### Integrating Online and Offline Appeals *March 26, 2019*



### **Chad Warren**



- Senior Associate Vice President for Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving; Executive Director of the Alumni Association; University of Nevada-Las Vegas
- Previously, AVP of The Ohio State University Alumni Association; annual giving positions at University of Dayton and Florida State
- M.B.A., Saint Leo University; B.S., University of Dayton; current doctoral student in Public Policy at UNLV

### **University of Nevada-Las Vegas**

- Founded in 1957
- Located in Las Vegas
- 120,000 living alumni
- \$12,897,544 in annual giving
- 4% alumni participation
- Mascot: Hey Reb



• Fun Fact: Most Diverse University in the U.S. – two years in a row

## ASSESSING INDIVIDUAL CHANNELS

### **Examine various annual giving channels**

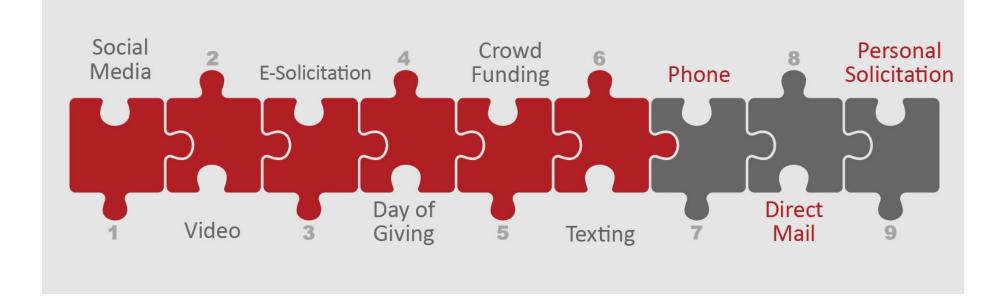
### Past

- Phone
  - Acquisition
- Direct Mail
  - Retention
- Personal Solicitation
  - Retention
  - Reacquisition
  - Upgrades

### **Current and Future**

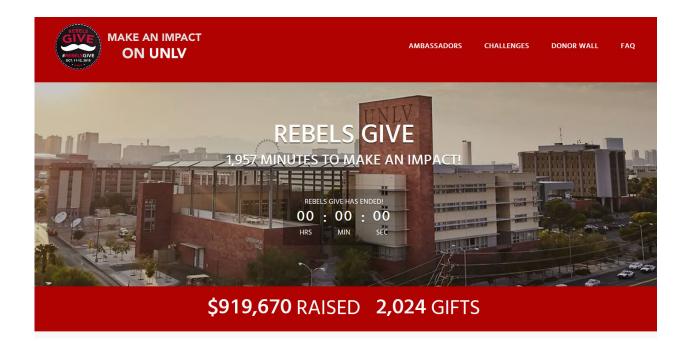
- Day(s) of Giving
- Crowdfunding
- E-solicitation
- Texting
- Social Media
  - Retargeting
  - Digital Ads
  - Social Sharing
  - Peer-to-Peer
- Video

### **Consider online and offline appeal channels**



### Encompass many channels through day of giving

- Pre-Campaign
  - Direct Mail
  - Email (with video)
  - Digital Ads
  - Social Media Posts
  - Personal Solicitation
- During Campaign
  - Phonathon
  - Email (with video)
  - Social Media Posts
  - Texting



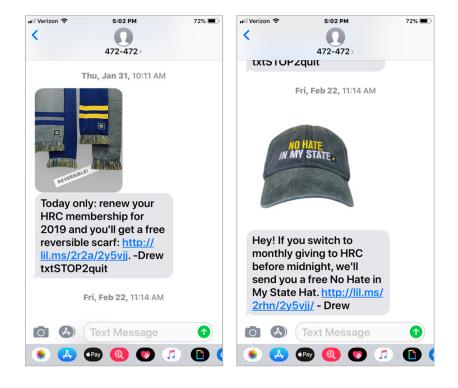
### Day of giving 2.0

• Nearly 80% of us have participated in a giving day, but...



### **Utilize texting in various ways**

- Giving Day Campaign
  - Amplify your giving day messaging efforts
  - Build interest leading up to, on and after giving day
  - Make giving easy on the "go"
- Pledge Fulfillment
  - Reach prospects who have pledged with an easy-to-fill call to action
  - Enhance your existing fulfillment structure
  - Increase pledge fulfillment
- Stewardship



### **Incorporate crowdfunding**

- Create rules and guidelines
  - Timelines
  - Assessing opportunities
  - Training
- Support volunteers
- Evaluate and evolve
- Develop a solicitation and stewardship plan



#### ALLEGRO Choral Funding Initiative

#### By Terry Dopson

With one of the largest choral programs in the history of the University of La Verne, the choir is seeking funds to propel an exciting program.

\$3.573

119%	36	0
Funded	Donors	Days Left



#### Swim and Dive

#### By Alexis Smith

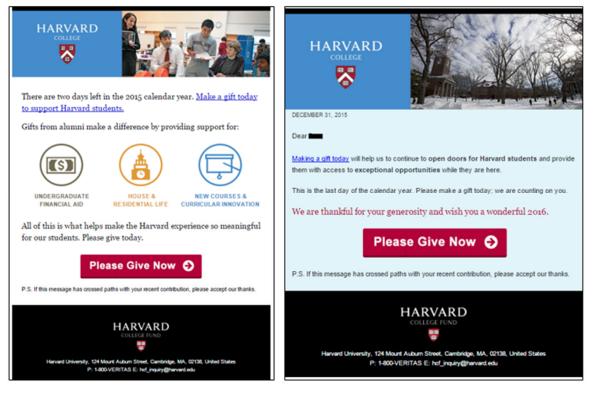
Please support our Leo Swim & Dive team to train with Olympians, in La Verne, during the upcoming winter break.

		\$3,795
126%	56	0
Funded	Donors	Days Left

### **Send e-solicitations**

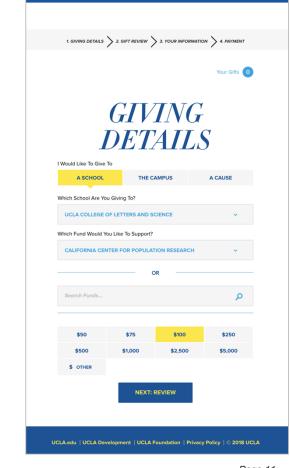
- Test repeatedly for content, sender, subject, time of day
- Hyper-segment
- Ensure they're data-driven

Date	Subject
December 17	"Make a gift, make a difference at Harvard"
December 22	"10 days left in the year"
December 30	"Two more days to make your year-end gift"
December 31	"Last chance to make your year-end gift"



### Offer a simple online gift form

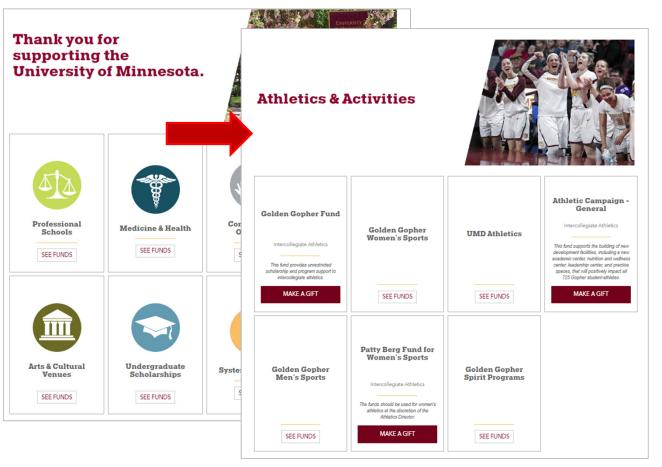
- Mobile-optimized
- Donor-friendly and easy to use reduce giving page friction
- Visually connects with all other channels
- Continues the story started on other channels
- Remember...
  - The avg. online gift is \$96.40
  - The avg. first-time donation gift is \$110.67



Source: Blackbaud

### **Create customized giving pages**

- Customize ask
  amounts
- Match theme to related appeals
  - CYE-Holiday
  - Phonathon
    Fulfillment
  - Recurring Giving Campaign
  - Matching Challenge



### Don't forget recurring giving

- 25% renewal of new single-gift donors
- 80% renewal of new recurring donors
- Recurring giving shows strong gains, with 22.91% revenue growth this past year compared to the industry median of 18.37%

Source: Network for Good and Blackbaud



### Social Media: Leverage retargeting & digital ads



their interest and they click on the ad. media, your ads appear.

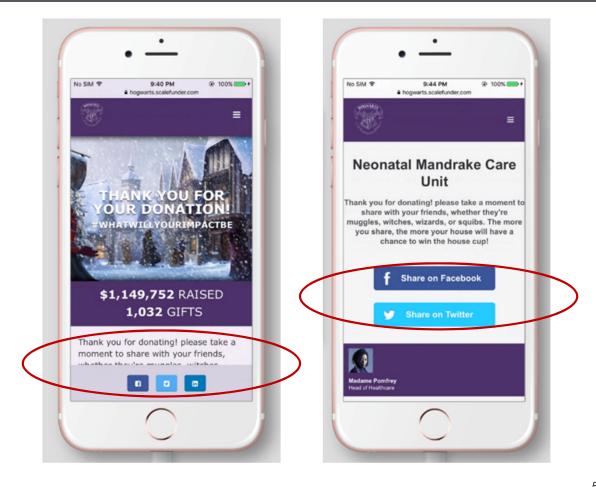
Source: Ruffalo Noel Levitz

to make a gift.

websites and social

### **Social Media: Enable social sharing**

• After online AND offline giving



### Social Media: Engage in peer-to-peer fundraising

• Peer-to-Peer is the Millennial Authenticity Engine

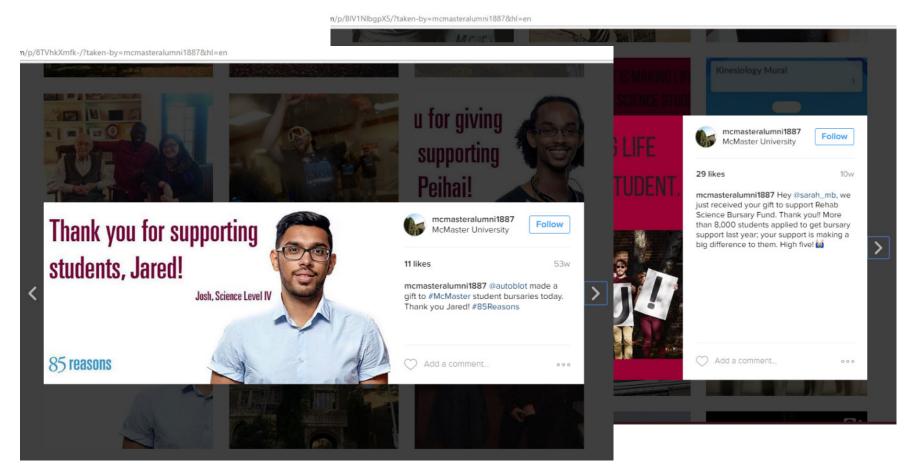




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### **Social Media: Make stewardship social**

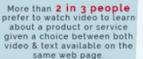


### **Employ video**

- Entertaining
- Informative
- Inspirational
- 57% of those who watch a nonprofit's video will give to that nonprofit

Source: Business Insider & Google





More than 3 in 4 people

say they would share a

branded video with their

friends if it was entertaining.



**Consumer Attitudes to Video** 

More than 3 in 4 people say they have been convinced to buy a product or service by watching a video.



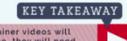
However, just over 3 in 5 people say they have been put off buying a product after watching a bad explainer video.



Almost **2 in 3 people** say they would share a video if it was informative.



More than 1 in 2 people say they would share a video if it was inspirational.



Consumers are becoming more sophisticated. Low quality explainer videos will undermine sales. For videos to connect with their target audience, they will need to be entertaining, informative & inspirational.

## DEVELOPING COMPREHENSIVE APPEAL PLANS AND SCHEDULES

### POLL #1: XXX

- Suggestions from Chad:
  - How many of you have a dedicated FTE dedicated to managing online channels (i.e. crowdfunding, email, social media, etc.)? My rationale behind this question is to drive home the need within Annual Giving shops to have a resource who "owns" these channels and is considered the SME within the University
  - How many of you capture social media handles within the online giving page (for stewardship)?

### **Increase reach by increasing channels**

 Tracking behavior of current-year donors by channel availability, the prospects with more channels were retained at a higher rate and contributed a higher average gift

#### Consumer Behavior

65% of consumers admit to responding to a direct mail appeal through an online method

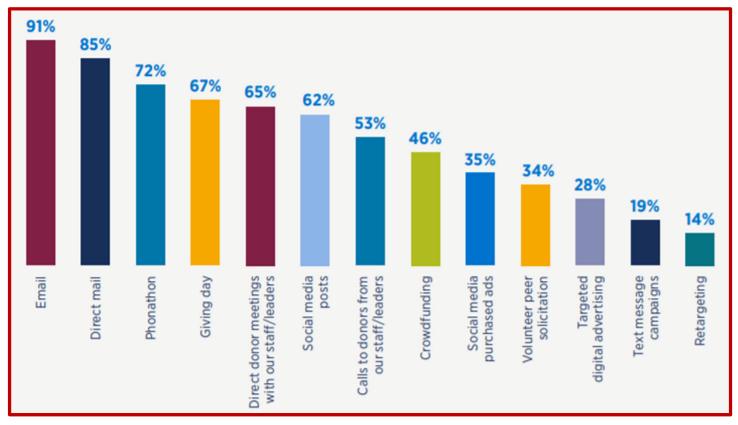
#### Marketing Behavior

 44% of marketers are using three or more channels



Source: Digital Marketing Association

### **Dissect your appeal toolkit**



Source: Ruffalo Noel Levitz

### **Survey alumni and donors**



### Ask insightful survey questions

• How would you most like to be contacted for philanthropic support?

Email	Telephone	Face-to-Face	Not at all
Mail	Text	Social Media	

 How valuable would each of the following be to you in making a decision to give to our institution?

Know how gifts are used	Provide scholarships to students	The right thing to do
Increase quality of academics	Increase rankings	Nicer facilities

• Please indicate the extent of your loyalty to each of the following:

The institution in general	My degree/program	A faculty member
Athletics	A student organization I was part of	

### **Determine appeal frequency**



### Chart your solicitation and stewardship calendar

• Example: Multi-channel anniversary donor

Solicitation			Stewardship		
Touchpoint	Channel	Timing	Touchpoint	Channel	Timing
	1 Email (w/ Video)	6 weeks prior to anniversary		1 Social Media (if applicable)	Immediately
	2 Direct Mail	4 weeks pror to anniversary	:	2 Thank You Email	Immediately
	3 Email (w/ 2nd Video)	First day of anniversary		2 Social Sharing within Email	Immediately
	4 Social Sharing	Ongoing	4	4 Thank You Letter & Receipt	2-3 days post gift
	5 Phonthon	Anniversary Month		5 Thank You Email (w/ Video)	2 weeks post gift
	6 Retarget Ad (if applicable)		(	6 Thank You Text (if applicable)	1 month post gift
	7 Text	Anniversary Date (ask or stewardship)		7 Impact/Use of Gift Mail	2 months post gift
	8 Direct Mail	1 month post anniversary		8 Thank You Phonathon	2 months post gift
	9 Email (w/ 3rd Video)	6 weeks post anniversary			

### Chart your solicitation and stewardship calendar

• *Example:* Multi-channel giving day donor

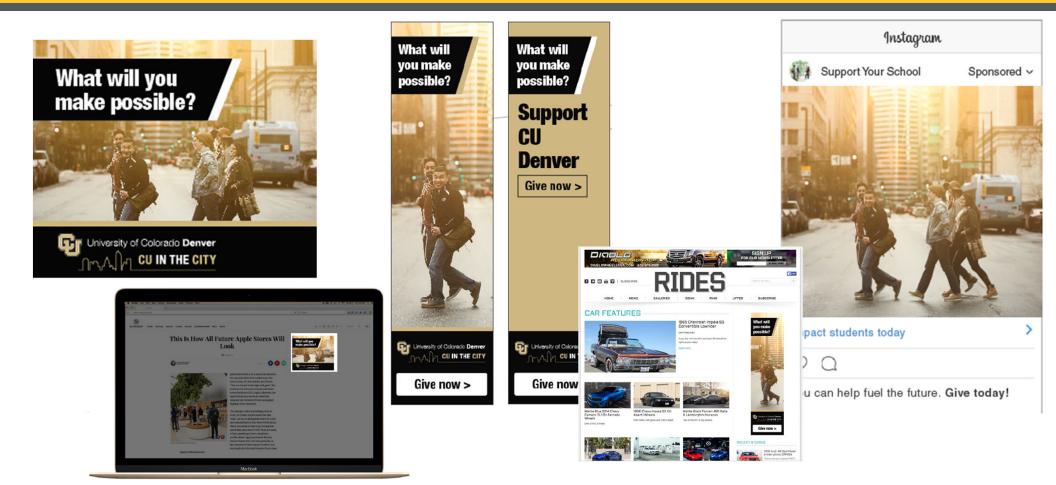
Touchpoint	Date	Channel	
1	5/1/2019	Postcard Direct Mail	
2	5/7/2019	Teaser Email	
3	5/7/2019	Teaser Social Media Post	
4	5/31/2019	Phonathon - Message	
4	6/1/2019	One Week Away Email w/ Video	
5	6/1/2019	One Week Away Social Media Post	
		3-4 Emails	
	6/9/2019	Peer Email	
6-13		Digital Ads	
0-13	Day of Giving	Retarget (if applicable)	
		4-5 Social Media Posts	
	Text Message		
14	6/10/2019	Thank You Email w/ Video	
15	6/10/2019	Thank You Social Media Post	
16	6/26/2019	Thank You Postcard Direct Mail	
17	7/5/2019	Thank You Call Phonathon	
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## CRAFTING AND OPTIMIZING MESSAGES ACROSS CHANNELS

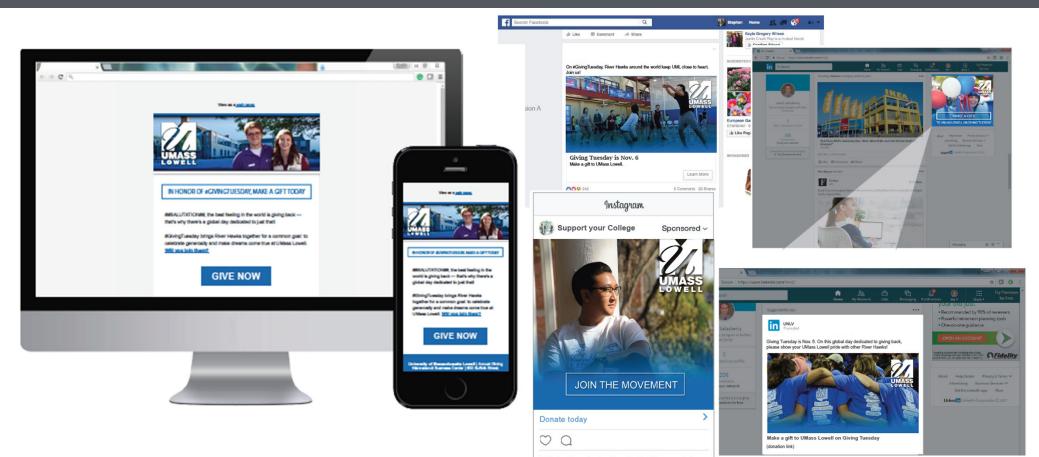
### POLL #2: XXX

- Suggestions from Chad:
  - How many of you have a dedicated FTE dedicated to managing online channels (i.e. crowdfunding, email, social media, etc.)? My rationale behind this question is to drive home the need within Annual Giving shops to have a resource who "owns" these channels and is considered the SME within the University
  - How many of you capture social media handles within the online giving page (for stewardship)?

### **Ensure consistency across channels**



### **Use consistent branding and visuals**



#GivingTuesday is Nov. 6. On this special day when we give back to the causes we care about, keep UMass Lowell close to heart. #RiverHawksGiveBack

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### **Craft unified messages**

#### Your Gift Matters...

- To Department of Finance
- To College of Fine Arts
- To our student athletes
- By providing a world-class education
- To Maria
- Today!
- Now!



YOUR GIFT

matters

TO SCHOLARSHIP

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YOUR GIFT *matters* 

UNIV PHILANTHROPY &

### **Consider best practices**

#### Direct Mail

- Spend more time
- Provide multiple ways to respond
- Targeting/personalization are crucial
- Use a P.S. section and sidebars to reiterate your offer and call to action

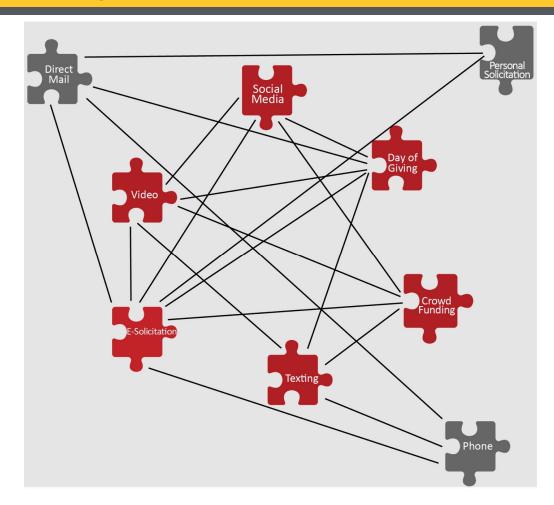
#### Digital Ads

- Make them stand out
- Keep them simple
- Stick to brand

- Email
  - Keep it short and sweet
  - Timing is everything
  - Measure, tweak, and repeat

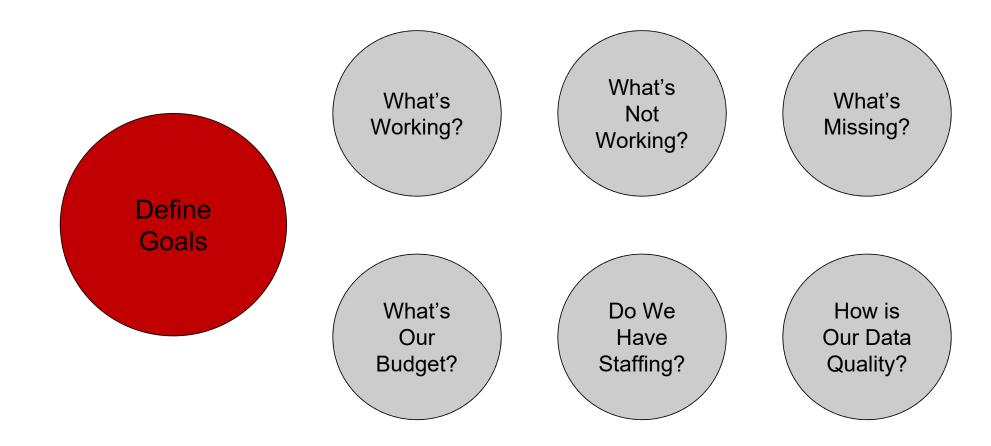
- Text Message
  - Pay attention to frequency
  - Provide value
  - Use common language
  - Respond ASAP

### **Remember every channel is a piece of the puzzle**



## **EVALUATING YOUR EFFORTS**

### **Ask important questions**



### **Create a snapshot of your results**

Solicitation Method-All Gifts	FY18 F	FY18 Final		FY18 YTD		FY19 YTD	
Personal Solicitation	\$6,009,530.24	2,395	\$2,599,527.65	1,100	\$4,143,960.68	1,757	
Phone	\$381,051.75	3,906	\$187,716.39	2,283	\$217,624.74	2,318	
Direct Mail	\$2,821,111.39	2,774	\$678,121.67	1,112	\$208,112.32	690	
Other/General	\$592,539.47	574	\$376,594.94	469	\$270,988.13	449	
Email/Online	\$369,636.88	839	\$201,271.82	454	\$379,650.64	1,292	
Events	\$359,725.43	230	\$294,502.93	203	\$298,461.00	171	
Emerging Technologies	\$137,219.44	1,097	\$104,953.86	915	\$430,305.69	1,746	
Unknown/Blank	\$2,226,729.94	5,515	\$2,151,859.16	5,226	\$373,381.67	74	
Total	\$12,897,544.54	11,254	\$6,594,548.42	6,931	\$6,322,484.87	7,754	

### **Articulate efforts to others**

- Use infographics to "tell the story"
  - Internal and external
- Attribute appeal codes
  - Quantify appeals

Impact of private givingLaderate vera colo colo colo colo colo colo colo col
UNC FUNDING PRIORITIES: STUDENT SUPPORT UNC has 1,415 Scholarship Funds & FACULTY SUPPORT 473 Endowed Professorships reture are are IN ACADEMIC VEAR 2010-2011 IN ACADEMIC VEAR 2010 IN ACADEMI
45% OF THIS WAS FROM PRIVATE GIFTS:    In contractor and grains    OF UNC'S Revenue: for research.      That is outstanding and makes us proud, but our resources are still limited, and we are:      Initial to a papilicants to competing tobools who were statistication on the statistication of the part a parts. (MC loss 55% of the one by logger of any of shales of the americanistic control of the part a parts. (MC loss 55% of the one by definition are by logger of any of shales of the americanistic control of the part a parts. (MC loss 55% of the form the second and offers. France and offers. S205M for remark.
And the effects of budget cuts are being felt in the classroom: UNC has had \$231M+ in total state budget cuts since 2008 Leading to INCREASED CLASS SIZES CAROLINA ANNUAL FUND CAROLINA ANNUAL FUND CAROLINA ANNUAL FUND FOUR SUPPORT MATTERS! PLEASE SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS. FACULTY AND PROGRAMS TODAY.
You can give online at ANNUALFUND.UNC.EDU/GIFT Learn more at annualfund.unc.edu and giving.unc.edu/ocialmedia 📲 🖸 🖬 🖾 filefer annuar

### Key Takeaways

- Annual giving must include the integration of online and offline appeals
- Create a holistic calendar
- *Remember:* Donors are not loyal to one channel
- Dedicate staff to online channels
- Track results

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