

the TAMARISK SOCIETY

Transforming the Lives of Future Generations | Fall 2015

SEE THE WORLD

as You've Always Pictured It



With apologies to Louis Armstrong, you may not see the world as wonderful as it could be—yet. That's why you've spent a good portion of your life doing what you could to help your favorite charities and educational institutions, like Oklahoma Baptist University. Thankfully, you're not the only one: About 90 percent of Americans over 40 make a contribution to at least one nonprofit each year.*

That takes care of the here and now, but what happens after you're gone? Do you ever get the nagging sense that you could do more, despite the obligations you already have?

Through a form of charitable giving called gift planning, you can use resources other than cash to continue the support you offer today—or even extend it beyond your lifetime.

Popular gift planning options include leaving Oklahoma Baptist University a percentage of your estate in your will, designating a portion of your retirement plan assets or life insurance to us, or using assets such as stock to fund a gift now—all options that don't affect your income today and that can offer tax benefits to you or your heirs.

LEARN MORE

By planning a gift that will serve as a lasting testament to your values, your support can be invested so it's available when our needs are greatest, to make a bigger difference than you ever thought possible. Contact us or visit www.okbu.edu/giving/tamarisk-society to learn more about the many ways you can extend the reach of your philanthropy.

*Source: "2009 Stelter Donor Insight Report"

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Q&A: How to Increase Your Income and Support OBU

Help Students While Providing for Your Loved Ones

OBU Helps You Prepare

HOW DO I PLAN A GIFT?

By taking a look at your long-term estate and financial plans with your professional advisors, you can determine what resources you need to feel secure about your future and what you hope to give to loved ones. Then, if you would like to make sure your favorite causes are provided for as well, your advisors can suggest charitable giving strategies that are a good fit for you.





Q&A:

HOW TO INCREASE YOUR INCOME AND SUPPORT OBU

Q. I'd like to increase my income, but I'm also considering a donation to Oklahoma Baptist University. Is there a trust I can create that will satisfy both of these desires?

A. YES! The charitable remainder trust will pay you an income for life or for a period of up to 20 years with the trust balance then going to the charitable organization of your choice. And if you fund the trust with stock that is worth more now than when you purchased it, you'll receive even greater tax benefits.

Example: Joan, 75, owns stock worth \$100,000 that pays a dividend of only \$2,000 a year. Worried about the market, she gives the shares to a charitable remainder annuity trust and elects to receive \$5,000 a year as long as she lives. Though her cost basis for the shares is \$60,000, neither she nor the trust owes any up-front capital gains tax on the \$40,000 appreciation.



NOW LOOK AT JOAN'S REMARKABLE BENEFITS:

- She unloaded her risky stock and more than doubled her income.
- At a tax rate of 15 percent, she eliminated a tax of \$6,000 on the capital gains by not selling the stock.
- She has entitled herself to an income tax charitable deduction of \$53,706* that will cut her taxes for several years.
- She helped support OBU students for years to come.

*Based on annual payments and a 2.4 percent charitable midterm federal rate. Deductions vary based on income earned.



If you would like to learn more about this beneficial way to give, please give us a call at **405.585.5412** or email development@okbu.edu. We would be happy to help.

With a charitable remainder trust, you can count on income for the rest of your life and help provide opportunities for OBU students and faculty.

HELP STUDENTS WHILE PROVIDING FOR YOUR LOVED ONES

Remember OBU in Your Will or Living Trust

An up-to-date estate plan is one of your most effective tools for protecting the security of your loved ones. But did you know that you also can use your estate plans to support Oklahoma Baptist University?

When you include a gift to OBU in your will or living trust, you join a group of instrumental supporters whose donations have made possible some of our most innovative and effective programs.

HOW IT WORKS

Your estate planning attorney can help you structure a gift to us so your loved ones also will be taken care of after you're gone. As little as one sentence, called bequest language, in your will or living trust is all that is needed. You can give a certain amount of cash, securities or property, or you can give a percentage amount.

If you choose to give OBU a percentage of what is left of your estate after other beneficiaries have received their share, your gift will remain proportional to the size of your estate, no matter how it fluctuates. After your lifetime, OBU will use your gift to sustain and expand academic opportunities and resources to students.



Please fill out and return the enclosed reply card if you have any questions or wish to receive our official bequest language. We're happy to help, with no obligation.



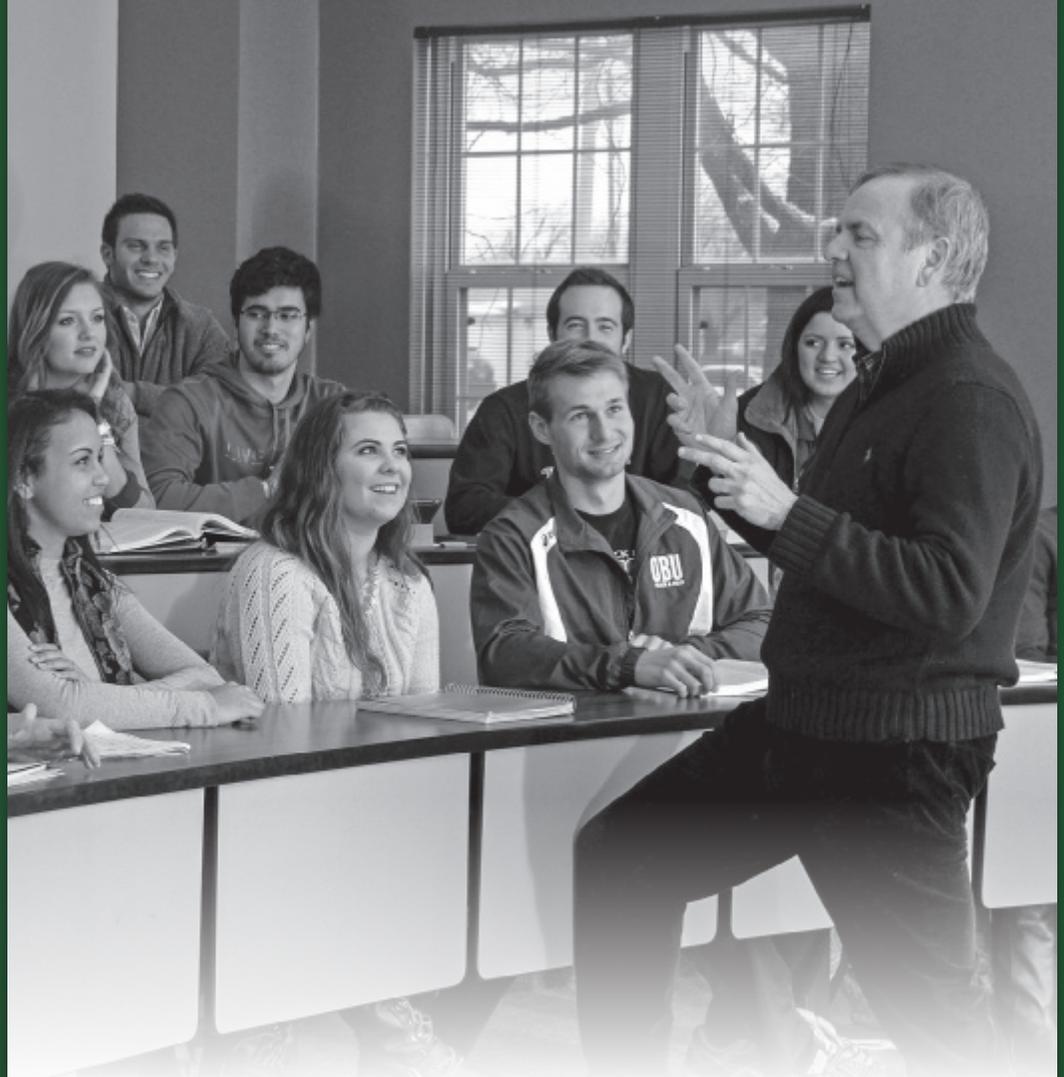
Make a Gift in Your Will If:

- You want to continue supporting OBU after your lifetime.
- You have a will or living trust, or are ready to create one.
- You want to make a charitable gift while ensuring family is taken care of first.
- You want to maintain the flexibility to change your mind at any time.



WHAT GOES IN YOUR EVACUATION BOX?

- Birth certificates and passports
- A marriage license and/or divorce decree
- Social Security cards
- Wills
- Powers of attorney
- Insurance policies
- Property deeds
- A list of current financial accounts and copies of credit cards
- Contact information for your attorney, insurance agent, bank, financial advisor, doctor, friends and family
- Sufficient cash to get you through a few days



OBU HELPS YOU PREPARE for the Unexpected

When extreme weather or an unexpected emergency comes knocking at your door, the last thing you want to do is spend precious time searching the house for important documents. Consider putting together an evacuation box today.

You can easily organize a lockable evacuation box or small waterproof suitcase—something that is easily transportable. Keep the box in a central location, preferably somewhere you can grab it quickly.

KEEP IT CURRENT

Make sure at least one other trusted individual knows the location of your evacuation box and how to access its contents. Because it's only good if it's up to date, your evacuation box should be revisited each year or when major changes occur.

When updating and organizing your important documents, we hope you'll consider including a gift to Oklahoma Baptist University in your estate plan. Visit our website at www.okbu.edu/tamarisk-society to learn more about the impact your gift can have on OBU.



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Irrevocable vs. Revocable Planned Gifts

Now that you've reviewed the assets and methods you can use to create a gift, consider whether you prefer a gift you make today—with immediate tax benefits—or a future gift that you can amend or revoke if circumstances change.

Irrevocable Gifts

- *Current gifts of securities and real estate:* These gifts result in a charitable deduction on your income tax return if you itemize.
- *Charitable lead trust:* In most cases, this arrangement offers gift or estate tax benefits to those with sizable estates.
- *Life estate agreement:* This agreement offers a current income tax deduction even though we won't take possession of the property until after your lifetime.

- *Life income gifts:* These gifts offer an income tax benefit, too, and in addition they can provide you with even more advantages, including income for life. Some of the life income plans offer predictable, fixed payments and some provide variable payments to help offset inflation.

Revocable Gifts

When you include a bequest in your will or trust or arrange to give your retirement plan to us after your lifetime, we receive the assets at some time in the future. Of course, you can change your mind at any point during your lifetime, so these gifts do not offer current income tax benefits.

Before making any type of planned gift, we urge you to discuss your considerations with your personal financial or tax advisor.

Contact Us

If you have any questions regarding the topics discussed in this guide, please don't hesitate to contact us for a no-obligation, confidential consultation on these important matters. We'd love to hear from you.

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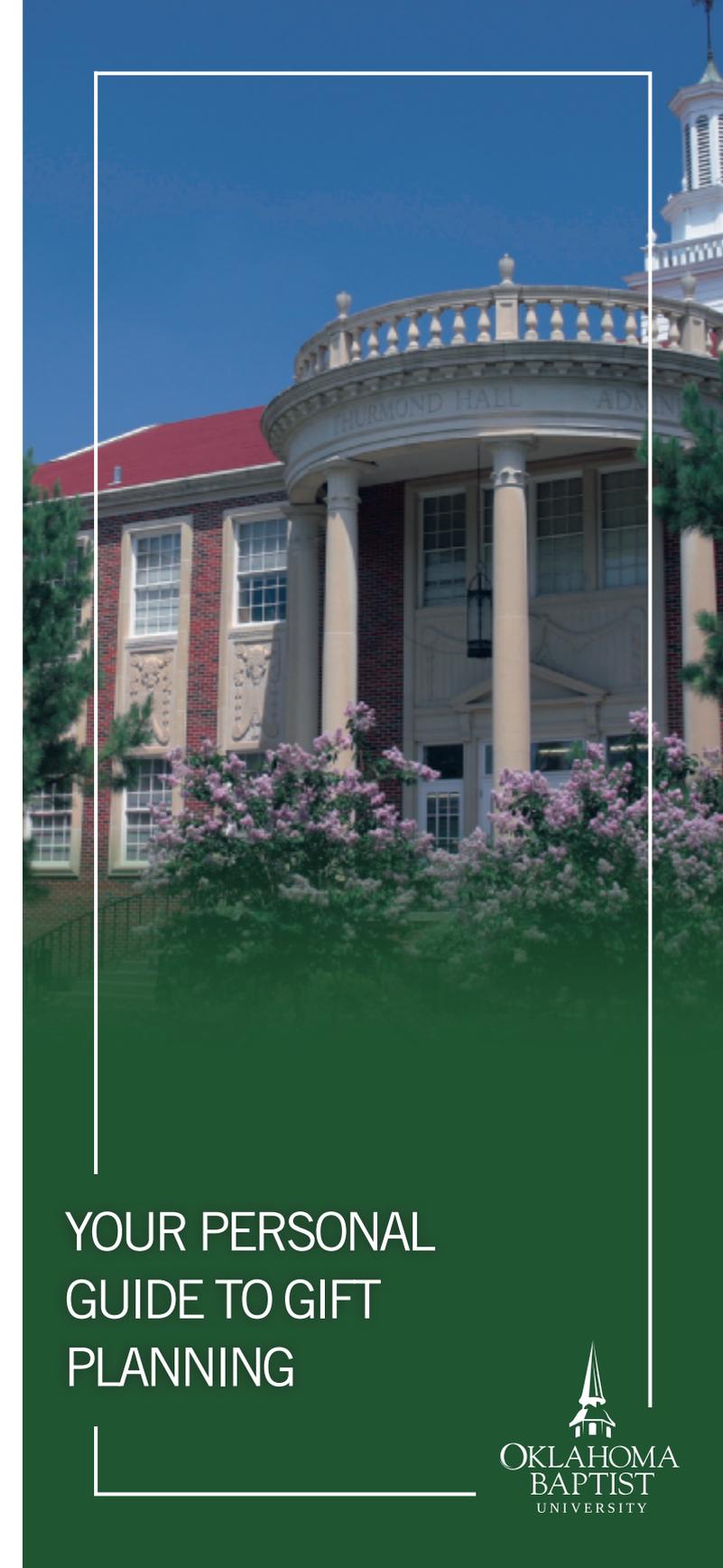


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YOUR PERSONAL
GUIDE TO GIFT
PLANNING



Would You Give, and Give More, if You Could?

Sometimes it's difficult to be charitable when your budget is tight and the future is uncertain—after all, your family comes first. But there is a way to make a significant gift that takes into account tax-saving strategies and income-producing assets. These types of gifts are called planned gifts.

Gift planning is thoughtfully selecting—from a menu of gift-giving opportunities—a charitable gift that is also favorable to you. While its primary purpose is to help the charitable cause of your choice, its secondary purpose may be for you to enjoy the personal financial or family benefits that certain plans can provide you.

Planned gifts can be made now, to immediately support our needs, or they can be enacted upon your death, as a final way to leave your legacy.

A Menu of Choices and Tax Benefits

To give you an idea of what sorts of gifts and benefits are available through gift planning, we've compiled the chart at right for your review.

As you can see, your choices are many. And no matter which planned gift you choose, you get peace of mind knowing that your careful planning makes a big difference in the lives of those we serve. After you review the chart, flip this guide over for a few additional elements to consider when thinking about making a planned gift.



GIFT TYPE	HOW IT'S DONE	YOUR ADVANTAGES
Current Gift A donation you make now can be used promptly to meet our urgent needs.		
Securities or real estate Bargain sale Charitable lead trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Give appreciated assets you have owned longer than one year. ■ Sell to us, below market value, real estate you have owned longer than one year. ■ Fund a trust you create that provides payments to us for a term of years, then pays the remainder to family members or beneficiaries of your choice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ You receive income tax and capital gains tax benefits. ■ This is part gift and part sale. You receive a partial tax deduction and eliminate capital gains tax on appreciation attributable to the gift portion. ■ This is a smart way for anyone in high estate and gift tax brackets to benefit us and pass principal to others with reduced estate or gift taxes.
Deferred Gift A deferred gift is a planned contribution that you arrange now to benefit us later—perhaps after your lifetime.		
Bequest Retirement plan Life estate agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Through your will or living trust, give us money, property or a share of your estate's residue. ■ Name us as primary beneficiary of a percentage or all of your retirement plan or IRA. ■ Deed to us your personal residence or farm now, but retain the right to live there for life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ It is revocable at any time and allows you to keep your assets should you need them during your lifetime. ■ This gift eliminates income taxation on distributions after your lifetime. Plus, it's revocable. ■ You avoid the hassles of selling, and you secure income tax savings now.
Life Income Gift This gift plan ensures you (and even a survivor) an income for life, as well as substantial tax savings.		
Charitable remainder trust Charitable gift annuity <small>(where available)</small>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ After you obtain income for life from assets you place in a trust, we receive the remainder. ■ You agree to make a gift of cash or other assets and, in return, we provide you with lifetime payments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ You receive tax benefits and fixed or variable payments for life. ■ You receive tax benefits and fixed payments for life.