

FCR 17

Office of the President
June 11, 2002

Members, Board of Trustees:

GIFTS AND PLEDGES FOR GIFFORD S. BLYTON PROFESSORSHIP

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees accept gifts and pledges totaling \$197,926 from 60 donors to create and endow the Gifford S. Blyton Endowed Professorship in Oral Communications and Forensics in the College of Communications and Information Studies.

Background: Friends, colleagues and former students, especially debate team members, have made the gifts and pledges to honor Dr. Blyton, who began teaching at UK in 1948 and retired in 1975. He was the debate team coach throughout his tenure. Dr. Blyton, now 93, lives in Lexington and remains as parliamentarian of the University Senate. Many of the contributors attribute much of their success to the public speaking skills learned in the debate program and in Dr. Blyton's classes on public speaking and persuasive argumentation. The gifts and pledges are eligible for matching funds from the state's Research Challenge Trust Fund.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other_____