



# SHARE THE VISION

CAMPAIGN FOR SAM HOUSTON

A Newsletter of the SHSU Capital Campaign

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## Campaign Off To Strong Start

A “grand old university” has undertaken a great new challenge.

Sam Houston State University formally kicked off its “Share the Vision” capital campaign on March 30, the first such undertaking in its 127-year history.

James F. Gaertner, SHSU president, announced that in the next five years the school that was founded in 1879 as the first teacher-training institution in the Southwest will ask its alumni and friends to raise a total of \$50 million.

Gaertner called the kickoff dinner attended by 270 donors and potential donors in the Lowman Student Center ballroom “a pivotal moment that will change the face of Sam Houston State University forever.”

Gaertner, who often refers to Sam Houston State as a “grand old university,” also announced that actual gifts and firm commitments of \$24,761,948 have already been lined up, including a pledge of \$2 million from Dan and Jean Rather.

After the audience viewed a 10-minute “Share the Vision” video that spelled out how the \$50 million will be used, Gaertner announced that Ron Mafrige of Houston had accepted the position of campaign chair.



*Leading Sam Houston State University's effort to raise \$50 million over the next five years in its first-ever capital campaign will be, from left, Ron Mafrige, campaign chair, Thelma Mooney, director of development, James F. Gaertner, SHSU president, and Frank Holmes, vice president for university advancement.*

Calling him “nothing short of a hero,” and a “tremendously generous supporter of the College of Business Administration and SHSU athletics,” Gaertner said that in past years Mafrige has given more than \$1 million and has committed another \$1.35 million to the capital campaign.

Mafrige told the audience that with SHSU's state appropriation falling below a third of its total budget, the campaign is necessary to assure that no student is denied the opportunity to receive a SHSU

education due to lack of financial resources.

“I love this university,” said Mafrige. “I believe that we have the alumni and friends who have this university in their hearts to make this goal.”

Mafrige said his personal giving philosophy is that it is not enough to be born, to accumulate wealth, and to spend it frivolously.

“The measure of an individual is what is left behind for your fellow man,” he said. “I can't think of a better way to do that than to help young people get an education.”

## Mafrige To Lead The Charge As National Campaign Chair

Being the chairman of a university's capital campaign is a huge task. Being the chairman of a university's first ever capital campaign might be overwhelming for even the strongest of heart. But university officials knew that Ron Mafrige, BBA '60, was the person they could count on to step up and accept the challenge.

"Sam Houston State University is dedicated to helping all students realize their full potential as contributing members of society," said Mafrige.



"I believe in the university, and I believe that with adequate funding, we can enable Sam Houston State to reach beyond providing a good education for its students, and establish a means by which students can receive an affordable, high-quality education for generations to come.

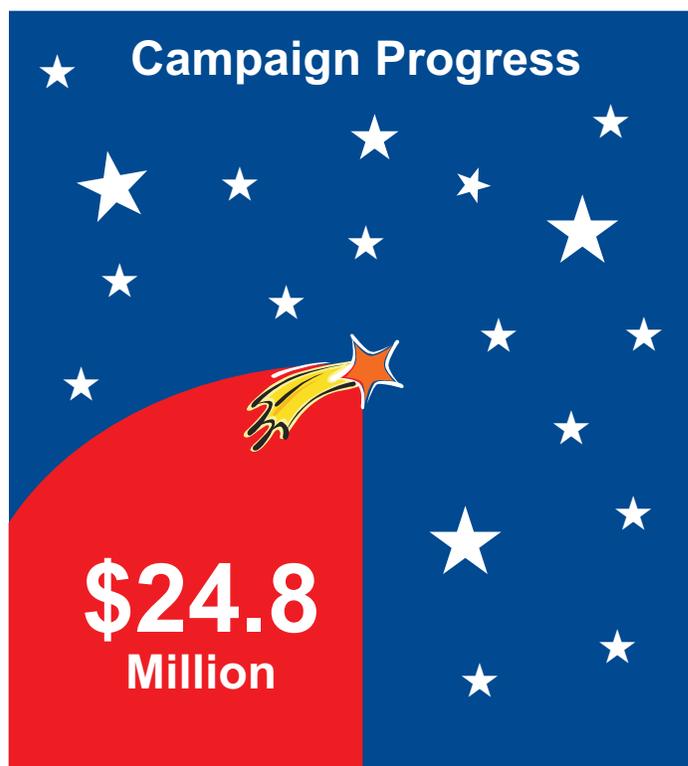
"Larger universities like the University of Texas and Texas A&M have no difficulty in raising this kind of money," said Mafrige. "But for a school the size of Sam Houston State, this is a bold step. We've never tried to do this before, and we need everyone to do their part."

Mafrige, a long time supporter of Sam Houston State University, recently made a capital campaign contribution of \$250,000 for the construction of a new strength and conditioning facility for Sam Houston State athletics.

The new weight room will benefit all 16 of the university's sports, both from a recruiting aspect and in helping to better condition student-athletes.

Mafrige, a Houston businessman, has served on the board of directors for the SHSU Alumni Association, the Kat Pack and the College of Business Administration; is a Life Endowed Member of the Alumni Association; a lifetime member of the T Association Lettermen's Club; and is a 1997 Distinguished Alumnus.

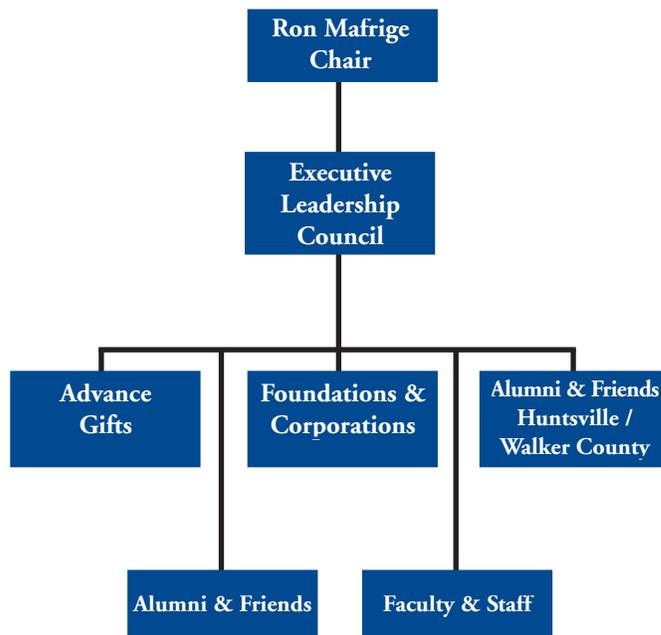
In addition to many financial and gift-in-kind contributions to SHSU, Mafrige and his late wife, Linda, established a \$1 million endowment for the College of Business Administration in the name of Glenn Adams, who was president of his company at the time. The auditorium in the Smith-Hutson Business Building was named in Ron and Linda's honor.



*As of March 31, 2006, commitments of approximately \$24.8 million have been pledged.*

## Campaign Organization

As National Campaign Chair, Ron Mafrige will lead the campaign and its Executive Leadership Council. These top campaign leaders will make pacesetter gifts as well as act as effective solicitors of other major contributions. They will provide leadership while monitoring the progress of the campaign.



# Why Student Scholarship And Program Endowments Are So Important

Myron Balcom of Sour Lake, Texas is a Sam Houston State University alumnus who desired to give something back to his university through the establishment of an endowed scholarship earlier this year.

The Myron A. Balcom Industrial Technology Endowment Fund was created with an initial contribution of \$100,000. As with all of the university's endowed scholarships, a portion of the annual earnings from the permanent endowment will be disbursed as annual scholarship awards, while the remaining portion will be returned to the endowment to allow for its growth.

Sam Houston State's strength in the future depends on building a foundation through endowments today. Endowments are one of the three primary revenue sources for colleges and universities, the other two being public funds and tuition income. As state assistance shrinks

and the costs of higher education rise, private support becomes critical to the university's growth and ability to maintain its standards of excellence.

A long standing tradition of the university is that no deserving student will be denied access to the SHSU experience due to lack of financial resources. The endowment funds that are acquired during the Share the Vision campaign will provide income to award a range of need-based and merit-based scholarships that are essential to enhancing the quality of the university's academic environment.

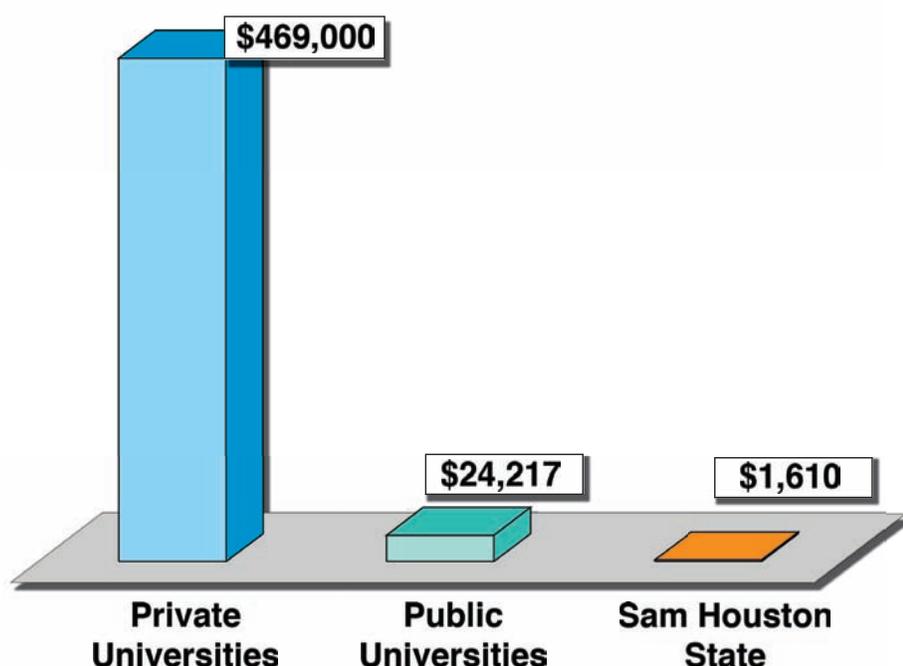
Endowment funds are permanently invested to provide annual income so that SHSU can educate leaders in a wide range of disciplines not only today, but in the future as well.

As with any gift to SHSU, an endowed gift offers alumni and

friends the opportunity to have their names, or the name of a loved one, linked to an area in which they have a special interest.

Scholarships allow SHSU to meet one of its highest obligations: to attract and provide educational opportunities for numerous students. Endowed scholarships are a perpetual reminder of the important role generous donors play in the lives of successive generations of Sam Houston students.

## Average Endowment per Student *Compared to selected Public and Private Universities*



For more information, contact the campaign office at:

Sam Houston State University  
Office of University Advancement  
Box 2537  
Huntsville, Texas 77341-2537  
936.294.3625

**Frank R. Holmes**  
Vice President for University Advancement  
936.294.3625

**Thelma Mooney**  
Director of Development  
936.294.4047

**Darlene K. Andrews**  
Assistant Director of Development for Donor Relations  
936.294.3623

**Cindy Truax**  
Assistant Director of Development for Annual Giving  
936.294.4388

**Bridgette Peres**  
Campaign Coordinator  
936.294.4061

# Campaign Goals & Priorities

The Share the Vision campaign seeks to attract in excess of \$50 million supported by five-year commitments for the following priorities:

*Student Scholarships & Program Endowments*  
**\$10,000,000**

*Faculty & Staff Endowments*  
**\$18,000,000**

*Academic Program Endowments*  
**\$14,000,000**

*Construction Projects*  
**\$5,250,000**

*Program & Project Enhancement Funding*  
**\$2,750,000**



SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT  
Box 2537  
HUNTSVILLE, TX 77341-2537

## Executive Leadership Council

Arnold A. Allemang	Leonard Keeling
Charles E. Amato	Ron P. Koska
James B. Bexley	Roger D. Lawrence
Karey P. Bresenhan	Gibson D. Lewis
Ronald H. Carroll	Ron Mafrige
Kay Deahl	George D. Miles, Jr.
Tim Deahl	Jane C. Monday
Lee Drain	Jack C. Parker
Gary L. Dudley	Kailas Rao
Tom Freeman	Becky L. Rao
Eleanor S. Garrett	Joe B. Sandel
Glenda J. Gordy	Winnie F. Sandel
Richard T. Hendee	Don Sanders
John M. Hoyt	Edwin G. Sandhop
Robert E. Hutson	Randy Stewart
Preston Johnson, Jr.	E. Don Walker, Jr.
Charles W. Jones, III	Carol H. Weller

## *From the Executive Leadership Council*

Years from now, we will look back and see the advancements made on campus through the Share the Vision Campaign knowing that a part of this progress is due to our efforts. It is very gratifying to be involved with this group of people who are making a difference in this university, this community, this state and this nation.



*Winnie Sandel  
Huntsville*



*John Hoyt  
Waco*

I was honored to be asked to serve on the Executive Committee for the capital campaign. My wife, Nancy, and I both have fond memories of Sam Houston. I think it is important that we all strive to take the University's motto to heart. "The measure of a life is its service."

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