

# Transformations

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMEN

The first phase of the Second Century Campaign has been extraordinarily successful thanks to your remarkable support. Your commitment to Darlington and to this campaign has allowed us to build a new Middle School, secure funding for much-needed renovations to the boys' residence halls, and begin to increase endowment for financial aid for our students. But there's still more to do.

In this newsletter, you will find articles focused on technology and planned giving, but those are not the only areas of focus remaining in the campaign. On the back page, you will find a graphic that illustrates our campaign progress and be able to see for yourself exactly how far we've come and how far we have to go.

It is important that we repeat something we have said before, and that is this campaign is not just about money. It is about people – the students, faculty and staff – who are currently at Darlington as well as the generations to come.

We all know that great teachers make a great institution, and Darlington's faculty members are the heart of our school. They have been in the business of *transforming lives* for more than 100 years by serving as teachers, mentors, coaches and friends. However, there is increasingly more competition for high-caliber faculty and administrative staff who excel not only in teaching, but who are also committed to working with students in a residential setting. That's why it is more important than ever that we provide the funds needed to increase endowment designated for faculty and staff salaries and professional development. This will allow Darlington to continue to recruit and retain high-quality teachers and mentors, like those who *transformed* our own lives. So far, we have raised \$1.6 million of the \$10 million campaign goal for the faculty endowment fund.

We thank those of you who have already made a commitment to the Second Century Campaign. Your leadership has allowed Darlington to move forward, even during difficult economic times. Now, we need to reach out to the entire Darlington Community to encourage their participation in this vital campaign. Whether it is by providing support to faculty endowment, financial aid endowment or the Learning Center, or making a planned gift to ensure Darlington's strength in the next century, there is a place in the campaign for everyone.

*Together we can all contribute to the success and legacy of the Second Century Campaign.*



JERE A. DRUMMOND ('57)  
Campaign Co-Chairman



GEORGE H. JOHNSON ('54)  
Campaign Co-Chairman



Jere Drummond ('57) and  
George Johnson ('54)



**Darlington  
School**

1014 Cave Spring Road  
Rome, Georgia 30161-4700  
706-235-6051  
866-534-1905

## TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY



Twenty-first century students are growing up in a fast-paced, technology-driven world, and Darlington's success in this century depends on our ability to harness and drive very powerful technology in creative ways that will help us to stay competitive and better serve our school community.

That's why the Second Century Campaign is raising \$800,000 for technology and equipment.

"Our goal is to develop a comprehensive technology program that augments the learning process and facilitates school-wide administrative functions," said Stefan Eady, director of information technology. "Keeping current with rapidly changing technologies is an ongoing challenge, and we must devote considerable resources to maintaining and upgrading our systems, as well as adding new technologies when appropriate."

Darlington prepares its students to live, work and thrive in a world in which everything they do will involve technology. That's why the school has to provide not only reliable computers and wired and wireless networks, but also the skills and understanding to apply technology to their daily lives. This means training faculty, giving them essential tools and making technology as applicable in their education as it already is in their free time.

"Collaborative technology is essential to the future lives of our students; a student-centered learning classroom will enhance and transform their learning experience," Eady said. "Once Darlington has that happening in our classrooms, then we can be confident our students will thrive outside of the classroom."

The past two years during faculty orientation week, all teachers and staff members PK-12 have taken part in technology training. Workshops were available in which peer teachers taught lessons on topics like laptop skills, file management, presentations, digital note-taking, videos and slideshows, discussion forums, and mind mapping. The goal was to help teachers to envision alternative forms of instruction that enable more fulfilling relationships with students.

In essence, technology in the classroom changes the roles of teachers and students. Teachers become facilitators and project managers by setting project goals and providing guidelines and resources, moving around from student to student or group to group, offering suggestions and support for student work and research using technology tools. Learning becomes more of an interactive and collaborative effort between teachers and students, with students more actively engaged in the learning process and no longer passive receptacles of information dispensed by teachers and textbooks. Project-based learning is designed around real world contexts and can connect students at Darlington with other students from around the world on common topics of study.

"We're meeting tangible goals for integrating technology in the classroom, and we are doing so at a pace that is appropriate for our teachers and students," Eady said. "Technology is ingrained in the lives of our students, and our teachers continue to find ways to leverage it for learning. If we continue to follow the progression of technology profusion in our lives, technology infusion in the curriculum will happen almost naturally."

To find out how you can support Darlington's technology needs, contact the Second Century Campaign staff at 866-534-1905 or by e-mail at [campaign@darlingtonschool.org](mailto:campaign@darlingtonschool.org)

## LEDBETTER'S ('85) CONNECTION TO DARLINGTON INSPIRES PLANNED GIFT

In honor of his upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2010 and in support of the Second Century Campaign, Class Agent E. Wright Ledbetter ('85) recently informed the school that he has made a provision in his will for Darlington's permanent endowment.

"Darlington School has always been a special part of my life," Ledbetter said. "My grandfather and namesake, Dr. Ernest L. Wright, came to the school from Virginia in 1921 and made the education of young people through Darlington the purpose of his career and secular life. My mother, Betty, was born and raised on the campus. My father, Bob Sr., is a member of the Class of 1953. So, when I was given the opportunity to attend, my relationship with Darlington already had a strong foundation on which to build."

When asked to convey the impact of his own Darlington experience, Ledbetter laughed, "Trying to communicate Darlington's influence in my life would take a long time and many pages. I spent 20 years at Darlington as a student and faculty member, and have been class agent and an Annual Fund volunteer the rest of the time. I have had the benefit of seeing almost all sides, except as a parent, and hopefully that will be next!"

He and his wife, the former Kelley Pyron of Natchez, Miss., recently celebrated their first anniversary of marriage. Ledbetter currently serves as executive vice president for operations at R.H. Ledbetter Properties Inc. and is the author of "Cuba: Picturing Change."

"My motivations to provide for the school through my estate plan came from many influences," Ledbetter said. "The fundamental basis for all my Darlington giving comes from my conviction



**Kelley and Wright Ledbetter ('85)**

that each of us who benefited from our time here should support future generations of Darlington students and teachers so that they may also have the teaching and learning opportunities we had, which were actually provided by those who came before us."

In these uncertain economic times, planned giving is an easy and increasingly popular way for alumni and friends to support the future of Darlington without giving outright cash. Planned gift options include bequests, gift annuities, charitable trusts, gifts of life insurance, retained life estates and other revocable or irrevocable gift agreements.

"A planned gift not only allows me the ability to accomplish this aforementioned principle, but also serves as a way to mitigate my estate taxes," Ledbetter added. "Quite simply, upon passing, I would prefer to direct my earned resources according to my priorities rather than allow our government to do it for me. It takes some effort on the front end to prepare a plan, but the resources we work so hard to earn for our families and institutions are worth it."

For more information about planned giving or to make a planned gift to Darlington, please contact Clay Doss ('74), director of planned giving, at 706-236-0496 or by e-mailing CDoss@darlingtonschool.org.

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## SECOND CENTURY CAMPAIGN

### Transforming Lives Through Teaching

	GOAL	GIFTS AND PLEDGES
The Learning Center	\$4,700,000	\$1,254,762
Faculty Support	\$10,000,000	\$1,619,703

### Transforming Lives Through Innovation

	GOAL	GIFTS AND PLEDGES
New Middle School	\$21,000,000	21,000,000
Technology and Equipment	\$800,000	\$503,832

### Transforming Lives Through Stewardship

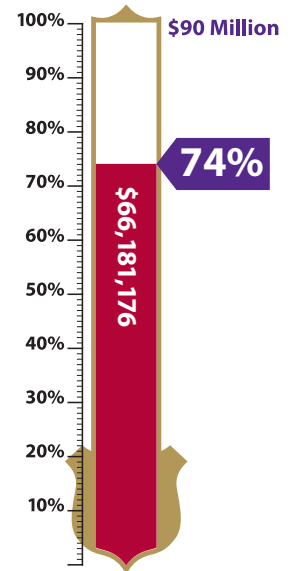
	GOAL	GIFTS AND PLEDGES
Improvements to Boys' Houses	\$3,000,000	\$3,167,500
Campus Buildings & Maintenance	\$1,000,000	\$470,000

### Transforming Lives Through Opportunity

	GOAL	GIFTS AND PLEDGES
Financial Aid Endowment	\$10,000,000	\$3,912,211

### Transforming Lives Through Giving

	GOAL	GIFTS AND PLEDGES
Annual Giving	\$7,500,000	\$7,919,756
Planned Gifts	\$28,000,000	\$24,172,597
Undesignated Capital		\$2,212,880



## Campaign Contacts

*Joe Montgomery*  
Chief Advancement Officer  
706-236-0480

*Clay Doss '74*  
Director of Planned Giving  
706-236-0496

*Pat Douglas*  
Second Century Campaign Coordinator  
706-236-0483

*Julie (Wilson) Lucas '97*  
Second Century Campaign Regional Director  
706-802-4390

*Rick Buice*  
Advancement Officer  
706-236-0418

You may also e-mail  
[campaign@darlingtonschool.org](mailto:campaign@darlingtonschool.org)  
or call us toll-free at 1-866-534-1905.