Law Annual Fund

The Law Annual Fund provides a vehicle for every alumnus and alumna to make an immediate impact on current Law students and faculty at W&L.

There are endless ways to support Washington and Lee, but one of the most critical is supporting the Law Annual Fund. Gifts designated to the Law Annual Fund directly augment every aspect of the educational experience.

Annual Fund dollars are built into the operating budget each year. It would take approximately $20,000,000 in additional endowment to provide the amount of support generated by the Law Annual Fund each year.

Gifts to the Law Annual Fund create opportunities for current and future Law students. The Law Annual Fund supports every member of the faculty and staff; it buys computers and library books; it pays the light bill; it provides funding for student externship travel. In other words, the Law Annual Fund underwrites all that happens in Lewis Hall.

Your Annual Fund gift helps keep W&L distinctive and different. In this economy, your gift to the Annual Fund matters more than ever.

**Gift Levels**

- $1,000 - $2,499 – Faculty Associate
- $2,500 - $4,999 – Dean’s Council
- $5,000 - $9,999 – Lewis Powell Circle
- $10,000 - $24,999 – Sydney Lewis Society
- $25,000 and up – Tucker Hall Barrister

**Law Annual Fund facts:**

- % of the cost of W&L legal education covered by tuition and fees: 70%
- $ provided by the LAF to the Law operating budget annually: $952,000.
- Endowment needed to generate same amount of income as LAF contributions: $19,000,000
- Range of 2011-12 gifts to the LAF: $5 - $25,000
- The fiscal year runs July 1 – June 30
Top Misconceptions about the Law Annual Fund

“I don’t know what the Law Annual Fund supports.”

The Law Annual Fund provides resources for a variety of needs in Lewis Hall. It provides technology updates, keeps the facility running, and helps student programming, just to name a few. It is an unrestricted fund that allows the Law School to use in the most needed areas.

“The Law School doesn’t need the money.”

We do need your support. The Law Annual Fund provides 20% of the operating budget at the Law School. Your gift directly impacts the experiences of both current and future students, faculty, and staff by providing the necessary resources to ensure a world-class legal educational experience.

“Money raised for the Law Annual Fund goes to the undergraduate College.”

All funds raised go to the Law School, not the College. Unless otherwise specified, your gifts stay in Lewis Hall.

“Gifts to a classroom renovation, scholarship or professorship are part of the Law Annual Fund.”

Gifts given to restricted funds such as scholarships or professorships are not included as part of the Law Annual Fund. The Law Annual Fund provides unrestricted dollars for the Law School to use where needed most.

“Does my gift affect the US News and World Report Rankings?”

Yes, it can. The rankings measure the expenditure per student, so the more money given to the Law Annual Fund, the greater the impact on this US News and World Report factor. The LAF provides support to faculty for research needs which attracts and retains qualified faculty. This effort enhances the academic reputation measure (one of the US News and World Report factor).