Dear Friend of B-CU Trustee J.F. Bryan Presents Funds for Scholarships

Mr. John W. Donahoo, Jr., recently visited the B-CU campus to present a check for $5,000 from the Raymond Prahl Trust. It is the first installment of a $50,000 pledge that establishes the J. F. Bryan Summer Scholars Award, an annual scholarship that will be used to support five students attending B-CU for summer classes.

The scholarship was named in honor of B-CU Trustee J. F. Bryan in recognition of the honorary Doctorate of Finance degree he received at B-CU’s 2011 commencement in May.

“We are so grateful to Mr. Donahoo and the Raymond Prahl Trust,” noted President Trudie Kibbe Reed, following his visit. “It is through generous gifts such as this that we are able to provide opportunities to our students who may otherwise be unable to afford an education.”

Donahoo is an attorney specializing in probate and trust law. He was admitted to the bar in 1966. In 2000, he was honored as Outstanding Volunteer Fund-raiser at the National Philanthropy Day awards in Jacksonville.

This is the largest gift from the Prahl Trust, for which Mr. Donahoo is the trustee. Prior gifts went to support the University’s general scholarship fund.

Mr. Donahoo and Trustee Bryan are longtime friends and are godparents to each other’s children. During this first visit to Daytona Beach in a decade, Donahoo said he was impressed with the education corridor along International Speedway Blvd. and the many positive changes that have taken place on campus over the years.

B-CU’s Blair Participates In Center For Coaching Excellence
Lady Wildcat Head Coach One Of 28 Nationwide Participants

B-CU Head Women’s Basketball Coach Vanessa Blair was one of 28 coaches from across the nation selected to participate in the inaugural session of The Center for Coaching Excellence (CCE).

The invitation-only two-and-a-half day elite leadership-training program was held at Columbia University in New York in conjunction with the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association in an effort to introduce the coaches of women's basketball to various aspects of leadership, and provide a deeper understanding and appreciation of the importance of ethics and integrity.

Utilizing collaborative and interactive learning sessions along with lectures and panel discussions featuring experts in college athletics, the CCE provided attendees valuable networking opportunities with their peers and top industry leaders.

“Attending this conference was an amazing experience,” Blair said. “I learned many different ideas that will help to continue to foster the integrity of the women’s basketball program. I was able to listen and learn from other head coaches from around the country about their successes and struggles.

“We were able to hear from panelists of athletic directors, commissioners, coaches and former student-athletes about how to continue to grow our game in a positive direction with integrity,” Blair added.

Blair, the 2010 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Coach Of The Year, is beginning her fourth season at B-CU.
In addition to celebrating Wildcat Pride and enjoying one another’s company, there were many events held to honor recent accomplishments, traditions and successes at the 2011 B-CU National Alumni Association (NAA) Annual Convention that took place in Nassau, Bahamas.

At the coronation event, Jamie Bain (center) of West Palm Beach was crowned Ms. NAA, Chiquita Davis (left) of Miami was crowned Ms. Gold, and Deanna George of Lake City was crowned Ms. Maroon. They are pictured with B-CU President Trudie Kibbe Reed and NAA President Ray Brinson.

Representatives from Bahamasair were presented with the Mary McLeod Bethune Corporate Recognition Award. Pictured left to right: H. Van Diah of Bahamasair; B-CU President Trudie Kibbe Reed; Woodrow ”Woody” Wilson of Bahamasair; and Ray Brinson, president of the NAA.

Evelyn Walker, past president of the NAA, Ray Brinson, current president of the NAA, B-CU and President Trudie Kibbe Reed presented B-CU Trustee Emeritus Dr. Patrick Roberts with the Mary McLeod Bethune Visionary Award.

The Palm Beach County Alumni Chapter was presented with the Outstanding Chapter of the Year award.

Congresswoman Frederica Wilson was honored with the Mary McLeod Bethune Visionary Award. Pictured, left to right: Lyndell Mims; Ray Brinson, president of B-CU NAA; Kimberly Simmons Ms. B-CU NAA Queen 2010-11; Congresswoman Wilson; B-CU President Trudie Kibbe Reed; Evelyn Walker, past president of B-CU NAA; and Gladezz McCoy, Ms. Maroon 2010.

National Alumni Association President Ray Brinson addresses the crowd at the welcome reception.