

Opinion

Alumni House deserves your help

by Bronwyn Burghart
Contributor

Do you know what happens over in the Alumni House, the little building in the corner of campus by the clinic?

The Alumni House and the Office of Institutional Advancement helps maintain relationships between Brevard College and its many graduates and friends. One specific role of the staff of Institutional Advancement is fundraising. This year, the Alumni House has a goal of raising one million dollars, which goes to support scholarships and develop programs on campus. Hitting such a hefty goal wouldn't be possible without the help and example of so many faculty, staff and students who get in on the action.

This year, members of the campus community are helping out in a variety of ways. One of the programs that students are involved with is the Phone-a-thon. Several nights a week, students make calls to alumni and friends of the College to help raise money and awareness for the Loyalty Fund. Donations to the Loyalty Fund go to support the College's area of greatest need, which at present, is institutional scholarships for students.

Nearly 97 percent of students receive scholarships from donations to the Loyalty Fund. Even though many donors are struggling in the present economy, the College has connected with many alumni and friends and has raised over \$40,000 for student scholarships through the Phone-a-thon this year alone.

In addition to securing donations for the Loyalty Fund, student callers also enjoy hearing donor's stories of what Brevard College was like up to 70 years ago! Students aren't just helping raise money, they are also making donations themselves. Seniors have been participating in the Senior Gift campaign, which also raises money for the Loyalty Fund and student scholarships. This year's slogan is "\$9 in 2009" and has been quite successful, having higher participation than in many years past.

In addition to donations from students,



alumni and friends, faculty and staff have gone above and beyond their normal duties by making financial contributions to the College.

Currently, 55 faculty and staff members have donated in the current school year, and more are donating every day. As a thank you to those dedicated faculty and staff members, a group of students have been hand delivering unique Brevard College mugs to them (see photo). With these campaigns, and many others, it isn't about large donations, but about obtaining a high

percentage of participation.

If everyone would give just a little, the College would be able to hit many of its goals with no problem at all. Also, as the College makes appeals to major donors and foundations, the donors and foundations want to know what percent of BC faculty, staff, students, and alumni contribute – meaning that participation by these groups can equate to huge support in the future! Thanks to everyone for getting involved, and if you haven't been by the Alumni House to help out, stop by today!

WTF?

Staff Writer Gretchen Allie will from now on write a weekly feature in which she presents quandaries for which the only response she can think of is "WTF." If you have any dubs-TF moments, please let her know so she can share.

- **Every time I come into my dorm room, my roommate is either sleeping or showering. Does sleep really make a person that dirty? WTF?**
- **Out of three dryers in the laundry room, two do not work, and one rips my clothes to shreds. WTF?**
- **I was at a volleyball game, and the two teams started yelling and fighting with each other and the ref over a call that was made. It was intramurals. WTF?**