Gregory A. LeVert (MBA ‘72) knows how hard it is to study for classes and pursue a career at the same time. It requires both dedication and support, which is why LeVert made a gift that has been contributing to student scholarships for nearly a decade. “I empathize with students who work all day and attend school at night,” says LeVert, who worked at Xerox Corp. in Chicago while attending Loyola. “I had a family and other responsibilities when I was in school, so there was no way for me to stop working.”

Over the last 10 years, LeVert, a member of the University’s board of trustees, has helped many other students achieve their educational goals. In June 1999, LeVert made a gift of $100,000 to establish the Gregory A. LeVert Scholarship for the School of Business Administration. To date, that single gift has resulted in $57,650 worth of financial assistance to part-time MBA students who receive no other outside funding.

“Getting my MBA in finance created opportunities for me to enter management at Xerox,” says LeVert, who climbed the ladder at Xerox, rising from sales manager to vice president and then president of a division. Today, LeVert is an entrepreneur in financial investments and the retired chairman of Concentrix Corporation in Lake Forest. LeVert was previously president of business and consumer markets for LDDS Metromedia, later renamed LDDS WorldCom. Prior to that, he was president of MCI National Accounts, a Chicago-based operating unit of MCI Communications.

Loyola launches capital campaign

On September 20, 2008, Loyola launched its biggest fund-raising campaign to date. Partner: The Campaign for the Future of Loyola seeks to raise $500 million to support student scholarships, medical research, new facilities, and other key initiatives for Loyola University Chicago and the Loyola University Health System.

At the campaign launch gala held on a beautiful fall evening near Loyola’s Water Tower Campus, Presidents Michael J. Garanzini, S.J., and Dr. Paul Whelton announced that, thanks to dedicated supporters, Loyola had already raised $270 million. The campaign promises to continue Loyola’s extraordinary recent momentum and usher in a new age of learning and health care in Chicago. For more information, please visit LUC.edu/partner.
“Loyola gave me the foundation to pursue a rewarding business career and I want to help others do the same,” says LeVert. “I’ve had the privilege of meeting some of the recipients and they’re very sharp. It’s a joy to see them succeed.”

LeVert Scholar Chandra Littooy graduated in August with specializations in management and international business. She works as a director at Allstate in product operations and is accountable for talent management and organizational development. Littooy used her scholarship to help offset costs for studying abroad this past summer in Beijing, where she took a class in comparative consumer behavior. “Having an MBA creates more options,” she says. “I have more opportunities to stay in my current field or to pursue other career paths. That kind of flexibility is really essential in today’s marketplace.”

Guy Pieroni, a LeVert Scholar and business student at Loyola

Guy Pieroni is a LeVert Scholar this year. The scholarship allowed the BP manager to take an extra class this past summer. “It will allow me to graduate earlier,” says Pieroni, who is specializing in international business. “The MBA from Loyola will give me the opportunity to advance within my organization. I’ll stand out among my peers as a student who went the extra mile to get an advanced degree.” With help from Gregory LeVert, that extra mile got a little bit smoother.

Good news—the tax-free IRA charitable rollover is back!

The special opportunity that expired at the end of 2007 has been extended to 12/31/09.

According to this new legislation, such gifts can:

1. Count toward your required minimum distributions, and
2. Be excluded from your gross income: a tax-free rollover

For your gift to Loyola to qualify for benefits under the extension:

- You must be 70½ or older at the time of the gift
- Your transfer must go directly from the IRA to Loyola University Chicago
- Your total IRA gift cannot exceed $100,000 per year
- Your gift must be outright

Please let us help you plan your gifts to Loyola in a way that will make best use of your support while improving your financial outlook. Return the enclosed reply card for more information. We also invite you to contact us at 312.915.6424 to let us know how we can help.
Often, people are surprised to learn that there are many ways to make a gift to charity and receive a stream of income in the process. You may have been vaguely aware of the possibilities but never examined in detail how such a charitable gift could fit your own long-term financial needs. The current period of low interest rates makes several of these charitable planning strategies more appealing than ever.

The oldest and most popular gift arrangement is the charitable gift annuity, which returns to the donor—or one or two beneficiaries—a stream of income for life, based on a fixed percentage of the amount of the gift.

The rate in effect when you acquire a gift annuity changes. It is guaranteed for life.

In light of current market conditions, gift annuity rates are very appealing. But there are other factors that enhance them even more. You receive a deduction in the year you fund the annuity, and each year—for the duration of your life expectancy—a portion of each payment you receive is tax-free. These tax benefits effectively increase your yield, as the following example demonstrates.

Example: Mary J, 70, contributes $10,000 to Loyola in exchange for a gift annuity that will pay her $610 annually. The gift produces an income-tax deduction of $3,712 that, in her 28 percent marginal income-tax bracket, saves her $1,039 (28 percent of $3,712). Thus, her out-of-pocket cost for the annuity is $8,961, and the $610 annual payment to her is equivalent to a 6.8 percent return.

Because part of the annual payment Mary J receives from the annuity is tax-free ($395 of the $610 is not taxed), her return is the equivalent of $764 of taxable income. Measured against her out-of-pocket cost ($8,961), this represents an equivalent, fully taxable yield of 8.5 percent.

You should not select a gift annuity merely for a higher return, since you are irrevocably committing the principal to us. But if you are looking for a way to make a significant gift and generate increased cash flow, gift annuities are very appealing—perhaps even more so in current economic conditions.

Gifts of bonds avoid capital-gain tax

As interest rates fall, the price of bonds goes up. The reason: Since bonds pay a fixed amount of interest, the bond market is seeking price levels where the yield-on-investment more closely reflects current returns on other investments. That means higher bond prices.

For example, a long-term bond with a face value of $175,000 and a coupon rate of 10 percent issued a number of years ago will pay $17,500 interest each year, regardless of its market value. Because the 10 percent nominal rate is significantly higher than current rates, investors are willing to pay a premium—perhaps more than $250,000—to get the bond’s $17,500 annual income. Those who bought high-interest bonds at par several years ago have probably seen their value go up substantially—if they haven’t been called in the meantime. This is the good news.

The bad news comes in two parts. First, if an investor holds on to

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Save the date!

Doris Kearns Goodwin, “Lincoln and Leadership”
Wednesday, February 11, 2009
7:00 p.m. in Madonna della Strada Chapel, Lake Shore Campus

The centerpiece of Loyola’s celebration of Lincoln’s Bicentennial will be a presentation on “Lincoln and Leadership” by award-winning and best-selling author Doris Kearns Goodwin on the evening of Lincoln’s 200th birthday, February 11, 2009. Ms. Goodwin will make her presentation in Madonna della Strada and will be followed with a reception. Tickets are free and will be available to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

Accordingly, they structure the trust to pay themselves $15,000 each year (6 percent of $250,000) as long as either of them lives. After their deaths, the principal will pass to Loyola.

The gift produces a charitable tax deduction of $95,775. In their 35 percent marginal income-tax bracket, this saves them more than $33,500 in taxes (35 percent of $95,775). Tom and Ruth invest the tax savings at an average of 5 percent to generate an additional $1,675 of income.

If you have highly appreciated bonds and are not concerned with receiving a return from your gift, you would still find them an excellent choice for an outright gift. You can deduct the full fair-market value of a bond given outright and avoid any tax on the appreciation. This is another wonderful way to capture the benefits of a bond’s increase in value while supporting Loyola.

Call on us
For further information about opportunities during a period of low interest rates, please return the enclosed card for your complimentary copy of Charitable Solutions to Investment Dilemmas.

Ready to help you
When you have questions about making a gift to Loyola University Chicago, the Planned Giving team is ready to answer them.

Please call or write us at:
Loyola University Chicago
Office of Planned Giving
820 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

LUC.edu/plannedgiving
800.424.1513
plannedgiving@luc.edu

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