Before she took office on January 1, Texas Aggie asked The Association’s new Chair, Shelley Potter ’78, for her thoughts on her new position and the upcoming year.

**TA:** During your tenure on the Board of Directors, The Association has developed a Strategic Plan, initiated a building enhancement plan, and raised the largest Annual Fund in our history. What are your thoughts on these accomplishments?

The past five years have been extremely successful for The Association of Former Students in so many ways. Our Strategic Plan, created in 2005, set the framework for this success by focusing our work on our bold vision - to be the premier alumni association - and four key precepts. It has been exciting and rewarding to see our Plan come to life as we have improved our ability to communicate effectively and efficiently with the ever-growing diverse Aggie Network, surpassed our fundraising goals, while also increasing the involvement of former students through Clubs, Classes and chartered Constituent Networks. I am equally proud of our efforts in reaching out to current students through relevant programming and funding, our continued collaboration with the Texas A&M Foundation and 12th Man Foundation, and of course, our building enhancement project.

**TA:** You mentioned the enhancements to the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. You have been a key contributor to this project, both as a donor and as a volunteer who has devoted significant time and talent to this endeavor. What will the enhanced Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center mean to the Aggie Network when completed later this year?

The enhanced Clayton W. Williams Jr. Alumni Center will be one of The Association’s greatest assets as it tells the story of Texas A&M and Texas Aggies. It will be a vibrant touchpoint not only for our former students and current students, but for future students, as well. When our exhibits are completed our guests will be able to not only read about our history and traditions, but to experience them, as well. Our home will become a must-see destination on campus and we welcome that opportunity to share the Aggie Spirit with all.

There will be much to see and do in our enhanced facility and certainly the Haynes Ring Plaza will be a central focal point of the enhancements. I believe our Ring sculpture and the surrounding quote walls, featuring Texas A&M’s six core values—excellence, integrity, leadership, loyalty, respect and selfless service—will quickly become a campus landmark and a place of reflection and inspiration for current and former students. ‘Meet me at the Ring’ will become a common greeting.

From a functionality standpoint, we will be better positioned to achieve many
of our strategic goals through expanded meeting space, improved use of technology, and more efficient workspace.

This has been a complex project and I look forward to welcoming all former students home as we re-dedicate the building the weekend of Oct. 30-31 and recognize those who have given so generously of their time, talent and resources to the project.

**TA:** This will be your sixth year to serve on The Association of Former Students’ Board of Directors. Can you comment on your contributions and what you hope The Association will accomplish in 2009?

Certainly my greatest contribution will be the leadership role in the enhancement of the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. When I joined the Board in 2004 this project was just beginning and I was fortunate to contribute first as a member of the committee, and later lead a team of dedicated volunteers and staff members who made this dream a reality.

Looking forward, The Association must strategically determine how we will maximize the use of our facility to increase participation, enhance communication and further our mission and vision. We need to continue our efforts to engage more former students in the Aggie Network and demonstrate to them how their involvement with The Association positively impacts Texas A&M.

2009 is a legislative year and The Association will once again partner with the Texas Exes for Orange and Maroon Legislative Day in March. This event provides the Aggie Network a great opportunity to impress upon our legislators the importance of our two flagship institutions on the State of Texas. It serves as a very visible example of how The Association works to promote the interest and welfare of Texas A&M.

**TA:** You have been an active volunteer for The Association for many years, serving as a local Club President, an Area Representative, a Board member, and now as Chair. Why is it important to you to give of your time and talents to Texas A&M?

Before I was an Aggie, I was an Aggie daughter. My dad, Jerry Eubanks ’53, brought our family to Aggieland frequently for football games and other activities. So, before I even enrolled at Texas A&M, it felt like home.

I had an incredible experience as a student at Texas A&M. From the first day of Fish Camp, I learned I had become a part of something larger than myself. Texas A&M gave me the opportunity to flourish academically and personally through the development of leadership, communication and interpersonal skills outside the classroom. My life has been enriched through the lessons I learned at Texas A&M, so I am dedicated to giving back by serving as a role model and creating opportunities for current and future students. The concept of former students collectively giving back through the work of The Association to impact students and the University inspires me to do more.

I believe that wearing an Aggie Ring means something—that the value of selfless service dictates giving back to Texas A&M, our country, our communities and other organizations. Individually and collectively, former students can make a difference by providing additional resources that are not available through traditional funding sources. They can be role models to current student and advance the great work of Texas A&M.

**TA:** You mentioned your positive experience as a student. What activities and organizations were you involved in while you attended Texas A&M and what did you gain from these?

The university experience was very important to me. I served as a Fish Camp counselor, because I recognized the Fish Camp experience could set the tone for a student’s career. I participated in academic honor societies for women, such as Mortar Board, because I valued academic excellence. As Chair of MSC OPAS (Opera and Performing Arts Society) I learned about event planning and hosting a wide variety of people and artists. As a founding member of the Chi Omega Fraternity Xi Kappa Chapter, I had the opportunity to be a part of social and philanthropic organization whose founding purposes mirror the values of Texas A&M. Being an early member of this group provided me the opportunity to serve in various leadership positions, including President.

These experiences allowed me to grow and learn from exceptional administrators and advisors who influenced me considerably. J. Wayne Stark ’39, who was Director of the MSC, had high expectations for student leaders and taught me a great deal about striving for excellence and accountability. Mary Evelyn White and Cathy Jackson were excellent role models as advisors to Chi Omega and greatly influenced my leadership abilities and life skills. The strong foundation of values and character they provided have given me the confidence to serve and lead organizations, such as The Association.

**TA:** The Association has assembled an impressive group of individuals to serve as our 2009 Board of Directors. What are your thoughts about working with this group?

It is a privilege and honor to serve on the Board with such a talented and accomplished group of former students. One of my favorite lines from Welcome to Aggieland states “the greater good is a required course and a helping hand is a required gesture.” Our Board is a living testament to the truth of that statement.

Each member brings a rich tapestry of experience, skills and knowledge and an impressive history of making a difference at Texas A&M and in their communities. Strategic selection of Board members with experience important to our operations—fundraising, finance, construction, marketing, and volunteer management—greatly enhances the impact of this group of volunteers. Our Board primarily serves a role of policy and oversight, ensuring the ethical and operational integrity of the organization. We create policies and set the direction then entrust our staff to carry out the day to day operations of The Association.

My husband, Jeff ’78, and I have developed cherished friendships with those we’ve met through my service on the Board and I have learned much from those with whom I’ve been fortunate to serve.
Shelley serves as the 2009 Chair of The Association of Former Students. She is a landscape architect in association with Jeff Potter Architects Limited in Longview and Dallas. Shelley graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in Landscape Architecture from Texas A&M University in 1978. As a student, she was Chair of MSC OPAS and a founding member of the Chi Omega Fraternity chapter. She currently serves as the fraternity’s National Vice President and was a delegate to the National Panhellenic Conference from 2000 to 2004. Exemplifying community service, Shelley’s resume includes numerous civic boards such as the Longview Planning & Zoning Commission and Smart Growth Task Force. A member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and former park planner for the City of Longview, she served as President of the Junior League of Longview and President of Longview 2020 Forum. Shelley was elected President of the Deep East Texas A&M Club in 1995, a position preceded by her service as Vice President for Fundraising. From 1997 to 2004, Shelley acted as the Area Representative for The Association of Former Students before being elected to The Association’s Board. As a member of the Board, she has chaired the Constituent Network Task Committee and the Building Enhancement Task Committee. Shelley and her husband, Jeff ’78, reside in Dallas.

“The Aggie Network is for real and truly global; it is the power of many. I have seen the best of the multi-generational Aggie Network from current student leaders to the Sul Ross Group of unbelievably loyal Aggies who graduated over 55 years ago. I have experienced The Association’s staff providing outstanding customer service with a genuine love for their work, and I have seen our students flourish with Association support – Aggies helping Aggies.”

Shariq serves as The Association of Former Students’ 2009 Chair Elect. He graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering in 1974. In 1999, Shariq was named the Outstanding International Alumnus and a Distinguished Alumnus of Texas A&M. As Chevron’s President of Global Marketing, he is responsible for worldwide marketing in 70 countries under three brands: Chevron, Texaco and Caltex. Prior to assuming this post, Shariq was Co-President, Chevron Products Co.; President, ChevronTexaco Global Lubricants; Corporate Vice President and President, Lubricants and New Business Development, Caltex Corp.; Corporate Vice President for Africa and Corporate Business Units for Caltex Petroleum Corp.; and President of Texaco Lubricants Co. He was named Lubricants World magazine’s Person of the Year in 1996. Shariq currently serves as the second vice chair of the California Chamber of Commerce board of directors and on the executive committee of the San Francisco Opera board of directors.

“As individuals, we learn from this great institution – in a relatively short period of time – to discover, develop and then make the most of our talents. In the time we spend as students, each of us is influenced, moved or touched by those who have come before us. It is a joyful obligation to therefore reinvest ourselves, our knowledge and our life experiences so that we may continue the legacy of Aggies helping Aggies.”
Hal, a retired United States Air Force General, serves as The Association of Former Students’ Immediate Past Chair. He graduated from Texas A&M in 1968 with a bachelor’s degree in Finance. As Former Commander, Air Combat Command at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia, Hal was responsible for more than 1,000 aircraft and 100,000 active-duty military and civilian members. He is a graduate of the Air Command and Staff College; the National War College; and Seminar XXI, Foreign Political and International Relations, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Hal has commanded at all levels—flight, squadron, wing, numbered air force and twice at major command. In 2003 he was inducted in to Texas A&M University’s Corps Hall of Honor. Since retiring, he has established a consulting business and sits on several boards of directors. Hal and his wife, Cynthia, have two sons, Air Force Major Chris Hornburg and Air Force Major Kevin Hornburg.

“Most Aggies would readily agree that much of what they are and indeed, who they are, is based on and caused by their experience as a student at Texas A&M. I’ll never know the ones who helped me by their contributions which somehow trickled down to me, or those whom I’ll help by doing the things that I can, but I sleep well knowing that the little I do to give back might have a direct, tangible impact and make a better citizen for our state and nation.”

Porter is the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Association of Former Students, one of the largest and most respected alumni associations in the nation. He graduated from Texas A&M University in 1979 with a B.B.A. in Marketing and began his career with Hughes Tool Company before joining The Association’s staff as Field Director in 1981. After nearly 18 years of service to The Association, Porter was unanimously elected as Executive Director by the Board of Directors in January 2000, making him only the sixth professional in this position in The Association’s 130-year history. Under his leadership, now as President and Chief Executive Officer, The Association has provided over $40 million in support to Texas A&M University. In addition, he has led The Association’s fundraising efforts to raise over $15 million towards the enhancements to the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. Porter and his wife, Lisa ’91, have three children, Claire, Callie and Porter IV.

“For our entire history, first as a struggling college and today as a world-renowned university, former students have made the difference for Texas A&M. Both our storied past and indeed our bright future are directly tied to the loyal and generous support of the Aggie Network for Texas A&M and future generations of Texas Aggies.”

Kamal graduated from Texas A&M University in 1984 with a bachelor’s degree in Engineering Technology and went on to earn a master’s degree in Land Development in 1987. He is a founding father of the first chapter of Texas A&M’s Beta Theta Pi Fraternity. Kamal is the Vice President of Business Development and Marketing for JE Dunn South Central. He has managed the planning and construction of many large national projects in his 25 years of practice. Actively involved in his community, Kamal serves on the
boards of directors for the Rosenberg-Richmond Chamber of Commerce, The Oaks at Briargrove and the Greater Fort Bend Economic Development Council. A generous supporter of The Association of Former Students and Texas A&M, he is a member of the Houston A&M Club, Chancellor’s Century Council and the A&M PAC. He served The Association as a Representative at Large prior to his appointment on the Board. Kamal and his wife, Traci, have two children, Conner and Maya.

“If Texas A&M is to remain competitive in academia, it is necessary for the university to be able to hire faculty and attract students that are stewards of A&M’s core values. To acquire these future leaders requires financial contributions from our former students. If a former student’s collegiate experience was positive and rewarding (as mine was) their loyalty and desire to see Texas A&M thrive should encourage their continued support far beyond their time spent at A&M.”

Susan “Sue” Rudd Bailey, M.D. ’78
Physician
Fort Worth Allergy and Asthma Associates, LLP
Fort Worth, TX

Sue received her bachelor’s degree in Medicine from Texas A&M in 1979 and graduated with honors from the Texas A&M College of Medicine in its charter class in 1981. She was an instructor in the Mayo Medical School prior to moving to Texas in 1988. An allergist in private practice at Fort Worth Allergy and Asthma Associates, LLP, Sue is board-certified in pediatrics, allergy and immunology. She has held many leadership positions in the Texas Medical Association and recently completed her term on its Board of Trustees and as the Speaker of the House of Delegates. She has been named to Who’s Who, The World Who’s Who of Women and The Best Doctors in America. Sue was appointed by then-governor George W. Bush to The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents from 1999-2005 and chaired its special committee on health affairs. Sue is the mother of two sons, Michael Wynn and Stephen Wynn ’10, and is married to W. Douglas Bailey ’67.

“I believe that integrity is the core value that is at the heart of being a Texas Aggie. Without integrity, excellence is just a ranking. Without integrity, leaders can’t effectively lead and loyalty is meaningless. Without integrity there can be no respect, and selfless service is just going through the motions. Integrity is at the heart of the Aggie Code of Honor. It’s why Aggies remember those who have gone before us, it’s why we say “Howdy”, and it’s why the Aggie Network works.”

Jorge A. Bermudez ’73
Retired Chief Risk Officer
Citigroup
College Station, TX

Jorge graduated from Texas A&M in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics and went on to receive a master’s degree in the same field. As the former Chief Risk Officer for Citigroup, he served in numerous leadership positions throughout his 33 years with Citi including Chief Executive Officer of the Commercial Business Group in North America, Citibank Texas and Citigroup Latin America. Currently serving on the board of directors of The Council of the Americas and the America’s Society, Jorge previously served on the boards of Citibank, N.A.; Citicorp USA; MasterCard International, LAC; Asociación De Bancos Argentinos; FEMSA Group; Siembra Group; and the Nortfield Children’s Center. Volun-
teering his time to Texas A&M, he is a member of the International Board as well as the development councils for the Mays Business School and College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He is also a sponsor of the Aggies on Wall Street program. Jorge and his wife, Denise, have four children, Jorge II, Andres, Elena and Antonio.

“...The Association of Former Students, its staff, Board and Leadership Council all work to ensure that through the support of Aggies around the world, Texas A&M University continues to be a unique educational institution providing future Aggies with the necessary tools to succeed in life. The Association also provides that important link to the Aggie Network that unites all of us from the day we graduate on through life.”

Otway B. Denny, Jr. ’71
Partner
Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.
Houston, TX

Otway earned a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Texas A&M University in 1971 and a Juris Doctorate, cum laude, in 1973 from Baylor Law School. He was a member of the Corps of Cadets and the Ross Volunteers while at A&M. A partner in the Houston office of Fulbright & Jaworski since 1981, he has litigated numerous cases in state and federal courts. Included in Who’s Who in America, Who’s Who in American Law and The International Who’s Who of Product Liability Defense Lawyers, Otway has been selected for “The Best Lawyers in America” and “Texas Super Lawyers.” He served as a Class Agent from 1971 to 1991 and serves on the Corps of Cadets Development Council, the College of Liberal Arts Development Council and the 12th Man Foundation's Advisory Board. He was named ‘Lawyer of the Year’ by the Texas Aggie Bar Association in 2001. Otway and his wife, Bonnie, have three daughters, Amy Denny Stuber ’97, Lisa ’98 and Stacey.

“...As Aggies, we all owe such a great debt to Texas A&M for the education and experiences that we had. Because of that, it is our obligation to give back to the school so that others can benefit from what we have experienced.”

Kathleen M. Gibson ’81
President, Central Region
Commercial Banking
Citibank
Dallas, TX

Kathleen graduated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor’s degree in Agricultural Economics. She joined Citi in November 2006 as Head of Citibank Texas Commercial and President Citibank Texas. Kathleen was named President of the Central Region, Commercial Banking, in 2007. Prior to joining Citi, she spent 25 years with Bank of America and its predecessor banks where she held various leadership roles. Active within her community, she serves on the Board of the Children’s Medical Center, the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce and the Southwestern Medical Foundation. She is also a member of the Dallas Committee on Foreign Relations. Kathleen enjoys speaking on the Texas A&M campus and serves on the Center for International Business Studies Advisory Council. Her accomplishments were recognized by Texas A&M’s Department of Agricultural Economics in 2003 when she was inducted into the Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry. Kathleen and her husband, Robert, have two daughters, Catherine and Sarah.

“...It is important for Aggies to give back to Texas A&M to sustain our great institution into the future. The financial gifts we receive from Aggies who care, coupled with the time and talents Aggies provide, are the key resources that allow us to achieve our strategic plans. This alma mater deserves our support and our hard work. After all, Texas A&M taught us that world class institutions and traditions don’t happen without it.”
Robert W. “Bob” Harvey ’77
President
RWH Ventures LLC
Houston, TX

Bob graduated from Texas A&M with a bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering. While at A&M, he served as Corps Commander and Student Body President. Following graduation, he went on to earn an MBA from the Harvard Business School. Bob is President of RWH Ventures LLC, a company he formed in 2005 to invest in the energy and environmental technology sectors. He serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees for the United Way of Greater Houston and is on the Executive Committee for the Houston Technology Center. In addition, he serves on the Chancellor’s Century Council, the President’s Vision 2020 Advisory Council, the President’s Board of Visitors for the Corps of Cadets, and the Vice President for Student Affairs Development Council. Bob served on The Association’s Board of Directors, as well as the College of Science Advisory Board. An Eagle Scout, Mike is a recruiter for Texas A&M’s Corps of Cadets and has served on the Corps Development Council. He and his wife, Kathy, have two children, Christy ’03 and Andy ’05.

“I have seen how the efforts of committed Aggies have reshaped Texas A&M – created new scholarship programs from scratch, built a leadership development program, built buildings and added centers of excellence, endowed programs whose continued funding was in doubt. We are defining the Texas A&M that our children and grandchildren will attend, and others from all around the world will attend, by our investments in time and talent today.”

Michael J. “Mike” Havel ’76
President
Metro Custom Plastics, Inc.
Dallas, TX

Mike graduated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor’s degree in Industrial Technology in 1976. He is the President of Metro Custom Plastics, a plastic injection molding manufacturing company in Arlington. Metro was honored by the Mays Business School as an Aggie 100 recipient in 2005, 2006 and 2007. Mike is a Retired Captain in the United States Army Reserves, Corps of Engineers. As a student, he was a member of the Corps of Cadets and treasurer of the Class of ’76. Mike served as a Class Agent for the Class of ’76 from 1976 to 1981 and again from 2001 to 2006. Prior to serving on The Association’s Board of Directors, he was a member of The Association’s Constituent Network Task Committee as well as the College of Science Advisory Board. An Eagle Scout, Mike is a recruiter for Texas A&M’s Corps of Cadets and has served on the Corps Development Council. He and his wife, Kathy, have two children, Christy ’03 and Andy ’05.

“In our hearts we all know giving back of our time, talents and treasure is the right thing to do. We each had a different and unique experience as a student at Texas A&M that helped us grow into the individuals we are today. It is the strength of our differences that allows all Aggies to provide for the diverse needs of Texas A&M and the Aggie Network. In addition to supporting the Annual Fund, Aggies have, do, and will continue to step up and lend a hand by volunteering their time, talents and treasure when needed. Make it your tradition to participate in the Annual Fund and be active in your Aggie Network!”

David A. Heath ’76
Vice President for Global Sales
Nike
Austin, TX

David graduated cum laude from Texas A&M University in 1976 with a bachelor’s degree in Health and Physical Education and earned a master’s degree in the same field in 1979.
He was A&M’s first full-time assistant athletic trainer and was later named Head Athletic Trainer for all men’s and women’s sports. David spent eight years with Adidas before joining Nike in 1990. As Vice President for Global Sales, he is responsible for more than $16 billion in sales revenue. He oversees global HR planning for the entire sales organization, as well as designs and implements all go-to-market strategies to interface with wholesale customers. David has been active with the Boy Scouts of America and has held numerous volunteer positions in Texas and Oregon. He has twice hosted the “How to Interview with Corporate America” session at Mays Business School and is a regular Executive Professor. David and his wife, Andrea, have two sons, Joel ’05 and Todd ’07.

“Almost every one of us can point to an individual or group that played a key role in our Aggie education and experience. Without people before us providing this, most of us would not be where we are today. Simply put, whether it’s giving back or “paying it forward”, our state and nation, and the world for that matter, need more people with great educations and an opportunity to experience and develop the core values of Texas A&M.”

Scott M. Kleberg ’80
Principal and Co-Manager
CA Partners LLC
Fort Worth, TX

Scott graduated from Texas A&M University in 1980 with a bachelor’s degree in Range Science and went on to receive a master’s degree in Management from Stanford University Graduate School of Business. He is a managing principal of alternative investment management firms CA Partners, LLC and Private Equity Partners, Inc. From 1990 to 1996, Scott was an investment analyst, portfolio manager and vice president for Luther King Capital Management. Before that, he spent six years in various managerial capacities at King Ranch, Inc. In addition to serving on numerous corporate boards, Scott has volunteered his time with several non-profit boards, including Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, Trinity School for Ministry and Fort Worth Country Day School as Chairman of the Board.

“Integrity is a quality that has become increasingly rare in our post-modern world where there are no absolutes. It is also the value hardest to detect since its defining characteristic is only truly revealed when no one else is looking.”

Linda LaMantia ’82
Community Volunteer
Laredo, TX

Linda graduated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor’s degree in Management. As a community volunteer, she has been very active in many organizations in the Laredo area. As Committee Co-Chairperson for the South Texas Academic Rising Scholars, she has helped raise more than $9 million in scholarships in the past five years. Prior to that, Linda helped raise more than $250,000 in scholarships for the South Texas Hispanic Scholarship Fund. She has served on the Board of the Washington’s Birthday Celebration for many years and was the 2005-2006 President for the 109th Celebration. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Children’s Advocacy Center of Laredo and Webb County, the Laredo Center for the Arts and the Laredo Country Club. Linda and her husband, Steve ’81, have five daughters, Annie ’08, Morgan, Katie ’10, Samantha ’12 and Molly.

“There are so many worthwhile causes and needs in our community, state, country and world today. I believe that we, as stewards of this world, can opt to give a man a fish or teach him to fish. By giving back to Texas A&M, we teach men and women “to fish.” We can solve so many of today’s problems through education.”
Jennifer S. Lindsay ’88
Principal
KPMG LLP
San Francisco, CA

Jennifer graduated from Texas A&M University with bachelor’s degrees in Economics and Aerospace Engineering and went on to earn a master’s degree in Economics from Stanford University in 1992. She was a member of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority while at Texas A&M. Jennifer leads the forensic practice for KPMG’s Silicon Valley office, advising clients in the electronics and software industries. In addition to serving her community through Involve, KPMG’s national volunteer program, she also volunteers in her church, The Church of the New Jerusalem, as Treasurer of the San Francisco congregation and as a board member of the denomination’s theological school. An active member of the San Francisco Bay Area A&M Club for more than 15 years, Jennifer has served as President, Vice President of Finance, and Muster Chair. Prior to her appointment to The Association of Former Students’ Board of Directors, she served as a National Representative from 2001-2007.

“Texas A&M can succeed only with the support of its former students and friends of the university. The university as we know it today has been created over the years through the generosity and loyalty of Aggies from previous generations. We have a duty to continue this tradition.”

Paul K. Stafford ’90
Proprietor
The Stafford Law Firm
Farmer’s Branch, TX

Paul earned a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Texas A&M in 1990 and a Juris Doctorate from Texas Tech University School of Law in 1994. He is the proprietor of The Stafford Law Firm in Dallas, focusing in the areas of commercial and business litigation, insurance coverage and recovery, and white collar crime defense. Previously, Paul served as an assistant district attorney in Denton and Dallas Counties and as a felony prosecutor in the Organized Crime Division. For three consecutive years, 2005-2007, he was named a “Rising Star” by Texas Monthly, and in 2008 was named one of eight ‘Dynamic Lawyers in DFW’. An Adjunct Professor at Texas Tech University School of Law, Paul is an active member of the Black Former Student Network (Chair, 2007-2008), the Dallas A&M Club, the Texas A&M Liberal Arts Development Council, and the Department of Political Science Former Student Advisory Board. Paul and his wife, Telea, have three daughters, Camryn, Kendall and Chelsea.

“Of Texas A&M’s six core values, Respect is most meaningful to me in that it embodies the true Spirit of Aggieland – treating all Aggies as brothers and sisters of a shared experience – regardless of their background, origin, or ideology.”

James R. “Jim” Thompson ’68
Founder
James R. Thompson, Inc.
Kaufman, TX

Jim graduated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor’s degree in Architectural Construction. As a student, he was a member of the Corps of Cadets and Ross Volunteers and was named a Distinguished Military Graduate. Following graduation, Jim joined the United States Air Force and served as an instructor pilot until 1973. After gaining ten years of construction experience, he founded James R. Thompson, Inc., with offices located in Dallas, Fort Worth and Houston. Jim is a member of Texas A&M’s Construction Industry Advisory Council, the Dean of Architecture Advisory Council, the President’s Board of Visitors for the Corps of Cadets, the Corps of Cadets Associa-
tion and the 12th Man Foundation’s Advisory Board. In 2000, he received the Outstanding Alumni Award from the College of Architecture. He is a member of the Kaufman County A&M Club and serves as a Class Agent for the Class of ’68. Jim and his wife, Donna Beth, have three sons, Lance, Ryan ’95 and Cody ’01.

“Aggies have always had a spirit of giving back to their university, because of the special educational and training they received while there. The Aggie Spirit of volunteering makes A&M exceptional and unique and we all must continue to be willing to serve in whatever capacity we can contribute.”

P. William “Bill” Toler ’76
Global Vice President, Professional Oral Care
Procter & Gamble
Cincinnati, OH

Bill is a 1976 graduate of Texas A&M with a bachelor’s degree in Accounting. He was a member of the Corps of Cadets, Ross Volunteers, MSC Town Hall and a SCONA delegate. Bill served in the United States Army as a field artillery officer for four years in Germany before joining Procter & Gamble in 1980. He was one of the key architects of P&G’s industry leading joint business development approach with its customers. Bill has since served in general manager roles for P&G in most regions of the world. In addition to having served as a Representative at Large for The Association of Former Students, Bill served as a member of Texas A&M University’s Vision 2020 Task Force and the President’s Vision 2020 Advisory Council. He is an active member of the Corps of Cadets Association and previously served on Texas A&M University’s Advisory Board for the Center for Retailing Studies and Honors Programs Advisory Committee. Bill and his wife, Melanie ’76, have two children, Courtney and Mark.

“The Association of Former Students is the sustaining engine of the Aggie Network from the time one enters Texas A&M as a student and through the remainder of their life. The Association not only serves former students but it enhances the Aggie experience for current students and faculty through its on-going support of scholarship, leadership forums and excellence in teaching awards.”

For complete biographies on The Association’s 2009 directors, visit AggieNetwork.com/TheAssociation/board.aspx.