2009-10 Bates Fund Highlights

- The Bates Fund achieved a 10% increase in dollars and a nearly 11% increase in the number of donors over last year, outperforming nearly all peer schools in FY08-FY10 dollar and participation growth.
- After several years of slow growth, alumni participation grew from 41% to 44% thanks to 7,600 alumni who made gifts to the 2009-10 Bates Fund.
- Bates’ 40 Trustees stepped forward earlier than ever before in the year with their pledges and gifts to the 2009-10 Fund, hitting 100% Bates Fund participation in October.
- Bates Fund gifts from the ten most recent classes increased 75% over last year; BOLD (Bobcats of the Last Decade) participation increased from 31% to 36%. An impressive 623 BOLD donors made a gift in March as a result of our successful March Mania competition.
- Comprising a remarkable 25% of the total Bates Fund, the Bates Parents Fund increased nearly 17% over last year.
- Bates retained 82% of donors who had given the previous year – an improvement over last year’s rate of 76% - and our best retention rate in the past five years.
- The number of active staff and volunteer solicitors increased from 162 (FY08) to 375 (FY10).
- A re-formed Bates Fund Executive Committee provided strong leadership throughout the fiscal year, devising new strategies and tactics for all Bates Fund programs.
- Hearing from the students who benefit from their philanthropy, nearly 300 alumni, parents, and staff who give generously to the Bates Fund attended spring Mount David Society gatherings in Boston, New York, Hartford, and campus.