# She. Is. Worth. It.

#### "Someone thinks I'm worth the investment."

Sara Skiles' past was full of pain and abandonment. And her future seemed to only promise more of the same.

But at age 16, "God answered a cry for help" and Sara was taken in by a loving church couple in her hometown of Abilene, Texas.

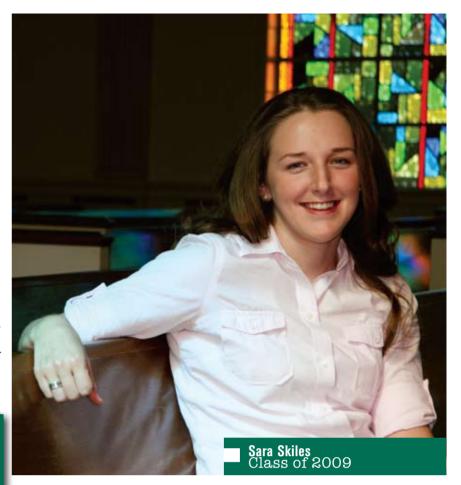
Responsible for all of her own financial needs, how could an 18-year-old with no money, little family and big dreams of college succeed? A part-time job. Relentless study. A knack for "pushing through." And...scholarships.

More than anything, the Student Foundation scholarship gave Sara—now a thriving senior history major—a sense of worth.

"They offered me acknowledgment, recognizing that I've struggled to be here," Sara said. "Someone thinks I'm worth the investment, and I am able to look at my past with different eyes."

## You, too, can empower students, to "push through" by giving to Student Foundation scholarships.

For more information on how to invest in students like Sara, please contact Chandra Ford, Troy and Betty Mays Director of Student Foundation, at (254) 710-3497.



BAYLOR BUTY

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STUDENT FOUNDATION



# the student foundation Vol. 4, No. 1 Tember 2008 November 2008



# A Statue, a Promise and a Ram in a Bush

#### Former Student Foundation Scholarship Recipient Pays the Provision Forward

Nine-years-old. That was Phyllus Flowers' age when she took her first job, became the bookkeeper for her 10-member family and promised herself that one day she would graduate from Baylor University.

Born in a little house just three blocks from campus, Phyllus grew up visiting the Armstrong Browning Library and playing on the Judge

Baylor statue.

"One day I looked up at Judge Baylor's imposing figure and said, 'I am going to graduate from this school some day. Just you watch and see!" Phyllus said.

It was a big promise and fulfilling it didn't come easily. At age 18, Phyllus dropped out of college in order to work full-time to put her husband through college. For the next several years, life was a constant wrestle between working, supporting three small children and squeezing in community college classes. But, though Phyllus' dream to receive a Baylor education sometimes seemed dim and distant, it remained.

When faced with seemingly hopeless circumstances, Phyllus drew strength to persevere from her

mother's constant reminder of God's provision to Abraham in his greatest moment of need. "My mother told me 'God always brings the ram in the bush and sometimes you may be that ram," Phyllus said. "So I prayed that I would live to make a difference for my people, my family."

When the time finally came for Phyllus to step on that familiar campus as a Baylor student, her two sons were among her fellow classmates. "All those years I had worked to accomplish this goal, this deal between me

and God and Judge Baylor," Phyllus said. "And as I was leaving my first day of religion class, I went by the statue and said 'I'm here.' And I just stood there and cried."

She had made it, at last. With minimal finances and children in college along with her, however, it was far from clear how Phyllus would be able

> to persist to graduation. But her "ram" came just in time...in the form of a Student Foundation scholarship.

"I felt like I was somebody when I received that scholarship," Phyllus said. "I knew somebody else cared about my success and that meant a lot to me."

On December 17, 1994, Phyllus won that 33-year long bet. Earning a bachelor's degree in business administration at age 42, she became the first person in her immediate family to receive a four-year degree.

Living by her mother's practice to give what she can to the

admonition to show gratitude by "paying your blessings forward," Phyllus has made it a personal

Student Foundation scholarship fund each year.

"I am not rich by anyone's standards," Phyllus said. "However, I make sure to give that small scholarship gift every year since I graduated because someone reached out to me in my time of need."

"I give to scholarships because when my time comes, I want to hear the Lord say 'well done.' That's all I live for."



#### From the Director



Thanks for your continued support of our great institution and organization. The success in reaching our high goals in 2007-2008 would not have been possible without your faithful, generous support. The students are gearing up for another fun, challenging and exciting year in Student Foundation, and with the strong leadership of the Steering

Committee, I'm looking forward to seeing the legacy of service that this class of Student Foundation members will leave.

What a blessing it is to be named the 2008 Association of Student Advancement Program's Outstanding Student Foundation of the Year! It humbles me to think of the countless hours of service to the Baylor community and the solid foundation that has been laid in Student Foundation over our 39-year history. This award is, in no small part, due to your legacies of service and commitment, and to each of you I say, "Thank you."

It still delights me to see members calling the

Ed Crenshaw Student Foundation Center their

ASAP

ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ADVANCEMENT PROGRAMS

2008

OUTSTANDING ORGANIZATION STUDENT FOUNDATION

Student Foundation

Baylor University

What a blessing it is to be named the 2008 Association of Student Advancement Program's Outstanding Student Foundation of the Year!

"second home in Waco" as they spend quality time working on Student Foundation business, studying and getting to know one another. The members love having a place that they can call their own, and we remain grateful for this permanent office.

The students have, yet again, set lofty goals this year. One goal is to raise \$100,000 in current scholarships. I hope you'll consider allowing a Student Foundation member to visit with you about the significant need for scholarship funds on campus and how you can be a part of alleviating this strain on our current students. We received a record number of scholarship applications this past year, so the members are looking forward to doing their part to help ease the burden, as the need for financial assistance is greater.

Thanks for your continued support of Baylor University, current students and Student Foundation.

Sic 'em Bears,

Chamber Food

Chandra Ford

Troy and Betty Mays Director of Student Foundation

#### Blossoming Generosity

Red, pink and white flowers blanket the front lawn while trees frame the sides of the Ed Crenshaw Student Foundation Center. There is vibrant life surrounding the Crenshaw Center, and it's not just from the students' return back to campus!

Thanks to Student Foundation alum and owner of Fitzgerald Lawnscaper, Carroll Fitzgerald (BBA '76), the Crenshaw Center has a new, more welcoming exterior. With these splashes of color, the building cannot be missed.

Flowers and trees are just a few of the additions. The decorative stone wall and gravel walkway bring functionality to the space. The area serves as a place for members to meet outside and also provides a beautiful backdrop for the brick and pavers walkway that lines the Crenshaw Center.

"He was excited to do this project for Student Foundation. Carroll came out a few times in person, and, as it came about, he donated a significant portion of the landscaping to us," said Student Foundation Director Chandra Ford.

Always a faithful supporter of Student Foundation, Carroll now has given what he knows best—the art of landscaping.





# Where are they \( \text{\text{\$\forall}}\)

#### Larry Smith (BBA '73) Waco, Texas



Larry Smith only has one regret from his undergraduate years in Student Foundation: "I just wish we'd had those green and white-striped shirts back then."

Everything else, though, was a win.

"I enjoyed the relationships

I built within the organization," Larry said. "And we were under tremendous leadership."

After graduation and 27 years in the banking industry, Larry was asked to consider coming back to his alma mater as a development officer.

And, though he "never would've imagined it," Larry has spent the last 12 years fulfilling some of the same commitments he formerly had as a Student Foundation committee member: representing Baylor and facilitating the philanthropy of others for a common cause.

Sometimes life's experiences come full-circle. As the assistant vice president for gift planning in University Development, Larry not only continues to participate in the establishment of endowed scholarships for Baylor students but also has been involved in training recent Student Foundation committees.

"What makes me proud is to think back and look at all that Student Foundation has accomplished with all aspects of what they do."

#### Missy Yeary Wells (BS '88) Houston, Texas

Only a year after she graduated from Baylor, moved back to Miami and began working at a corporate design firm, Missy Wells got the call back to campus to serve as the director of Student Foundation.

"I had such a great experience as a Student Foundation member, I just jumped at the chance to come back to Baylor and work with students," Missy said. "And I loved every minute of it."



During her eight consecutive years as director, Missy experienced several personal milestones, including marriage to her StuFu sweetheart, Dr. Stephen Wells—now pastor of South Main Baptist Church in Houston—and the birth of her first two children.

Missy currently works part-time with the Texas Reading First program in Houston, but her "number-one job" is being a full-time mom for Rachel, 16; Ben, 12; and Josh, 10; and serving as a pastor's wife.

"The unselfish spirits of the Student Foundation members and how they continue to reach out to others has translated into my life, as we reach out to families in our community and different missions all over the world."

#### Collin (BA '97) and Jacquelyn DuBose(BBA '97) Cox Houston, Texas

From the UK to the US, and with graduate degrees from Cambridge, Duke and Texas A&M, Collin and Jaquelyn Cox have seen... and learned...it all! And now, they've settled in Houston and are expecting their first child.

Before they became world travelers, the couple spent two years serving on the Student Recruitment committee in Student Foundation.



"The idea of having a task and getting it done is something that Student Foundation excels in," Collin said. "I always gravitated toward the ability to talk in front of people, and that was one thing Student Foundation allowed me to do."

Currently, Collin is a partner at a law firm, and Jacquelyn works with ExxonMobil as a human resources consultant. Both remain active through the Baylor Network and the Student Life Advisory Board, and Collin also serves on the Baylor Alumni Association Board.

"Student Foundation members are some of the most passionate advocates in the student body—these are individuals who really love the university," Jacquelyn said. "I don't think you will find a more committed group of people."

## Andrea Hill Murphy (BS '04) Frisco, Texas

Four years, two children and 20 homes later, Andrea Murphy and her baseball player husband, David Murphy, have been busy. A few weeks after turning in her hat as co-president of Student Foundation, Andrea was living in Boston and cheering on the Red Sox and her husband.



"Before Student Foundation I was really shy," she said. "The skills I learned have helped me reach out to people, especially in the baseball world. We get to meet so many people we never thought we would."

Last year, three days before the birth of their first child, David joined the Texas Rangers, and stability became a new theme in the Murphy household. The family has returned to Dallas, and now Andrea, Madison, 1, and newborn, Faith, cheer on dad and the Texas Rangers.

"My time in Student Foundation taught me selflessness," Andrea said. "I developed a love for Baylor that I would not be able to share had I not been in Student Foundation."



## 2008-2009 Student Foundation Members

Jackie Alvarenga, Houston, Texas Lauren Baber, Corpus Christi, Texas Christina Bahr, Spring, Texas Megan Baldree, Orange, Texas Andy Bernero, Aurora, Colo. Lindsey Blanchette, Sugar Land, Texas Stephanie Bousquet, Waxahachie, Texas Rebecca Brothers, Sugar Land, Texas Mallory Brown, Bedford, Texas Aaron Bryant, Fort Worth, Texas Angela Bunnell, Round Rock, Texas Coleton Burch, Dallas, Texas Whitney Colella, Coopersburg, Pa. DaNae Couch, Coppell, Texas Whitney Couch, Euless, Texas Creagh Cross, Denton, Texas Steven Cutbirth, Magnolia, Texas Jason Dagley, Spring, Texas Jared Dauenhauer, Pearland, Texas Shay Dixon, Dallas, Texas Tyler Ellis, McGregor, Texas Kaila Fagerstrom, Eden Prairie, Minn. Brazos Fielder, Dayton, Texas Taylor Finch, Palatine, Ill. Taylor Floyd, Judson, Texas Alicia Fuhrman, Victoria, Texas Cymone Gantt, Converse, Texas Laura Glathar, Gretna, Neb. Mallory Golding, Dallas, Texas Chris Griesenbeck, San Antonio, Texas Elizabeth Grover, Collevville, Texas Megan Gumm, Heath, Texas Whitney Harrington, Austin, Texas Wilson Harrison, Longview, Texas Brittany Heath, Lubbock, Texas Dee Helton, Indianapolis, Ind. Brenda Hernandez, Houston, Texas Laura Hicks, Dallas, Texas

#### 2008-2009 Steering Committee

Co-Presidents Aaron Bennett—Sherman, Texas Jacki Jensen—Dubuque, Iowa

Campus Promotions Co-Chairs Justin Fricke—Dallas, Texas Sarah Taylor—Kerrville, Texas

Financial Affairs Co-Chairs Kate Erwin—Maumelle, Ark. Nathan Grohmann—Weimar, Texas

Student Recruitment Co-Chairs Nicole Hewett—Greenwood Village, Colo. Jason Permenter—Tyler, Texas

Matt Hilgers, Omaha, Neb. Stephen Hinson, Spring, Texas Thomas Holden, Oklahoma City, Okla. Melanie Hoo, Houston, Texas Connor Humphries, Houston, Texas Tim James, Spring, Texas Hannah Kaminer, Mars Hill, N.C. Carolyn Key, Lubbock, Texas Jenny King, Waco, Texas Mallory King, Abilene, Texas Ashley Langhorst, Palatine, Ill. Whitney Lasse, Fayetteville, Ark. Leslie Le, Waco, Texas Chris Lehr, The Woodlands, Texas Nicole Liudahl, Sioux City, Iowa Molly MacEwan, Temple, Texas Brian Mandel, Corpus Christi, Texas Todd Martin, Carrollton, Texas Abdel Mather, Corpus Christi, Texas Cole McClatchy, Olney, Texas

Amy Meyer, Fort Worth, Texas Kathleen Miller, Houston, Texas Ben Moore, Dallas, Texas Molly Mulvaney, Sugar Land, Texas Lynley Nicholson, Fairview, Texas Alex Palazzolo, Trophy Club, Texas Clay Peterson, Lincoln, Neb. Matt Pierce, The Woodlands, Texas Haley Purdy, Plano, Texas Lindsey Richardson, Rockwall, Texas Patrick Roberts, Corpus Christi, Texas Rue Rogers, Olney, Texas Bo Rollins, Dallas, Texas Brooklyn Sandvall, Arlington, Texas Ashley Santana, Mercedes, Texas Monique Scales, Dallas, Texas Heather Scherrer, Cypress, Texas Bobby Shriver, Jr., Sour Lake, Texas Shay Smith, Woodway, Texas Jackie Socop, Houston, Texas Jessica Steptoe, Pearland, Texas Travis Stewart, San Antonio, Texas Justin Stohner, Dallas, Texas Casey Swafford, Georgetown, Texas Susan Tarta, Rye, N.H. Josh Taylor, Kerrville, Texas Kristen Tekell, Beaumont, Texas Megan Templin, Keithville, La. Grant Tidmore, Midlothian, Texas Allyson Townsend, Sugar Land, Texas Xuan Tran, Katy, Texas Robert Turbeville, Fredericksburg, Texas Clint Waller, Hemphill, Texas Elizabeth Waynick, Brentwood, Tenn. Claire Wisdom, Friendswood, Texas David Worrell, Houston, Texas DaviAnn Worthington, Pearland, Texas Tessah Zepeda, Los Fresnos, Texas

# SERVING with What We've Been Given

- By: Jacki Jensen -

Service in Student
Foundation is not a
complicated concept. It is
one of great importance,
but is quite simple when
applied to the purpose of
our mission. Service in Student

**OUT MISSION.** Service in Student Foundation might be personified by 1 Peter 4:10-11:

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If you speak, you should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If you serve, you should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and power for ever and ever."





unique opportunity within the Baylor community to serve a wide array of people. We strive to be connectors in a busy world where individualism often trumps unity. As our mission statement reiterates, Student Foundation's purpose is simply....to serve.

Student Foundation offers a unique opportunity to serve a wide array of people. From high school students to Baylor students and alums, we share our Baylor experience and provide others an opportunity to be involved.

You'll see us at football and basketball games, Baylor's Steppin' Out and Habitat for Humanity throughout the year, because we are an organization that prides itself on addressing the needs of the Baylor and local community. We strive to be connectors in a busy world where individualism often trumps unity. As our mission statement reiterates, Student Foundation's purpose is simply....to serve.

We also realize that our purpose is much larger than its face value. We are servants to the Baylor family, and more importantly, in Christ's Kingdom. One of our greatest missions is to form "community-minded servants and leaders." Student Foundation prepares us for this mission.



Student Foundation provides opportunities that challenge our growth. We are continually pushed beyond our comfort zones, stretched to balance academia and confronted with the magnitude of serving with a heart that reflects that of Christ.

However, within the confines of our organization's responsibilities, we are encouraged to "use whatever gift" we have received to "serve others," to live

"as faithful stewards of God's grace," to "speak the very words of God," to serve "with the strength God provides" and to do all of this, "so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."

As Christians, we are called to serve, and Student Foundation provides the training and opportunity to fulfill that in our lives. From the small things like serving refreshments at football games to the big things like giving away \$240,000 in student scholarships, Student Foundation members serve out of our desire to glorify the name of Jesus.



# **Exploring the Bearathon Frontier**

Student Foundation members' efforts to serve fellow students have been limited only by their imaginations—where they find few limits!

What comes to mind when you think of pioneers? Perhaps a 19th-century family forging new frontiers in their covered wagon. Or maybe a visionary scientist thinking outside the box to develop important new technology. Whether they settled the West or invented

"There's endless
potential for
Bearathon. You have
the support of
Student Foundation,
Baylor and Waco.
Knowing all the
proceeds go toward
student scholarships
makes it even more
worthwhile."

Dave Bonem Bearathon 2008 Sponsorship Chair the light bulb, we benefit daily from the courage and foresight of pioneers.

Green and white striped jerseys mark some such pioneers at Baylor. In 1969, the first Student Foundation pioneers ran with the new idea of students helping raise scholarship funds. Ever since, Student Foundation members' efforts to serve fellow students have been limited only by their imaginations—where they find few limits!

Over the past six years, Bearathon has encouraged bold new ventures. And with the addition of more events, extra

personal touches and the Bearathon Endowed Student Foundation Scholarship Fund, Student Foundation's scholarship efforts are reaching more students than ever.

"There's endless potential for Bearathon," Dave Bonem, Bearathon 2008 Sponsorship Chair, said. "You have the support of Student

Foundation, Baylor and Waco. Knowing all the proceeds go toward student scholarships makes it even more worthwhile."

#### New events, new frontiers

For the first time, several members attended road race management conferences and volunteered at other races. The tips and tricks they gained from networking with seasoned road race directors inspired them to host a 5K Fun Run and a pasta dinner in addition to the half-marathon.

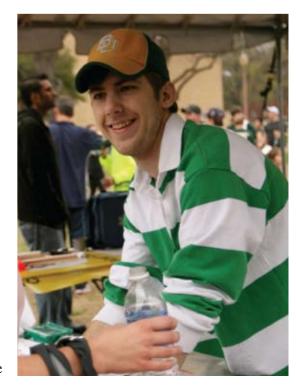
"This was the first year planning Bearathon for most of us, and gaining tools and advice from other road race directors is what made the difference in Bearathon 2008," said Sarah Taylor, a Kerrville, Texas, senior who served as Runner Relations Chair for last year's Bearathon and is 2008-2009 Campus Promotions Co-Chair.

"It was really neat to see another side of Baylor come out and feel like they could participate through the 5K. Not everyone can run a half-marathon, but they could run three miles. We had a great turnout," 2007-2008 Campus

Promotions Co-chair Ashley Westbrook (BA '08), recalled.

# Exploring the details

However, forging new territory doesn't always mean adding major components to the race. Small details can make a big difference in a runner's experience. For example, Clay Peterson, a Lincoln, Neb., senior and Bearathon 2008 Race Logistics Chair, suggested that Dr Pepper floats be offered as refreshments at the



The sponsorship committee went the extra mile. Their efforts paid off: they enjoyed a successful sponsorship campaign and even secured a title sponsor for the 5K Fun Run.



finish line. Sure enough, the floats were a big hit. Even those not initiated into Baylor's Dr Pepper Hour tradition, like Austin runner Matthew Fleming, praised "the milkshake stuff."

In addition, Bearathon committee members agree that the sponsorship committee went the extra mile in 2008. For the first time, they prepared bound sponsorship packets detailing the benefits of each advertising package. Their efforts paid off: they enjoyed a successful sponsorship campaign and even secured a title sponsor for the 5K Fun Run.

# Blazing trails for the future

Most importantly, by continuing to seek ways to make Bearathon 2008 better, Student Foundation drew nearly 600 people to the event and raised a record



\$17,000—creating their most important innovation of the year: the Bearathon Endowed Student Foundation Scholarship Fund.

"Not only does an endowment continue to benefit students forever, but Bearathon, as an annual event, is a great opportunity to ensure that the endowment is being built and has contributions going into it every year," 2007-2008 Campus Promotions Co-Chair Will Simmons (BA '08), said.

"There's the real motivation, not just to put on a good race but to

generate funds that are going to help people," noted Will's dad, John Simmons, an experienced runner and former race director.

The Bearathon Endowed Student Foundation Scholarship Fund provides a lasting foundation that future Student Foundation pioneers can build upon to support Baylor students.

"Every year Student
Foundation is going to try to
make Bearathon better," said
Bearathon 2008 Publicity
Chair Tyler Ellis, a
McGregor, Texas, senior. "We
tried new ideas for Bearathon
2008 and raised more money.
That stands as a testament to
the positive impact of what
new ideas can do."

Visit www.baylor.edu/ studentfoundation to learn more about Bearathon. Registration will begin in mid-November. "Every year Student
Foundation is going to
try to make Bearathon
better. We tried new
ideas for Bearathon
2008 and raised more
money. That stands
as a testament to the
positive impact of what
new ideas can do."

Tyler Ellis Bearathon 2008 Publicity Chair



Bearathon:2009

On your mark. 03.28.09

Run fast to put Bearathon on your calendar. And help Student Foundation build the Bearathon endowed scholarship fund. See you at the starting... FINISH...line.