

## **New Giving Opportunities within the Holy Cross Fund Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: I noticed that you asked for my support for “current-use funds.” What are current-use funds and how are they different from the Holy Cross Fund?**

A: Current-use funds are budget relieving and are spent in the fiscal year in which the gift is made. In short, they have an *immediate* impact. Gifts to the Holy Cross Fund are current-use, as are gifts designated to the new giving opportunities within the Holy Cross Fund—financial aid and faculty resources.

**Q: Why have you chosen these designations, financial aid and faculty resources, as new giving options at this time?**

A: We recognize the increased needs of students and are committed to our policy of need-blind admissions and to meeting the demonstrated need of every student. Additionally, our faculty are integral to the Holy Cross experience, and gifts to support faculty resources will help us to continue to attract and retain top-quality faculty members.

**Q: What does it mean to be need-blind in admissions, and how many of our peer schools are need-blind and also promise to meet full demonstrated need?**

A: A need-blind admissions policy ensures that Holy Cross evaluates each application without knowledge of a student’s financial needs. Among the 20 schools in our comparison group, only 7 others have need-blind admissions along with a promise to meet the full demonstrated need of every student.

**Q: What percentage of students receive financial aid from the College?**

A: Holy Cross currently offers financial aid to 59 percent of our students.

**Q: How do gifts to faculty resources impact students?**

A: Our low student-faculty ratio allows us to attract strong candidates, offer small classes in which students can participate easily and effectively, and encourage out of class faculty-student interaction, including supervised research projects. We must maintain the means to recruit and retain the best faculty, including funding support for the library, travel, research and other scholarly activities.

**Q: Will a gift to financial aid and/or faculty resources count toward my President’s Council membership?**

A: Yes! All gifts to the College count toward your President’s Council membership.

**Q: Will gifts to financial aid/faculty resources count toward my class’ Holy Cross Fund dollar goal, and will I count as a donor in my class?**

A: Yes! Because these designations are part of the Holy Cross Fund, they will count toward your class’ Holy Cross Fund goal for the year. Also, *any* gift to the College makes you a donor and counts fully toward your class’ participation goal.

**Q: Where will gifts to financial aid/faculty resources appear on my report of donors?**

A: Because the new gift designations are a subset of the Holy Cross Fund, these gifts will fall under the Holy Cross Fund heading on the left side of the your report.

**Q: Will my gift to financial aid/faculty resources count towards my class' Reunion Gift total?**

A: Yes! All gifts and pledges that are received prior to June 30th of your reunion year count toward your class' Reunion Gift total.

**Q: How do I make sure that my gift goes to a particular designation?**

A: If you give online, you will see the special designations listed there. If you prefer to mail in your gift, be sure to write the designation (financial aid or faculty resources) on the memo line of your check. This will ensure that your gift is properly allocated.

**Q: If I give to the Holy Cross Fund, without further designation, where does that money go?**

A: Gifts to the Holy Cross Fund are applied directly to the programs and initiatives that are integral to the student experience. In addition to financial aid and faculty resources, they include everything from retreats organized by the Chaplain's Office, to programs run by Student Affairs, to new books for the libraries. In short, they support students' daily lives on campus.

**Q: Is the College de-emphasizing participation?**

A: Alumni participation is still an important--and treasured--College fundraising priority. In this recessionary economy, Holy Cross is also concerned about the financial impact on its students and faculty. By allowing donors to designate their annual gifts to financial aid and faculty resources, the College is allowing its alumni, parents, and friends to have an *immediate* impact on its greatest needs.