*Introducing the SAS Annual Fund . . .*

# Bolstering the present while helping to secure the future

*By Craig Trygstad*
*Director of Development,*
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All of us who walk the hallways of Shanghai American School in 2008 – whether as students, parents, teachers, staff, or administrators – are, in very tangible ways, beneficiaries of our school's past.

Its reputation for educational excellence smooths the paths for SAS graduates, who apply and annually enroll at prestigious universities across the world, and draws teachers of distinction to guide our students' learning here in Shanghai.

Since 1912, when SAS was established, its regard has steadily grown as its students have succeeded in their college studies and moved into leadership roles in globally-oriented organizations. Preserving and building on that reputation is an important reason for the creation of the SAS Annual Fund, which is being introduced this month.

INSIDE SAS
ONE SCHOOL TWO CAMPUSES

**Craig Trygstad**
Director of Development,
Communications, and Marketing

## SAS Annual Fund aims to bolster the present, ensure a vital future for SAS

The *SAS Annual Fund* is an initiative established by the Board of Directors as a strategic direction for our school and one means to improve the SAS financial position.

Like similar campaigns at international schools across Asia (the American International School in Japan and Singapore American School are two examples) the new *SAS Annual Fund* is aimed at supplementing our annual operational budget and, in the process, giving our students all of the tools that can turn an excellent education into world-class preparation for learning after SAS.

The *SAS Annual Fund* is one part of a comprehensive development plan that the Board has initiated to ensure the long-term vitality of our school.

Those of us who walk the hallways of SAS in 2008 are, after all, also guardians of its future. Maintaining and enhancing our school's educational excellence and estimable reputation rests with those of us who have benefited from its past, the SAS community.

*The Edge for Excellence . . .*

# Inaugural SAS Annual Fund campaign will support technology in classrooms

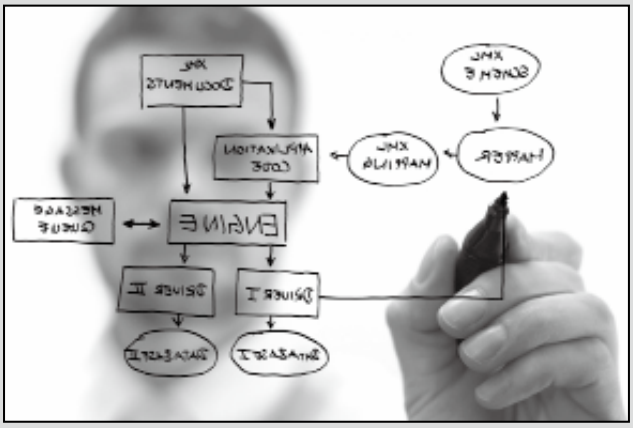
Our first-ever *SAS Annual Fund* will focus on enhancing technology in classrooms and supporting the accomplishment of the SAS vision for 2012.

We call this first annual fund campaign the *Edge for Excellence* because it will bolster a plan, written by our SAS technology committee, to give our students a technological 'edge' in guiding their learning. The *Edge for Excellence* campaign aims to accelerate implementation of that plan and move quickly to integrate emerging technologies into classrooms across the K-12 curriculum on both campuses. Students and teachers will benefit from an enhanced learning environment.

You might say this year's *Edge for Excellence* campaign aims to ensure that the use of rapidly-emerging techologies and the acquisition of related skills will be integral parts of every student's learning at Shanghai American School.

*By 2012, SAS will use technology in innovative and authentic ways to enhance learning and communication.*
- SAS Vision Statement

In future years the emphasis may change but the essential purpose of the *SAS Annual Fund* will remain. It has been established to help give SAS the financial resources and flexibility to continue to develop and sustain programs that maintain our school – in reputation and in reality – as an exceptional place to teach and learn. Through support for our *SAS Annual Fund* campaigns our community will be able to continue to offer the personalized programs and activities that distinguish us and make SAS a special school.



## Parent Committee

Crucial to the success of our inaugural *SAS Annual Fund* campaign will be the guidance of a newly-organized Annual Fund Parent Committee.

The chair of the first Annual Fund Parent Committee is Stephanie Kao, a member of the Board of Directors who also leads the Board's Development Committee. The vice chairs are PTSA Presidents Karen Chow, Puxi Campus, and Katie Ferguson, Pudong Campus. We will introduce the members of the Annual Fund Parent Committee and offer more details about the *SAS Annual Fund* in next week's edition of ***ParentTalk***.

We are grateful for the volunteers on this committee, each of whom offers vivid reinforcement for the conclusions that the visiting committee from WASC made about SAS parents. "The incredibly active and supportive parent community… enhances student life through their work with the school."