



Michael L. Hanes, Ph.D.

Add your voice as we celebrate our past, shape our future

A Georgia Southwestern State University has reached an important milestone. In recent years, we have been fortunate to enjoy solid community support and significant state assistance to help this University reach its goals for our students. To reach the next level, however, we must strive to do more and to pursue other sources of financial support to achieve our dreams for GSW. The campaign for Georgia Southwestern, which was recently introduced to the public, is designed to secure the financial resources necessary to respond to critical needs and to build increased endowment funds for scholarships, faculty development, technology equipment, and the Rosalynn Carter Institute.

As we talked about the capital campaign and this particular time in the history of Georgia Southwestern, two thoughts came to mind. With the rapidly approaching 2006 centennial, we saw the campaign as an opportunity to talk about the many accomplishments of this institution and its people—the students, faculty, staff, and alumni. We also envisioned the campaign as an opportunity for us to talk about the future of the University and for each of us to participate in shaping that future. We believe that these ideas are captured in our campaign theme, “Voices. . . Celebrating Our Past, Shaping Our Future.”

At the heart of the campaign is the belief that each of us can help to transform our dreams for Georgia Southwestern into reality. Through the support of alumni, friends, faculty, and staff, we are shaping the future for GSW. Nearly 1,350 alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends have already invested in the future of GSW by participating in the “Voices. . .” campaign. Each gift brings us closer to achieving the \$12 million campaign goal. During the quiet phase of the campaign, we have made significant progress toward our goal. In fact, we have raised \$6,914,322 since we initiated the quiet phase of the campaign 18 months ago!

We chose to announce the public phase of the campaign at the annual 21st Century Leadership Award Gala (story, page 9). This year, the 21st Century Leadership Award recognized former President Jimmy Carter and former First Lady Rosalynn Carter for their dedication and commitment to leadership in the world as well as their local community. Through their generous gifts to the Rosalynn Carter Institute and their on-going support, they continue to speak up for their alma mater. In their roles as Honorary Co-Chairs of the “Voices. . .” campaign, President and Mrs. Carter are incomparable representatives of what may be achieved with hard work, determination, and concern for others.

While we have set a challenging financial goal for the campaign, our most important goals are to provide new opportunities for our students and to build greater recognition for this wonderful institution.

On behalf of the faculty, students, and staff of GSW, thank you for your continuing encouragement, enduring support, and participation in “Voices. . . Celebrating Our Past, Shaping Our Future.”



Gala—Dr. Michael Hanes and Dr. Madlyn Hanes visit with the Carters prior to the 2004 presentation of the 21st Century Leadership Award.