During the 2003-2004 fiscal year, Campaign UCLA received more than $268 million in private gifts and grants, marking the sixth consecutive year in which UCLA’s gift total has surpassed $250 million.

This figure, which reflects gifts and pledges received between July 1, 2003, and June 30, 2004, propelled the total for the Campaign to more than $2.56 billion, exceeding the $2.4 billion goal by nearly 7 percent in advance of the Campaign’s 2005 conclusion.

While this represents a historic achievement in university fund-raising, increasing financial support for students and faculty remains a campuswide priority. To address this area of need, UCLA launched the Ensuring Academic Excellence initiative in June 2004. This fund-raising effort is designed to generate $250 million in private commitments through 2009 to help attract and retain top students and faculty. Among the initiative’s financial goals are to raise $100 million to fund 100 new endowed chairs, $100 million to fund fellowships and scholarships in the UCLA College, and $50 million for fellowships and scholarships in UCLA’s professional schools.

Advancing the aims of the initiative, six new chairs were endowed in the UCLA College during the past year through gifts totaling more than $7.8 million, benefiting areas from psychology and biology to molecular genetics. In addition, 27 fellowships were funded through nearly $3.4 million in gifts.

Other highlights included a $25 million gift from Jane and Terry Semel to UCLA’s Neuropsychiatric Institute (NPI) to advance interdisciplinary research and teaching in the neurosciences. The gift is the largest ever made to the NPI, which will be renamed the Jane and Terry Semel Institute of Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA.

UCLArts received $520,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Jerry S. Moss to support international undergraduate and graduate scholars and artists; the UCLA School of Public Affairs received $500,000 from the estate of Edward E. Hildebrand to support graduate students pursuing research in Canadian studies; and the Department of English received $883,000 from UCLA Professor Emeritus Florence H. Ridley to create the Lily Bess Campbell, Ada Nisbet and Florence H. Ridley Graduate Fellowship in English.

Campaign resources continue to secure UCLA’s position as a leader in American higher education by supporting pioneering research, providing student and faculty support, enhancing interdisciplinary programs, and enabling capital improvements.
Color linocut. The Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts at the UCLA Hammer Museum. Gift of Norman Granz.
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