The best practices are the ones that work for you.™



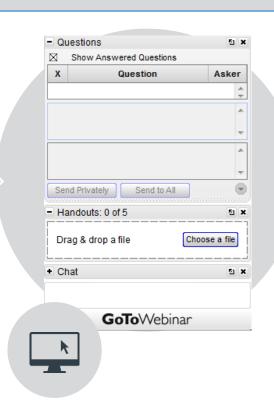
Fourth-Quarter Fundraising: Finish Strong to Start Strong

## Before We Begin...



### A Few Housekeeping Items

- · Phone lines are muted
- Submit questions during the presentation via chat on the GoToWebinar main screen



## **Today's speakers:**



Julie Solomon

Practice Manager,
Advancement

**Dana Gresko** 



Manager, Analytics and Fundraising Strategy





#### Serving Higher Education Since 1989



#### Our Mission

Utilize proven, data-driven strategies to help colleges and universities achieve their most important revenue goals



#### Our Distinctive Approach

Gathering and Analyzing Data to Inform Best Practices...



...Through Our Unique
Collection of Capabilities...

Data-Enabled
Services

Creative
Development and
Execution

Research Insights

#### ...Across the Nation's Leading Campuses

Abilene Christian Univ. Millsaps College Bates College Simmons College **Baylor University** Swarthmore College Central Washington Univ. Tulane University Fordham University Univ. of Central Missouri Iona College University of Denver Jacksonville University University of Memphis Kent State University Wake Forest University Longwood University Whitman Collage Loyola Univ. - Maryland Wittenberg University Mary Baldwin University

- 2 Case in Brief: Wittenberg University
- Testing Insights to Help Hit Your Fiscal Year-End Targets

Did you gain 65-70%

of your fiscal year goal by December 31?

If not, you've got some ground to make up to hit your target goals this year.

1 Fourth-Quarter Fundraising

- 2 Case in Brief: Wittenberg University
- Testing Insights to Help Hit Your Fiscal Year-End Targets

## Achieving Big Results in the Second Half of the Year



#### **Case in Brief: Wittenberg University**

- · Private university in Springfield, Ohio
- Partnered with Royall in 2011 on single spring campaign to increase alumni participation and offset declines in phonathon revenues
- Diversified channels, focusing on direct mail, email, and a social media-driven Day of Giving; segmented alumni more effectively, increased the frequency of donation requests, and incorporated incentives; helped organization optimize its phone channel

#### **Initial Royall-Led Annual Fund Campaign Performance**

Versus Prior Year







## Second Partnership Reignites Fundraising Trajectory

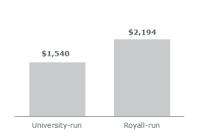


- The initial partnership was a success, and the Wittenberg team felt they learned so much that they brought the campaign management back internally.
- Total quarterly gifts declined 46% the first year and then were stagnant for 18 months. A new VP took the reins in 2013, and she partnered with Royall again.

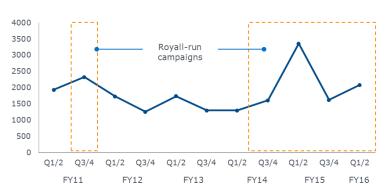
31%	Increase in annual fund gifts
32%	Increase in annual fund gifts greater than \$1,000
34%	Increase in donations from direct mail

#### **Average Quarterly Gift**

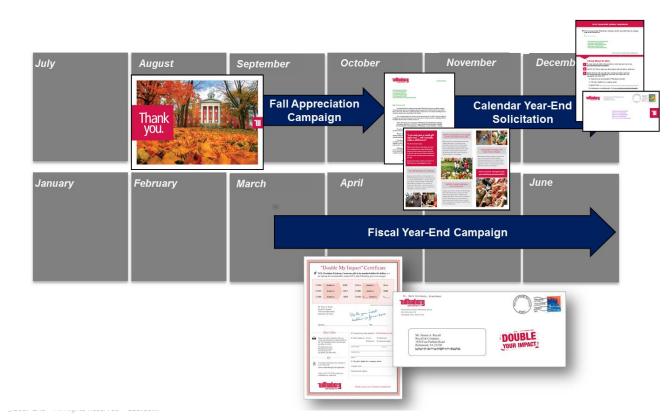
By Campaign Manager



#### **Quarterly Annual Fund Gifts**







1 Fourth-Quarter Fundraising

- 2 Case in Brief: Wittenberg University
- Testing Insights to Help Hit Your Fiscal Year-End Targets

## Are You on Track to Hit Your Annual Giving Targets?

— testing insights for a positive spring

Matching
Gift Challenge

Tried-and-True
Copy Formatting

Outer Envelope



## Creating a Deadline



#### Matching Gifts Continue to Be One of the Most Effective Imposed Deadlines



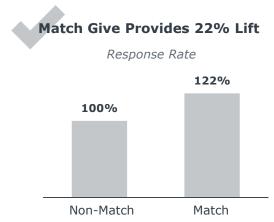
## **TEST Matching Gift Challenge**

Goal

To determine the impact of including a matching challenge offer to alumni

Hypothesis

By including a matching challenge offer, we will see a lift in response rate



Variations:

"Alumni Challenge"

## Deciding on Packaging





## **TEST Outer Envelope**

- Goal
   To determine the impact of a colored, branded envelope
- Hypothesis
   Using an envelope with the school's colors, we will see a lift in response rate

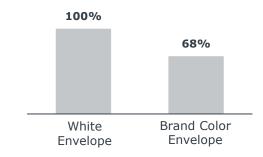






## Decreased Response of 32% with Colored Envelope

Response Rate





## Paying Attention to Formatting Details

#### Italics, Bold, and Other Text Format Choices Can Have a Big Impact



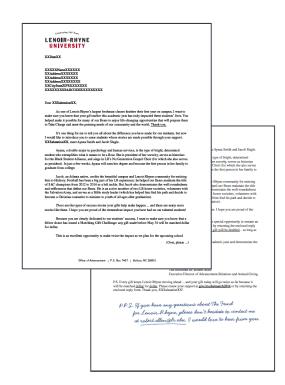
#### TEST Copy Format Test

Goal

To determine how the use of traditional direct marketing/copy formatting techniques impact overall giving

Hypothesis

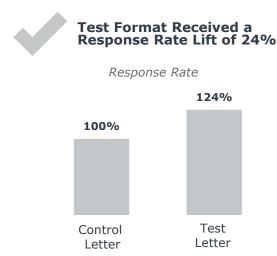
Employing enhanced visual direct marketing techniques will create a response rate lift

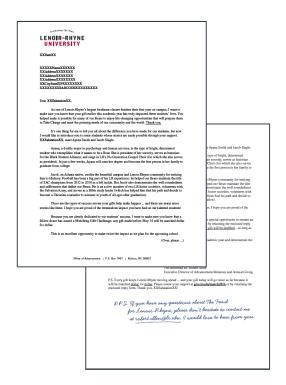




## Paying Attention to Formatting Details

#### Italics, Bold, and Other Text Format Choices Can Have a Big Impact





## Impact of Copy Format Can Be Significant



September 1, 2015

Dear Hillary,

Y ou've done so much for our school! That's why I heartfelt "thank you" for all that your generosity ha year. Another football season and fall semester of rexciting time of growth, your support has enabled of the world around them!

Today's students are a lot like you, and before I con I invite you to make a gift to the Annual Fund. As a upward and onward.

Y our history of giving has been a key part of transf courageous thinkers, learners and doers we are tode resources to welcome the largest freshman class in access through our FreshMinds program.

Thanks to you, the next generation of ambitious stumaking a big difference in our community and beyon make a gift of \$ASK1 or even \$ASK2, if you are at use the enclosed reply form.

On behalf of all of us, you have our enduring gratit making us proud.

With personal thanks, Jchn Smith John Smith '92 Appual Fund Director September 1, 2015

Dear Hillary.

You've done so much for our school! That's why I want to take this moment to extend a heartfelt" thank you" for all that your generosity has helped the University accomplish this past year.

Another football season and fall semester of momentum are under way. And during this exciting time of growth, your support has enabled our daring dreamers and trailblazers to shape the world around the m!

Today's students are a lot like you, and before I continue sharing the impact of your generosity, I invite you to make a gift to the Annual Fund.

As always, your help will keep us advancing upward and onward.

Your history of giving has been a key part of transforming us into the residential community of counageous thinkers, learners and doers we are today! Your support has provided us with vital resources to welcome the largest freshman class in our history and ensure student success and access through our FreshMinds program.

Thanks to you, the next generation of ambitious students is following in your footsteps and making a big difference in our community and beyond!

I hope you will accept my invitation to make a gift of \$ASK1 or even \$ASK2, if you are able. Visit our secure site, www.give.edu, or use the enclosed reply form.

On behalf of all of us, you have our enduring gratitude for the important role you play in making us proud.

With personal thanks, Jdn Smith John Smith '92 Annual Fund Director

P.S. It takes only a few minutes to make a gift at our secure site, www.give.edu. You'll help build a bright future

# Frequent Mistakes Impacting Response

- X Left-justified text and combined paragraphs
- No typographical emphasis (i.e., bold, italics)
- X No postscript
- X Institution-centric case for giving

# 18

## **Currently Testing Email Frequency**

#### Advancement Forum: Multi-Touch Campaign Brings Outsized Returns

#### **Last-Minute Gifts Are Spread Across December 31**

Percentage of Online NYE Donations by Hour for All Nonprofits



#### **Ensure No Gift Is Forgotten**



## Achieving Quantifiable, Outsized Fundraising Impact

— testing insights key to long-standing return on investment

Matching
Gift Challenge

Tried-and-True
Copy Formatting

Outer Envelope 4 Email Frequency





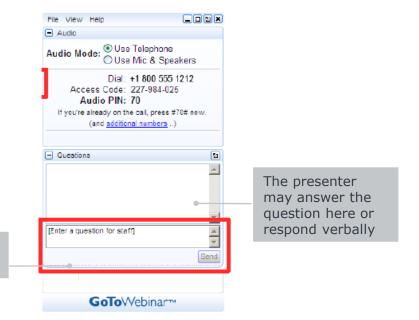


100+ Data and analytics professionals • 300+ A/B tests performed annually



### How to Submit Questions to Our Panelists

#### **Enter a Question in the Question Panel**

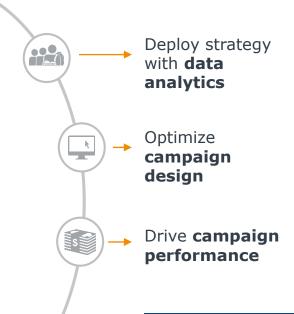


and hit Send

Type your question

# 21

## Run Annual Campaigns That Keep Giving Back



- · Culling and analyzing your data
- Modeling and segmentation
- Strategic direction
- · Customized creative
- Full online and print production
- Messaging implementation
- Performance monitoring and reporting

#### The Royall Difference







## Complete Our Survey to...



# Request our whitepaper:

Contributions from the Cutting Edge



## Subscribe to our blog:

Alumni, Donors, & Sense: The Advancement Blog

#### For More Information



Julie Solomon
JSolomon@royall.com
(800) 899-7227



Dana Gresko dgresko@royall.com (800) 899-7227

