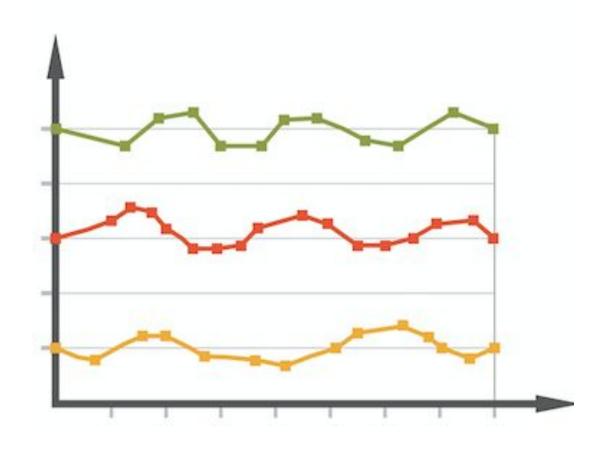
**Example = 800** 

Retention Rate

**Example = 75%** 

# Look at industry data to inform your goals

- Median donor retention rates have been stable for years
  - Private schools: ~60%
  - Public schools: ~50%
  - Overall: ~55%
- Two main contributing factors impact retention
  - Gift amount: \$1K+ overall 75%
  - Gift frequency: 1.42 gifts per donor



## Invest in young alumni



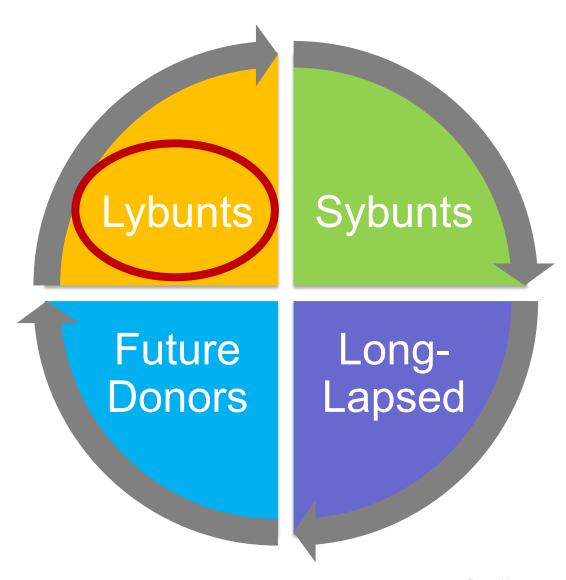
- Students as new donors play an important role in retention strategies
  - Overall: ~20%

 Donor retention for students is significantly lower in the first year

#### DEVELOPING RENEWAL MESSAGES

## Use segmentation to prioritize your strategies

- Segmentation is the art and science of categorizing your donors into groups to allow for tailored messaging
- Segments should help you speak more directly to your audience
- Segments can be nested
- Over-segmentation should be avoided as much as possible



# Review your data to develop segments



- Donor segmentation strategies rely on good data
- Four primary categories:
  - Geographical
  - Demographic
  - Behavioral
  - Psychological

## Identify different strategies based on segmentation

#### Geographical

- Location
- Language(s)
- Climate

#### Demographic

- Age
- Gender
- Income
- Ethnicity

#### Behavioral

- Life Moments
- Life Stages
- Giving Frequency
- Giving Recency

#### **Psychological**

- Values
- Beliefs
- Opinions
- Interests

Source: https://builtvisible.com/understanding-customers-market-segmentation/

## Consider possible segmentation groups

- Giving Society Members
- Giving Society Eligible
- Leadership Society Members
- Volunteers
- Alumni Couples
- Alumni Parents
- Non-Alumni Parents
- Student Leaders
- Former Student Callers

- Reunion and Non-Reunion Alumni
- Giving Frequency
- Geography/Region
- Generational
- Demographic
- Class Year
- Young Alumni
- Scholarship Recipient
- Alumni Faculty and Staff

#### Harness variable text to increase personalization



#### LIBRARY

Date

Name

Address 1

Address 2

Address 3

Address 4

Dear XXXX,

With its original placement in the Rotunda at the head of the Academical Village, the Library is the foundation on which UVA built a transformational educational community. But it's much more than just a foundation. The Library is also a hub of intellectual engagement, scholarship, research, creation, and community.

The Library serves the entire University. There are specific collections for the arts, music, humanities, and science and engineering, as well as specialized libraries for advanced sciences and mathematics. There are spaces to practice a presentation (or even a musical instrument), check out an array of materials and equipment, experiment with virtual reality and media creation, or attend workshops on a variety of topics such as data research, 3D printing, and programming (to name just a few). Increasingly, the Library is a hive of social activity, a place to meet friends for coffee, to take in an exhibition or lecture, or to find a group study space to spread out and plug in.

Of course, it's also a place to unplug. Whether engaging with primary sources in special collections, taking advantage of one of our many reading rooms, or finding a hidden nook and a good book, users will always value the Library as the place that provides the materials and spaces for immersion in solitary research, quiet study, and reading.

Your support allows us to maintain these resources and further enhance services and spaces, and provides our dedicated staff with funds for innovation and growth. A gift to the Library is truly a gift that supports all of the University community. Please consider renewing your commitment early this fiscal year with a gift to the Library's annual fund today.

Sincerely,

John M. Unsworth

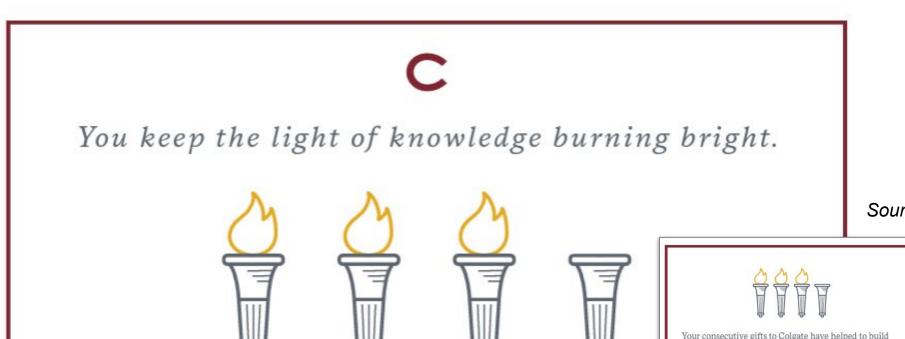
University Librarian, Dean of Libraries, and Professor of English

P.S. The Library is also an online space—to make your gift right away, visit www.library.virginia.edu/give.

UNIVERSITY VIRGINIA	LIBRARY	Please accept my gift: □ \$2,500 □ \$1,000 □ \$500 □ \$250 □ Other	er		
University of Virginia Libr P.O. Box 400109, Charlott (434) 924-6083		☐ This is a joint gift. Please also credit (name of spouse, with school and class year  ☐ I will support UVA Library with a recurring gift installment (signature required b  \$ beginning / /  ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually Number of payments:  ☐ Enclosed is a check payable to UVA Library.  ☐ Please charge my gift: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ American Express ☐ Discrete	elow)		
		Card Number Expiration Date	Expiration Date		
		Signature			
		☐ I/we desire this gift to be anonymous			
Your gift is tax deductible		☐ Employer's matching gift form enclosed.			
to the fullest extent of th	ie law.	Gifts to the Library through employer matching programs are credited to you.			
Give online: www.lib	rary.virginia.edu/give	THANK YOU!	OALDDMS1		

Source: University of Virginia

#### Demonstrate loyalty with visual cues



JULY 2017

**JUNE 2018** 

JULY 2018

**JUNE 2019** 

Source: Colgate University

Your consecutive gifts to Colgate have helped to build the University into the remarkable institution that it is today. Thanks to your generosity, students are carrying the light of knowledge down the hill and into the world.

Please renew your support with a gift before June 30.

When you make your gift to Colgate in this Bicentennial year and you light your torch, you help to ensure that Colgate's mission of academic excellence continues into its third century and beyond.

Make your gift online at **colgate.edu/torchgift**, by calling 800-668-4428, or through Venmo @ColgateUniv.

#### COLGATE UNIVERSITY

Annual Giving 13 Oak Drive Hamilton, NY 13346

Address service requested

First Class Mail AUTO U.S. Postage PAID Colgate University

ADDRESSEE PREF ADDRESS 1 PREF ADDRESS 2 CITY STATE ZIP PREF NATION

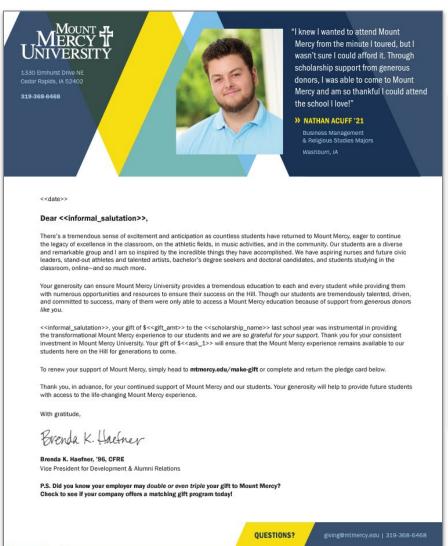
JULY 2015

**JUNE 2016** 

JULY 2016

JUNE 2017

#### Showcase students and people to highlight impact



□ ONE-TIME GIFT I will contribute to Mount Mercy in the amount of	METHOD: I'D LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PLANNED GIVING AT MOUNT MERC	
□\$< <ask_1>&gt; □\$&lt;<ask_2>&gt; □\$&lt;<ask_3>&gt; □0ther\$</ask_3></ask_2></ask_1>	Enclosed is my check, made payable to Mount Mercy University	
$\hfill \square$ I/we are pleased to support a NAMED SCHOLARSHIP in the amount of	□ CREDIT CARD	
\$	□ Discover □ MasterCard □ Visa	
NAME OF SCHOLARSHIP	GREDIT CARD NUMBER SECURITY CO.	
ERSONAL INFORMATION:	EXPIRATION DATE (mmy/yy) NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD (please print)	
NAME < <informal_name>&gt;</informal_name>	EMPLOYER MATCHING:	
PHONE < <cell_phone>&gt;</cell_phone>	■ MATCHING GIFT	
EMAIL < <email_address>&gt;</email_address>	My employer will match my gift.	
ADDRESS < <address_line_1>&gt; &lt;<address_line_2>&gt;</address_line_2></address_line_1>	☐ My form is attached. ☐ My form will follow.	
CITY < <city>&gt; STATE<state> ZIP &lt;<zip_code>&gt;</zip_code></state></city>	Employer	

Source: Mount Mercy University

# COORDINATING RENEWAL APPEALS ACROSS MULTIPLE CHANNELS

## Leverage an engagement framework

Measuring **behaviors** that support the mission and goals of the University of Iowa.



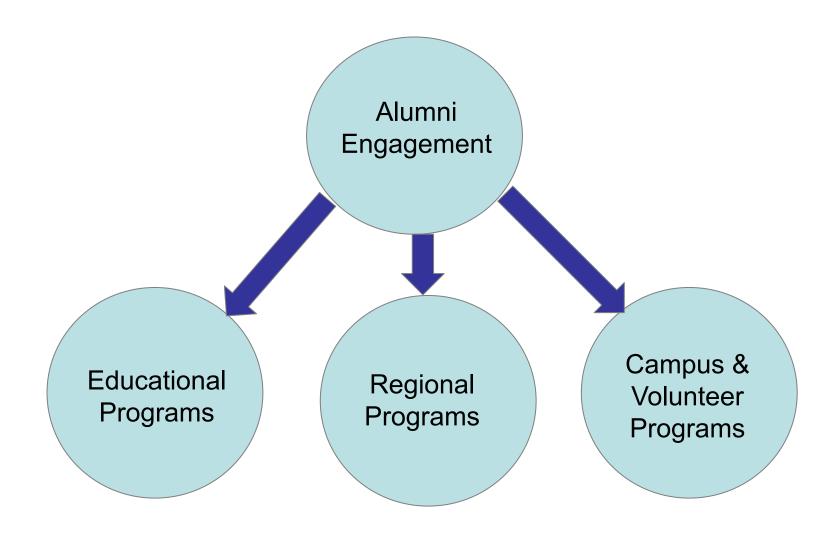






Source: University of Iowa

#### Use teamwork to renew donors



# Apply a wholistic approach

Communication & Marketing

Donor **Engagement** 

**Annual Giving** 

#### Leverage opportunities to collaborate

- Refer prospects from engagement officers to development officers, and vice versa
- Connect prospects to volunteer opportunities
- Cultivate and steward prospects through events
- Support regional programs when traveling
- Nominate worthy individuals for appropriate awards

## Unlock potential with campus communications

- Collaborate with campus communicators to connect opportunities with donors
- Find non-traditional communication vehicles to engage donors and illustrate philanthropic impact



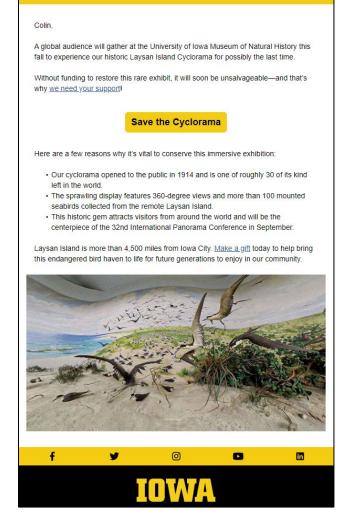
Source: University of Iowa

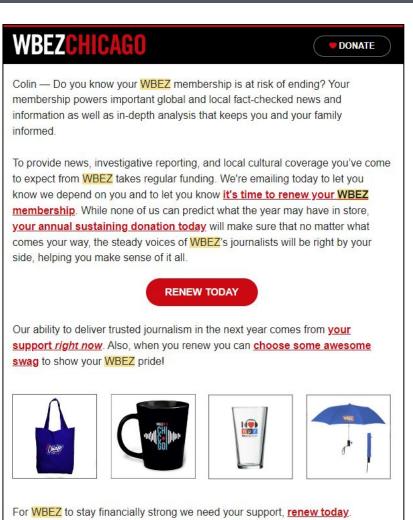
## Use storytelling to break through



- To date: \$296,191 in gifts
- Six gifts of \$5,000+
- Two major gifts with additional conversations ongoing
- One major gift used as a matching gift to encourage additional support
- One major gift identified from a previously unengaged prospect

## Connect strategies through multi-channel outreach







Sources from left: University of Iowa, WBEZ Chicago, University of Pittsburgh

#### Celebrate life milestones



#### STORM'S BREWIN'. (YOU CAN TOO.)

This week's storm is closing in with a box of K-Cup® pods o

Don't forget to pick up a coffee when you sto

#### **Happy Birthday!**

University of Chicago alumni span generations, continents, and interests. But one trait you all share is a love of learning.

As our gift to you today, we've prepared a list of UChicago Magazine stories that take you inside different classes--in Cobb. Cochrane-Woods. the Law School, and more--through the years.

We hope you will read, learn, and enjoy.





Security Center | View your account

Commemorating the day you first went public!

#### Happy birthday!

Or as we in the market like to say, your initial public offering.

From all of us at E\*TRADE, we wish you a year filled with health, joy, and prosperity.





#### Tell their story, not yours





January to IMPAC



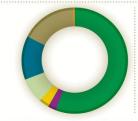
As another successful academic year has drawn to a close at UNC Charlotte, we can look back with pride of our many accomplishments. These achievements would not have been possible without the support of our dedicated alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends, like you. Your annual gifts offer valuable financial assi tance that enhances our quality degree programs and exceptional student experiences.

Thank you for demonstrating how much you value and believe in our efforts. With your help, we can provide student-centered educational environment as we continue to build a world-class university.

We are most grateful to you for staking your claim!

OVERALL DOLLARS RAISED

\$804,783.58



Alumni = 3202

Corporations & Foundations = 148

Current Students = 184 Faculty/Staff = 446

Friends/Individuals = 755

Parents = 968

First Time Donors

1955

Average Gift

\$158.27

#### ARTS + ARCHITECTURE

The Keeping Watch on Water: City of Creeks project gave more tha 7,000 people the opportunity to interact with exhibitions and special projects.

#### BELK COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

More than 400 people were able to learn innovation techniques from author and scholar Jacob Goldenberg at the NEXT Speaker Series.

#### COMPUTING & INFORMATICS



The College hosted a Security symposium and Data conference served over 1,000 people in the Charlotte community and beyond



we've set a goal to raise \$100 million to make Norwich's next

the last—with cutting-edge majors, world-class facilities and greater opportunities for all through scholarships and affordable tuition.

society, serve our country and better our world. It is now up

to us to make sure that the next generation of students continue to innovate, to lead, and to

#### Thanks to you...

Dear Norwich Friends and Family,

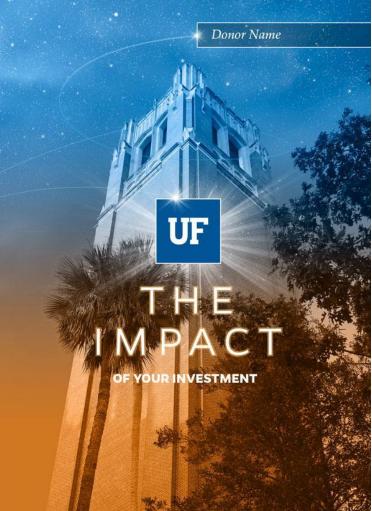
Norwich University is renowned for educating and women who excel in their chosen fields. T invaluable role, investing in the transformative

Your gifts to the Norwich Fund help ensure the around the world can attend this special institu prepare to serve with distinction in the world. Campaign, you and many generous members students have facilities worthy of their potentia continue to adapt as a university to the challen global community.

As you read about a team of Norwich students to use social media to combat violent extremis success. Like so many of the tremendous youn these students are here thanks in large part to the

On behalf of Norwich University, today's stude





#### Time your asks and offers to drive behavior



Thank you for your loyal and enduring su throughout the years. Because of your ge Leader in Philanthropy, the University of continue to make new discoveries, shape and bring great minds together in 2020 a

As a small token of our gratitude, please enjoy this digital calendar featuring ima across the seasons.

All the best to you in the new year.



The University of Chicago 5801 South Ellis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637 1 800 955 0065



We asked for your help meeting our goals fi delivered. Each year, your support makes a the University. We are grateful for everyth accomplish. Thank you for being a part of community.

Sincerely.

Constemme

Colin D. Hennessy
Executive Director
Alumni Engagement and Annual



The University of Chicago 5801 South Ellis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637 1.800.955.0065



Make a gift. Choose a gift. »

Which is your favorite? Give \$55 or more by midnight on June 13 and get yourself one of these exclusive UChicago items. This is our way of saying THANKS for your

generous support--but act now, because this offer ends in three day

r difficação

Don't take a rain check--and don't get cold feet. **Get this offer in the bag before it expires!** (OK, you see what we're driving at.)

Offer good while supplies last.



The University of Chicago 5801 South Ellis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637 1.800.955.0065



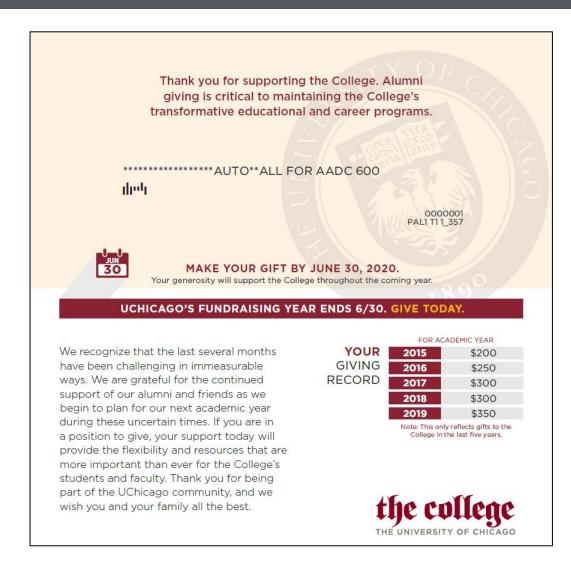
# EVALUATING YOUR EFFORTS AND REPORTING RESULTS

# Pay special attention to giving day donors

- Giving days are increasingly popular—donors use them as an annual reminder to give
- Consider segmenting your giving day donors
- Work to activate these donors throughout the year to increase their engagement and giving



## Increase retention by increasing gift frequency



- Donors who have a higher retention rate:
  - Make more than one gift in a fiscal year
  - Give more money in a fiscal year
- Reminder mailings can nudge donors to increase both gift amount and frequency

Source: University of Chicago

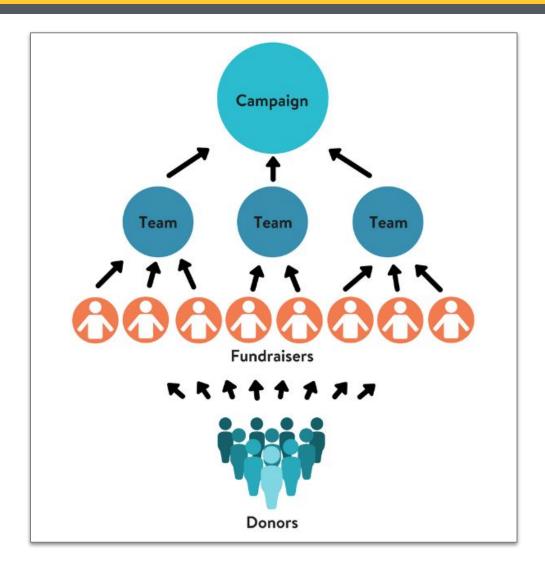
## Invest in recurring giving programs

- Recurring donors are GOLD
- Segment your recurring donors and treat them well—you don't want to lose them
- Develop a concierge model of stewardship
- Recognize that recurring donors are focused on the long game

"Let me tell you about my first gift..."



#### Innovate to survive



- Don't discount the importance of an omni-channel marketing approach
- Your best solicitors are your best donors
  - Invest in volunteer-driven peer-topeer campaigns
- If it isn't easy, they won't do it
- Design and build with a digital-first philosophy

Source: https://www.agilitypr.com/pr-news/public-relations/text-messaging-has-six-times-the-engagement-of-email-is-your-brand-texting/

# Remember your young alumni

- Create special programs to help keep your newest alumni close
- Incentivize them to stay connected
- Add a dose of competition and swag

Source: University of Chicago



Dear Colin,

Your experience in the College is sand it doesn't end with convocation the UChicago community, we've or lineup of activities and programs your lifelong experience as an all person as soon as we can--there a exercise your brain, build your care

There are lots of ways to connect: get involved with your <u>first class restricted</u>, and more. Complete acts swag. Find out more at the <u>new Al</u>

We're recognizing alumni online--and offering swag--for taking part. How far can you get?

- Friendly Phoenix: Go. Go to two or more events
- Magnificent Maroon: Go, Give. Go to two or more events and make your annual gift.
- Shining UChicagoan: Go, Give, Help. Go to two or more <u>events</u>, make your <u>annual gift</u>, and join a <u>volunteer committee</u>.

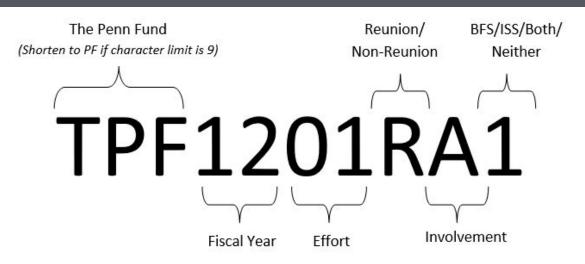
A great way to start? Like @UChicagoAlumni on Facebook and save the date for Homecoming festivities October 12–17.

Welcome to Alumnihood!



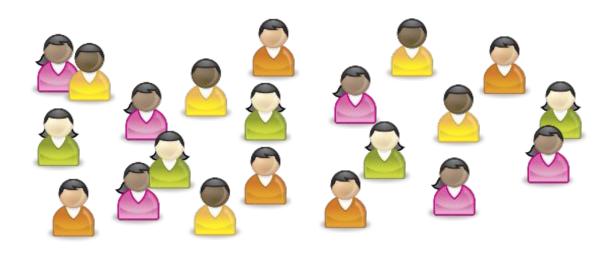
The University of Chicago 5801 South Ellis Avenue Chicago, IL 60637 1.800.955.0065

# Track everything: Sample appeal code

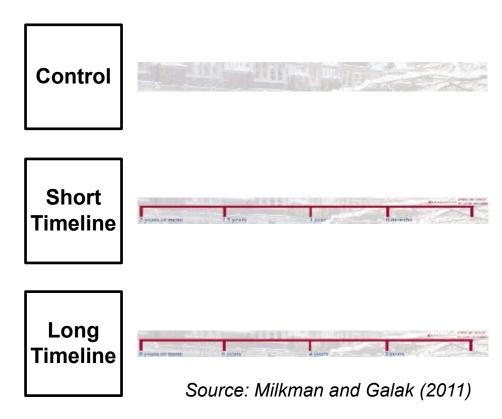


Involvements:					
A = Current					
Efforts:  01 = First DM Effort of FY12  02 = Second DM Effort of FY12  03 = Third DM Effort of FY12   20 = Email Appeal Codes Start	Giving Group Identifier:  0 = Neither  1 = BFS  2 = ISS  3 = Both				
21 = Second Email Appeal of FY12 22 – Third Email Appeal of FY12 					
	01 = First DM Effort of FY12 02 = Second DM Effort of FY12 03 = Third DM Effort of FY12 20 = Email Appeal Codes Start 21 = Second Email Appeal of FY12 22 - Third Email Appeal of FY12	01 = First DM Effort of FY12			

#### Use A/B tests to drive performance



 Random sample: 36,644 alumni who had donated at least 1x to Penn Fund, but last donation was 2+ years ago



Insights: Donors believe they are more current than they are—treat
 Sybunts like Lybunts and invite them to your loyal giving society

#### Share your success with your donors

- Let your donors know they are part of a successful organization
- Quantify your shared success
- Offer ways to stay connected and share with friends and fellow alumni
- Use segments to streamline communications and treat donors with respect



Source: University of Chicago

# Use small interventions to make a big impact



- Sometimes a simple solution is the best solution
- Consider taking one segment and rebuilding the donor journey with a focus on retention
- Use your data to inform which segment to pick
- Layer or nest interventions on top of one another to fuel change

#### Measure key metrics

- Overall retention rate
- Retention rate based on number of years of giving (1, 3, 5, etc.)
- Retention by gift level
- % of recurring donors
- Number of gifts per donor



# **Key Takeaways**

- Start with what you have in your data
- Plan and prepare for the long game
- Invest in small, manageable interventions that—when combined with others—will yield big results
- Set goals and determine your timeline and key stakeholders
- Adjust your plans based on what is happening in the world around you (i.e., what worked in FY18 might not work now)
- Report, review, revise, repeat

