Rudy Hymer Challenge Grant

OU alumnus Rudy Hymer is making a generous challenge to his fellow President’s Leadership Class alumni and supporters. Hymer, PLC Class of 1981-82 and PLC adviser from 1982 to 1983, has pledged to match dollar-for-dollar gifts made by individuals to the PLC Alumni Network up to a total of $5,000. The PLC Alumni Network is raising funds to support PLC activities for current students, as well as Alumni Network events, activities and communications. The match gives donors a chance to double the impact of their gift and help fund the development of future leaders.

The Impact PLC has had on My Life and Career

When I first stepped onto the OU campus, I was the classic case of the small-town kid who was never shy but still felt a little overwhelmed at how big the University of Oklahoma seemed. I immediately realized how fortunate I was to have been offered the privilege of participating in the President’s Leadership Class. What was so big suddenly became more intimate and to me, more manageable. Our first gathering as a group of excited young freshmen took place in the meeting room above Couch Cafeteria and I knew from that point that I had a great experience waiting for me as an OU student and member of PLC.

PLC has continued to make such a positive and strong impact on my life, largely due to the outstanding quality of PLC students and the ensuing friendships that have endured now for more than 25 years. We quickly bonded at the retreat and discovered that though we hailed from so many different backgrounds, we had a lot in common. I remember being amazed at the talent and intelligence of our class members and how we were eager to dive into campus activities, student government and every possible aspect of college life. It was an incredible experience to work together to become campus leaders while still determining what it was we all wanted to do with our lives beyond college.

One of the most remarkable and long-lasting memories of my PLC experience that I cherish to this day was the effort by top university administrators who took time to listen and to help me learn a great number of life lessons beyond the classroom. Anona Adair, David Burr and Dave Schrage held high-level positions that were of great value to the university, and as a young student from the small school of Navajo, Okla., I was so impressed that they cared so much about all of us. They were mentors—kind, accessible and helpful—as I approached different challenges and experiences during my time as a student. I feel strongly they were key figures in helping me build my confidence and eventually realize that I had the potential to achieve success.

PLC is such an outstanding and unique experience and it was truly a difference maker for my college experience and my life and career since that time. I learned so much and gained so many opportunities that would have never come my way. PLC will always be a significant part of my life just as those individuals who I have been able to connect with will always be so valuable to me because of their influence on my life! I am thankful to so many and will forever be so appreciative.

— Tim Rasnic
PLC 1982-1983,
PLC Adviser 1983-1984

Visit the new PLC website at plc.ou.edu.
Dear PLC Alumni,

As you know, I am very proud of our President’s Leadership Class programs and of all our PLC Alumni. PLC continues strong traditions that many of you will remember from your days at OU, including the welcome luncheon that Molly and I host for PLC students and their parents, the annual retreat at Lake Texoma, and dinner with the Governor at the Governor’s Mansion. New traditions include very lively leadership discussions with OU women’s basketball coach Sherri Coale and football coach Bob Stoops. Our students also enjoy an annual dessert gathering with the OU Provost and Deans.

Each year, PLC also sponsors special programs like this year’s event with the hosts of the television show “Flashpoint” and the Valentine program on relationships. Traditions include very lively leadership discussions with OU students and their parents, the annual retreat at Lake Texoma, and dinner with the Governor at the Governor’s Mansion. New traditions include very lively leadership discussions with OU women’s basketball coach Sherri Coale and football coach Bob Stoops. Our students also enjoy an annual dessert gathering with the OU Provost and Deans.

Your continued involvement in PLC will enrich the experience of new generations of OU leaders.

Sincerely,

David L. Boren
President of the University of Oklahoma

— Michael and Katy (Quinn) Powers

PLC 1988-1989

PLC Advisor 1989-1990

Get Ready for the 50-Year Reunion in Fall of 2011!

More information will be coming soon!

Letter from President Boren

PLC 1988-1989

Michael and Katy (Quinn) Powers

PLC Advisor 1989-1990

2008-09 Burr Scholars

The 2008-09 Burr Scholars, pictured above, serve as mentors to the incoming PLC class. The Burr Scholars award recognizes former PLC members for outstanding leadership and service. The Burr Scholars attend the annual PLC retreat in the fall, participate in meetings, keep in contact with their mentees and help encourage the PLC class throughout their freshman year.

First Lawton Intern Named

Jane England Lawton, a member of the 1962 PLC Class, passed away unexpectedly on Nov. 29, 2007. Jane was a member of the 1962 President’s Leadership Class at OU, president of Kappa Kappa Gamma, a member of Mortar Board and Phi Beta Kappa and graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Oklahoma in 1966. At the time of her death, Jane was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, a political leader, a wife and mother, and a wonderful friend to many. Jane’s family and friends have honored Jane with a scholarship in her memory at the University of Oklahoma. The scholarship established an internship position to be awarded to a current student who is a former member of the President’s Leadership Class. The Jane E. Lawton Intern plans activities for President’s Leadership Class members after their freshman year and spearheads an outreach program to keep this prestigious group in communication in future years. Jane’s friends believe this award truly perpetuates Jane’s memory. Jane was always reaching out to people and making every effort to connect them with one another.

This year, Allison Hay was selected as the first intern. She has already scheduled class reunions for each of our sophomore, junior and senior classes. She also has worked to design an official PLC Alumni T-shirt that you can order in the attached form.

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