

**Nonprofit and Public Management Center eNewsletter**

*Practical Insights for Future Leaders*

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**AT THE CENTER**

**Fundraising Building Blocks for Board Members and Volunteers**

**Tuesday, January 13, 4:30-6 p.m., Room 1230, Ford School of Public Policy**

The thought of asking people for money awakens fear in even the boldest of board members. Volunteers willingly give their time but don't always feel comfortable with activities focused on giving. Misinformation and occasional bad behavior by fundraisers has tainted what should be a noble activity: securing resources to realize an organization's mission. This session will explore how the fundraising world is changing, how board members can contribute to effective fundraising, and best practices for philanthropy in the nonprofit sector. Please join Shelley Strickland, UM Development Office educational researcher and experienced development officer who has provided training on fundraising for nonprofit organizations, for an interactive and informative discussion.

**AROUND CAMPUS AND TOWN**

**Distinguished Speaker: Dr. Tadataka Yamada, Gates Foundation**

**Tuesday, January 20, 5:00 p.m., Blau Auditorium, Ross School of Business**

Dr. Tadataka (Tachi) Yamada is President of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Global Health Program. In this capacity he oversees grants totaling over \$7 billion in programs directed at applying technologies to address major health challenges of the developing world including TB, HIV, malaria and other infectious diseases, malnutrition and maternal and child health. For Dr. Yamada's full biography, please visit: <http://wdi.umich.edu/Events/331/>. Sponsored by the William Davidson Institute.

**Ross Net Impact Forum 2009: Next Practices to Address Future Challenges  
January 29 & 30, Ross School of Business and the Michigan League**

This year's Forum will explore the changing role of business in society given recent economic challenges and political changes. Corporations across the globe are increasingly recognizing the value of incorporating social and environmental issues into their core strategies, and are now seeking the tools to implement real, positive change. For more information and to register, please visit: <http://webuser.bus.umich.edu/Organizations/netimpact/forum2009.html>.

**Ross Net Impact Wal-Mart Better Living Business Case Competition  
Executive Summaries due January 16, 2009**

The Wal-Mart Better Living Business Plan Challenge provides a forum for students to showcase their best ideas and to help Wal-Mart learn from some of the brightest minds in the world. The competition challenges students to invent sustainable products or develop sustainable business solutions and present them to a panel of Wal-Mart executives, suppliers, and environmental organizations. In addition to gaining an audience with some of the top business and sustainability leaders in the United States, the team from the winning school will receive \$20,000 to invest in their business or product. For more information, please visit: [http://webuser.bus.umich.edu/Organizations/netimpact/forum2009/walmart\\_competition.html](http://webuser.bus.umich.edu/Organizations/netimpact/forum2009/walmart_competition.html).

**2009 Global Social Venture Competition  
Executive Summaries due January 21, 2009**

The Global Social Venture Competition (GSVC) is seeking promising social entrepreneurs to enter their 2009 competition. If you are an entrepreneur (or budding entrepreneur!) with a financially sustainable venture that addresses a social or environmental problem, you may consider applying. Winning plans in the past have ranged from global health to microfinance, from cleantech to education, from fair trade to community development, from business concepts to operating companies, and have included for-profit and non-profit models. The GSVC has provided nearly \$500,000 in seed-money to thirty social ventures over the past ten years, as well as over 16,000 hours of mentoring from seasoned professional in various industries. Please visit their website for more information: <http://gsvc.org>.

**Vodafone Wireless Innovation Challenge  
Applications due February 2, 2009**

The Vodafone Americas Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of their Wireless Innovation Challenge, a new competition that seeks to identify and fund the best innovations using wireless related technology to address critical social issues around the world. Three winners will be awarded prizes of \$300,000, \$200,000 and \$100,000 for unique, late-stage wireless innovations that offer the best potential for creating social change in the areas of education, health, economic development, the environment and access to communication. Please visit their website for more information: <http://challenge.vodafone-us.com/>.

## IN THE NEWS

### **Seasons' Giving: Americans Still Generous to Nonprofits**

*University of Michigan News Service*

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—The recession is putting a strain on many household budgets, but Americans still remain generous during the holidays to help those less fortunate, a University of Michigan researcher says.

Nonprofit organizations need more money and contributions, especially during this time of economic uncertainty, said H. Luke Shaefer, an assistant professor at the U-M School of Social Work.

"This is a particularly important time for giving, as many agencies raise a significant amount of their budgets from holiday appeals," said Shaefer, whose research interests include nonprofit management and the effectiveness of the U.S. social safety net in serving low-wage workers and economically disadvantaged families.

The good news, he said, is Americans historically remain generous, even during times of economic trouble. Through 2006, only in one year during the past 40 has total private giving not increased—and that one exception was a result of changes in the tax code, he said.

Human service agencies also see a surge in demand during economic downturns.

"Many of the things in the news directly impacts demand for help," he said. "Rising food costs drives up demand at food banks. More foreclosures lead to increased need for shelters and housing services."

For this article and to watch a video of Professor Luke Shaefer on charitable giving, please visit this website: <http://www.ns.umich.edu/htdocs/releases/story.php?id=6905>.

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## **ABOUT THE NONPROFIT & PUBLIC MANAGEMENT CENTER**

The Nonprofit & Public Management Center is a collaboration among the University of Michigan's School of Social Work, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, and Stephen M. Ross School of Business. For more information about NPM, visit <http://www.nonprofit.umich.edu>. If you have an announcement you would like to include in the next issue of this eNewsletter, please send information to the Center at [nonprofit@umich.edu](mailto:nonprofit@umich.edu).