

Annual Conference for Corporate & Foundation Relations Officers

June 2012

Gift or Grant? A Taxing Issue Resolved!

Speaker Biographies

Dennis Alexander Director of Foundation Relations Texas Christian University

Dennis Alexander has 30 years of professional writing experience and 17 years in corporate and foundation fundraising. From 1981 to 1994, he was a technical and business writer for clients like Frito-Lay, IBM and McDonnell Douglas. Joining Texas Christian University as a grant writer in 1994, he was promoted to director of corporate and foundation relations in 1997 and has been director of foundation relations since 2000.

His prospect portfolio includes private foundations, charitable trusts and donor-advised funds. At TCU, those dollars account for 20-35 percent of yearly fundraising totals. He is also the designated proposal writer on-request for university executives and college deans.

He has previously taught fundraising sessions for the Association of Fundraising Professionals, the CASE Conference for Corporate & Foundation Relations Officers and for his colleagues in university advancement.

Shaun Brenton Associate Vice President, Corporate Relations Arizona State University Foundation

Shaun Brenton currently serves as the associate vice president of corporate relations for the Arizona State University (ASU) Foundation. Since joining the foundation in October 2004, she has also served as director and later vice president of corporate and foundation relations.

Before joining ASU, Brenton served the University of Arizona Foundation as the director of development for Maricopa County and as the senior director of development for the Arizona Health Sciences, Phoenix Campus. Prior to her appointment at the University of Arizona Foundation, she was director of corporate relations and scholarships at Centenary College of Louisiana.

Brenton holds a bachelor's degree from the University of New Mexico.

Tamara Deuser Assistant Vice President, Research Operations, Office of Knowledge Enterprise Development Arizona State University

As the assistant vice president of research operations in the office of knowledge enterprise development, Tamara Deuser is responsible for overseeing the research administration process at Arizona State University. This includes direct management of the office of research and sponsored projects administration as well as leadership for the research advancement staff who support faculty across campus. The teams under this umbrella organization manage all aspects of research from opportunity identification through project closeout.

Deuser previously managed OKED's information management and PRIDE groups. Before joining ASU, she held leadership positions in project management and process improvement at several firms, including GE and Motorola. Most recently, she was responsible for the complete redesign of a medical software implementation process. She is a certified Project Management Professional and holds a master's degree in business administration from the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. She earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Scripps College, where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa.

Patricia Gregory

Assistant Vice Chancellor and Executive Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations Washington University in St. Louis

Patricia Gregory joined Medical Alumni and Development Programs at Washington University in 1992. Previously she was the assistant chairman of the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology at Northwestern University and the associate director of Northwestern's Center for Biotechnology.

In addition to publications in the scientific literature, Gregory has authored book chapters for faculty and fundraisers, including "Foundation Support" in the CASE Handbook of Institutional Advancement and "Obtaining Funding for Clinical Research" in Translational and Experimental Medicine. She manages an online discussion group for corporate and foundation relations at http://cfrnet.wustl.edu.

She received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in biology from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, held a research appointment at the University College London for three years, earned a doctorate in physiology and biophysics in 1986 from the University of Vermont and completed postdoctoral training at the University of Chicago.