



LEARNING OUTCOME

After participating...

...you will be have additional tools to better transition your prospects through the donor cycle more effectively.





AGENDA

- Evaluating the effectiveness of your donor pipeline
- Reviewing the solicitation cycle
- Stewardship and Upgrading: Progressing the conversation
- Tools to assist you in moving donor engagement towards an upgraded ask



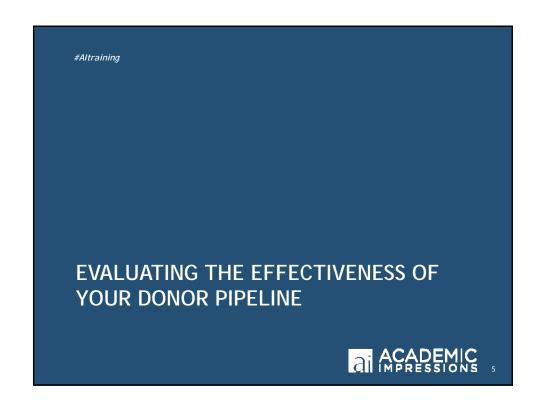
REFLECTION

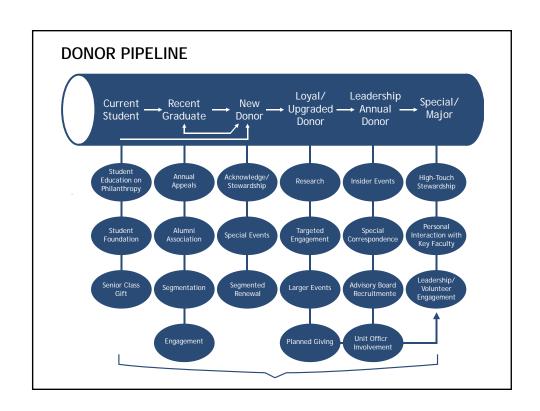
Excellence is never an accident: It is the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction, skillful execution and the vision to see obstacles as opportunities.

~ Unknown











MAJOR GIFTS TAKE TIME

- Data from 12 large public schools, gifts of \$1,000-\$50,000 in a given year
- On average, it took 13.2 years for a donor to make his/her first \$1,000+ gift
- Those who gave \$1,000+ in FY2011, gave about 74% of the years that they were on file
- 57% of them made a first gift less than \$100



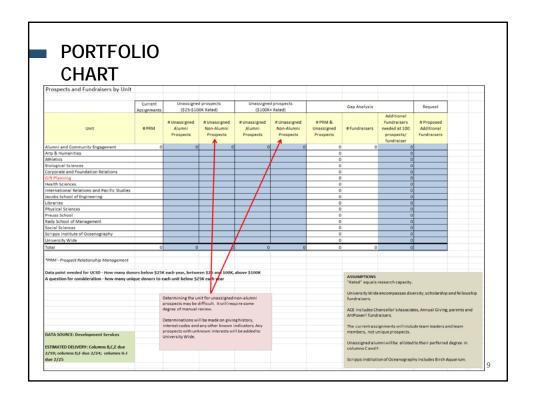


POLL

What % of donors in your portfolio were personally solicited for a major gift ask last year?







ASSESSING YOUR PIPELINE

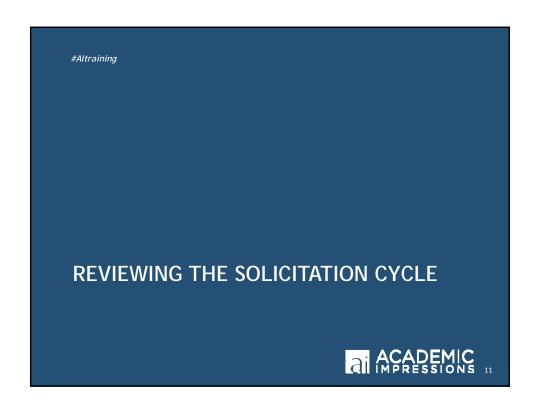
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

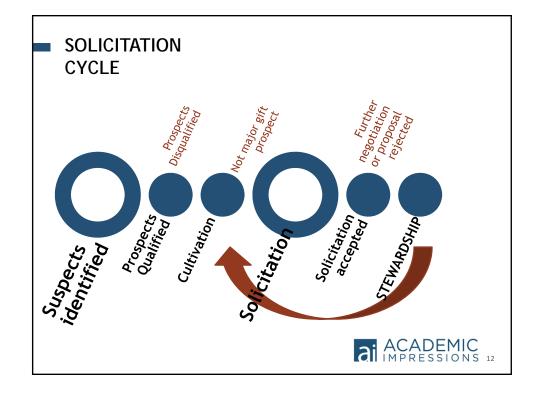
- How long is it from the time a donor makes his or her first gift to the time he or she makes a \$10,000 gift?
- What % of donors in your portfolio were personally solicited for a leadership annual ask?
- How effectively are you upgrading donors (both annual and major gift donors)?
- What % of your donors were touched in the last 90, 180 or 360 days?













BEST PRACTICES FOR PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

- Set a next step before and after every interaction
- Timely Contact reports (within 4 days)
- Monthly review of activity
- Quarterly review of assignments (what else could we do)
- Shoot to do one more meeting a week (result is 40 more meaningful moves)
- · Start each day with "two touches"



BEST PRACTICES

YEARLY REVIEW OF PROSPECTS YOU EXPECT TO SOLICIT FOR A MAJOR GIFT THAT YEAR AND WHAT STEPS ARE NECESSARY PRIOR TO THAT SOLICITATION

- Sharing of these spreadsheets at PM meetings increases accountability
- Develop written plans for all prospects with a solicitation planned in the next 12 months
- Dual ask/define role of annual giving (or planned giving too) in the solicitation strategy
- Track quarterly progress to date and ensure action items are being accomplished





STRATEGY OUTLINE: THE OCCASIONAL DONOR

JOE BROWN

- \$50 occasional donor
- Has been largely unengaged and unresponsive to attempts for a meeting
- Identified with \$5 million gift capacity
- No personal contact to date from the university
- GOAL: to solicit for leadership annual gift within 6 months and \$100,000 within 24 months



STRATEGY OUTLINE: THE NOT-PROPERLY ENGAGED DONOR

SAGE FOUNDATION

- \$5 million naming gift in 1992
- Trustees were actively involved in facility creation, implementation and opening through 1994
- Strong stewardship in place till 2000; variety of development officers with starts and stops through 2013
- Occasional \$50,000 annual gift (4 out of ten years)
- 20 year celebration provides new outreach opportunity, but lacks strategy
- GOAL: solicit for \$25 million naming gift by December 2014







RESOURCE

Key probing questions

- 1. Do you believe your gifts to xxx are making a difference? If so, how?
- 2. What other organizations do you currently support? Volunteer for? Serve on the board of?
- 3. When you give, do you give both annually and to capital projects?





CHAT

What probing questions have worked well in your experiences with prospects and donors?





IDENTIFYING WHEN TO ASK

- There is no easy button for knowing when to ask!
 - Have you identified giving priorities?
 - Have you effectively outlined a case for support related to those giving priorities?
 - Are you a philanthropic priority for the donor?
 - Do you know that the time/project are right for the donor?
 - Is the ask part of a larger strategy?
 - Have you set on a test ask? Soft ask? Hard ask?









*Altraining

STEWARDSHIP AND UPGRADING:
PROGRESSING THE CONVERSATION

ACADEMIC 21

AFTER THE ASK

- Ensure you have a plan before making the ask:
 - Announcement
 - Press
 - Electronic versus other
 - Symbolic/Tribute
 - Personalized Touches
 - Leadership
 - Consistent and Meaningful
- Put the wheels in motion





STEWARDSHIP

- Perpetual stewardship versus stewardship for upgraded gifts
- Define who is responsible for stewardship
- Develop and execute a stewardship plan
 - Define which prospects will be asked for significant upgrades and ensure stewardship of prior gifts positions you for success
 - Annual
 - Major
 - Planned



STEWARDSHIP PLAN

- Bob Jones gave his first \$50K gift for scholarships last year
 - Personalized letter from Dean and President
 - Personalized letter from scholarship recipient and photo of donor and recipient sent post event
 - Invitation to attend annual scholarship luncheon
 - Weave Cultivation into all Stewardship Planning (and utilize strengths of stewardship office!)





STEWARDSHIP PLAN (CONTINUED)

- Highlight gift in alumni enewsletter/magazine
- Six month communication highlighting impact of scholarships
- Dean/DOD semi-annual communications of interest - general information or scholarship specific



DOES THIS PLAN REPRESENT THE DONOR OR THE INSTITUTION?

- · Us versus Them
- · Forced versus Organic
- · Canned versus Customized





DOES THIS
PLAN SET UP
AN UPGRADED
ASK?

- Ensure Role Modeling
- Share Program Aspirations
- Promote Matching When Possible (Challenge Grant)
- Demonstrate Value in Relationship
- Make Sure the Next Outcome is Clear to All
- Long Term Annual Donors are Important Too!



STEWARDSHIP SUPPORT TO UPGRADES & SOLICITATIONS

- · Annual update letter
- Special occasion cards (do they make a difference?)
- Initiative impact reports
- Photo cards (donor celebrations/student success/research wins)
- Fun facts
- · Coffee table books
- Remind them why THEIR philanthropy makes a difference







CHAT

What Creative Stewardship Has Worked for You?



APPROACHING UPGRADING NATURALLY

- Build on their desire to impact/change
- Make it easy (go from one gift annually to two, two to four)
- Giving societies
- Peer "pressure"; ego drivers
- Ask if they are willing to consider a leadership gift
- · Match or Challenge opportunities
- Multi-year pledges





UTILIZING EVENTS FOR UPGRADES

- · Legacy events
- · Giving societies
- · Participation "join us" requests
- Highlight donor stories that best match your target audiences
- Build upon captions
- We missed you cards/notes with event highlights
- Make the ask for next step in a the cultivation process (and follow up quickly!)



WHEN TOMOVE APROSPECT

- Most important, prospects always need a portfolio "home"
- Build discipline into your system to ensure "no donor is left behind"
- After qualification visit
- · Following a "hard" no
- · Lack of engagement
- When next step is lacking





WHEN TO TRANSITION A PROSPECT OUT OF YOUR PORTFOLIO

- · Personality Not a Fit
- Interests Better Suited to Another Area of Campus
- Another Unit Can Better Fulfill Donor Needs
- · Collaboration or Team Approach
- Repeated No Contacts







ACCOUNTABILITY TOOLS THAT SUPPORT YOUR EFFORTS

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TOOLS

- · Portfolio Analysis Reports
- Contact Report Review
- · Tasks In Database
- Dashboards in System
- Gift Trend/Analysis
- Transparency In Gift Meetings
- Recognition of ALL Types of Gifts
- Anatomy Of A Gift





SETTING GOALS

- What are upgrade goals?
- What do your donor portfolios need to look like in order to meet your goals?
- Who should be managing portfolios?
- Who should lead donor upgrade conversations?
- How wide is the conversation?
- What two commitments from this discussion will move your shop towards a greater focus to engagement/upgrades?





TAKEAWAYS

- · Engagement is key in everything we do
- Always be focused on outcomes; short term and long term
- Portfolio management is critical
- Track trends, look for ways to move them in compelling ways
- All members of the team contribute to moves management; find ways to grow your collaboration









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