



OFFICE OF PLANNED GIVING

Fall greetings from the Office of Planned Giving at the University of Arkansas!

Campus is energized this semester as we welcomed a record-breaking 33,610 students this fall, marking a 4.6% increase in enrollment and a 22% growth over the past five years. This is the fourth consecutive year of record enrollment at the U of A!

The university also continues to excel in student retention, research output, and economic contributions to the state. The U of A recorded a fall-to-spring retention rate of 95%, conducted \$221.5 million in research, and the supply chain management program ranked in the top 10 nationally. Additionally, the Sam M. Walton College of Business was named the **25th Best Undergraduate Business Program** among public institutions by *U.S. News & World Report*.

U of A Provides \$3 Billion Annual Economic Impact to State of Arkansas

The University of Arkansas contributes a remarkable \$3 billion annually to the state's economy through workforce development, applied research, and operational activities. A key initiative supporting this growth is the **Arkansas Business Resource Hub**, launched by the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and the U of A's Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation. This



free platform connects Arkansas entrepreneurs and small business owners with resources, programs, and funding opportunities to help them start or grow their ventures.

Another initiative, the **Entrepreneurial Law Project**, provides free legal aid to Arkansas startups, addressing a common barrier for early-stage ventures. This collaboration between the U of A School of Law and the Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation drew 16 entrepreneurs to a recent event in Little Rock. Funded by grants from the state and the U.S. Economic Development Agency, the project supports entrepreneurs in navigating legal challenges.

Topping-Out Ceremony Held for Anthony Timberlands Center Project



With this impressive growth, the Fayetteville campus continues to expand and transform. In September, a topping out ceremony marked a major milestone for the Anthony Timberlands Center for Design and Materials Innovation, bringing it closer to becoming the U of A's hub for timber and wood initiatives. The new center will house the

Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design's graduate program in timber and wood while serving as a key site for initiatives like affordable housing prototyping.

Endowed Gift Establishes Faculty Fellowship in Business Law

A \$500,000 planned gift will establish the Robert B. Neece Endowed Faculty Fellowship in Business Law at the University of Arkansas School of Law. The fellowship will seek to attract top faculty and enhance university support for teaching, research, and public service. Neece, a distinguished lawyer with the firm Burns Wall Smith and Mueller in Denver, Colorado, was renowned for his expertise in business law, mergers and acquisitions, corporate law, commercial law, and securities. His commitment to both legal practice and academia left a lasting impact on the profession. Read more about this gift [here](#).



There's Still Time to Make your IRA Charitable Rollover Gift!

The university can accept IRA rollover gifts through December 31 to process the gift for the 2024 tax year. If you're a retiree over 70 1/2, you can have your IRA custodian make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) of up to \$105,000 directly to the University of Arkansas Foundation, Inc. to avoid paying income tax on that portion of your IRA and make a beneficial difference on campus through your gift. An IRA rollover also counts toward any required minimum distribution you may need to take.

An IRA charitable rollover offers several benefits. You can avoid taxes on transfers up to \$105,000 from your IRA to the University of Arkansas, potentially satisfying your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year. This can reduce your taxable income even if you don't itemize deductions. Additionally, you can make a gift without being limited by the usual charitable deduction caps.

And remember that while the tax benefits of an IRA rollover gift can certainly be helpful, the most meaningful benefit is the good feeling received knowing you made a positive impact on campus through your generosity. You can reduce your taxable income and support causes at the U of A that matter most to you!

For questions about how to make a QCD from your IRA, or about making a planned gift of any size, please contact us by calling 479-575-7271 or emailing legacy@uark.edu. We're here to help.

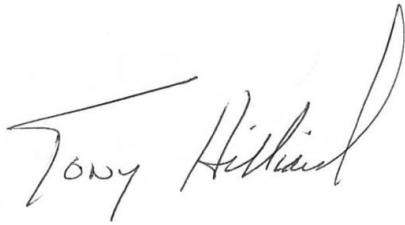
Remember to follow us on **Facebook** for timely news, updates, and information about campus events.

Thank you for your interest in planned giving and look for our next e-newsletter in January 2025!

Office of Planned Giving

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Krest". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachel Krest, Executive Director



Tony Hilliard, Senior Director



Tammy Knowles, Assistant Director

Thank you for your interest in planned giving. To access any of our resources, please go to our [website](#).



FREE ESTATE PLANNING GUIDE

It's never too late to plan for the people and causes you care about. Our easy-to-use estate planning guide can help you gather the information you need before meeting with your attorney.



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