

PAYBACK YOUR UNIVERSITY IN YOUR LIFETIME

Bob Steele

Many universities and teams nationwide are encountering financial problems funding YOUR sport of swimming and diving. Budgetary shortfalls may cause the reduction or elimination of scholarships and/or travel. Swimming alumni are generally successful in their field of work which has been aided by university studies. While YOU may not be capable of endowing a scholarship, you can repay your scholarship or swimming career. The university and Athletic Administration realize the value of swimming and diving alumni support and is more likely to keep a team.

If alumni from many years of teams receiving support bind together to "PAYBACK YOUR SCHOLARSHIP AND CAREER IN YOUR LIFETIME", they can provide significant funds to help save and continue to provide students with a university swimming career. Even recent graduates can donate \$25/month and never miss it.

Figure the total amount of money YOUR university spent on YOUR; financial aid, if you had it, or the cost of what the university spent on your swimming career? Figure how much Athletics spent on; meals, lodging, entries and travel for your four year career. Figure what was spent with these average costs in today's prices for; dual and invitational home meets, away dual, invitational and championship meets. Figure the total for the number of years you swam. It's surprising and often times unappreciated.

EXAMPLE

FINANCIAL AID COST – Obviously you need to consider what you ACTUALLY received.

Let's say you had a full scholarship at a state school; \$20,000 x 4 years is \$80,000

Private school \$50,000 x 4 years is \$200,000

You would payback **\$119.04** per month for a state school or

\$297.61 permonth for a private school.

CAREER COST - Here's the Southern Illinois University expenditures based upon this season.

HOME MEETS: 6 dual and 1 invitational – 9 meals @ \$15 = \$ 135

AWAY MEETS: 5 dual, 2 invitational, 2 championships (The NCAA reimburses a portion.) \$3,925

106 meals @ \$15 = \$1,590

32 room nights share @ \$30 = 960

5 van rides @ \$35 = 175

4 plane rides @ \$300 = \$1,200

Multiply that \$4060 by 4 years and you should try to payback Southern Illinois University a sum of **\$16,780** IN YOUR LIFETIME. These figures are estimated averages in today's cost and one university's schedule. Obviously, it won't work for every swimming alum. GO FIGURE your PAYBACK amount. Let say you'll live to age 80 after graduating at 22. For 56 years is 672 months. You would pay **\$24.97** per month. A pretty cheap way to help the university that helped you be successful.

Then contact the university swimming coach or alumni office or go on-line and complete the form necessary to sign-up for automatic withdrawal from you checking account, just like paying for your electricity, insurance etc... Or if you don't want to do the paperwork just figure \$16,780 since many teams have very similar schedules.

THE BOTTOM LINE

For every 100 alumni contributing their fare share in this presentation the university swimming program would receive for Career Costs in a state school \$2,487/mo or \$29,964/year, For scholarships the state university would receive \$1428/mo or \$17,141/year. The private university would receive \$3,571/mo or \$42,855/year. That's almost a scholarship per year from 100 alums.

Granted there are many if's n' butts in this material; however, it a great project for the coach, university fundraising department, alumni association and alumni givers. It could be self-supporting if a small portion of this or other monies is used for an assistant or staff member to coordinate it. Don't forget to give signed up donors a small token of appreciation and a monthly newsletter. Tokens could be team T shirt, keychain, cap, umbrella, backpack...

Think big and your deeds will grow, think small and you'll fall behind, think that you can and you will, it's all in a state of mind.

Yours for FAST swimmin'

Bob Steele
Retired Coach

ALUMNI TO CHECK IN

NAME _____ YEARS SWIMMING _____ to _____ COACH _____

MAJOR _____ PROFESSION _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

____ I WOULD LIKE TO ASSIST WITH BUILDING THIS "GIVING" BASE

FIGURING CONTRIBUTIONS

A coach that's on top of this should create to figures for alums whom won't take time to assemble everything or know where to find it. Go for it yourself.

FINANCIAL AID _____ YEARS SWIMMING _____

AGE _____ YEARS TO AGE 80

CAREER CONTRIBUTION

PAYMENT YEARS _____ X \$ _____ PER MONTH
(56) (\$24.97)

SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTION

PAYMENT YEARS _____ X \$ _____ PER MONTH
(56) (\$119)

USE THOSE FIGURES TO PAYBACK YOUR SCHOLARSHIP TO YOUR UNIVERSITY

Considerations

_____ # years of university swimming

_____ # home dual meets

_____ # away dual meets

_____ # invitational meets

_____ # Conference Championships

_____ # NCAA Championships

_____ \$ cost of housing share

_____ \$ cost of transportation-van-airfare

_____ \$ meals