



The First Campaign For
Northern Illinois University

Dear Donor,

As a thoughtful investor, you knew when you created your endowment at NIU that you were putting your money where it would yield significant, long-term results: in the students, faculty and programs of our fine university. We are writing today to let you know that we in the NIU Foundation are committed to protecting that investment.

The current economic crisis is sobering and causing all of us to anticipate significant challenges. We want to assure you the NIU endowment portfolio is well-positioned to weather the storm. It is in the hands of an exceptionally talented and dedicated finance committee and supported by a highly-regarded investment advisory firm. The portfolio is well diversified to provide down-side protection, structured for the long term and designed for recovery. We are closely monitoring the rapidly unfolding developments and will take any step prudent to protect your investment in NIU.

As we each consider what the current economic climate means for us personally, it's not hard to imagine what it means for a student crunching numbers trying to pay his tuition bill or a faculty or staff member struggling to provide her students with the tools they need to change their lives. When you created your endowment, your goal was to help ensure their success. We will never stop working to support that goal.

Resiliency is a hallmark of our great nation and a defining characteristic of our NIU family. It is what will enable us to recover from these challenging times, just as we are from the horrific challenges of this past winter.

Your continued confidence and support are more important now than ever.

As we stand together, we look forward.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Bovinette'.

Robert L. Bovinette
Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mallory M. Simpson'.

Mallory M. Simpson
President and CEO