

Development Office Committed to Increasing Scholarships, Decreasing Loans

BY JAMES EBERT '97

Yale Divinity School is grateful for the generosity of the alumni, alumnae, friends and parishes who made annual and capital gifts and pledges during the 2001-2002 fiscal year (July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002). This year we experienced an unprecedented 14% increase in annual giving over last year and ranked 2nd in alumni/ae participation among all of Yale's graduate and professional schools. Of this accomplishment we should be proud indeed.

With the renovation of the Quad now complete and the Admissions Office receiving more applications than the previous year for the seventh year running, the School continues to experience positive momentum.

Yet students, central to our mission, continue to need our help. This year tuition will be approximately \$15,000 plus books and living expenses. While these fees remain the lowest at Yale, most Divinity students partially fund their education through student loans. Last year, the average student graduated from YDS with nearly \$25,000 in loans.

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This is a significant issue, as two-thirds of our graduates assume important roles in non-profit leadership in the church, education and social services.

Vital to helping our deserving students lessen the degree to which they are indebted and critical to helping YDS remain competitive, we rely more than ever on generous gifts from graduates, friends, parishes and our Advisory and Alumni/ae Board members.

Supporting this effort, the Class of '52, in celebration of their 50th reunion, will raise \$100,000 to endow a scholarship for International Students.

Financial Aid is a priority for Yale Divinity School and we offer the most aid we can per student. Every student benefits from the generosity of past and present donors—individuals, reunion classes, congregations, friends and foundations.

These students and Lee Hardgrove '76, Chair of Agents, are grateful for your partnership and support. The Development Office at YDS looks forward to another year of excellence. ♦