What better way to celebrate the University’s Centennial year than to break records, win awards and surpass established goals! As the University of Memphis turns one hundred years old, let us celebrate the accomplishments of this past academic year 2011-2012. The University of Memphis Alumni Association proudly recognizes our clubs, chapters and national executive board that make all things possible.

MEMBERSHIP GOAL ACHIEVED AND SURPASSED

**Membership – Reach 12,000 Alumni Association Members by December 31, 2012**

On Wednesday September 26, 2012, the membership within the University of Memphis Alumni Association advanced to 12,408 members exceeding our 12,000 member goal. The goal, originally set at 10,000 members, was met in 2010. It was at that time that the National Executive Board of Directors set the desired membership goal for 12,000 members by the end of the 2012 centennial year. This goal was met through a comprehensive membership campaign emphasizing the University’s Centennial year membership, a University record breaking graduating class and the introduction of a new membership promoting the partnering of the Future Alumni of Memphis (FAM) and the Blue Crew.

RECORDS BROKEN

The Alumni Association saw record attendance and participation in several Club and Chapter events this past academic calendar year. Each of the events, which are held annually, is considered the signature event for that respective Club or Chapter:

- The University of Memphis Association of Retirees (UMAR) had the highest revenue for its silent auction during their holiday gathering, and through its success, completed the endowment of the UMAR scholarship.

- The University College Alumni Chapter had its highest revenue at its silent auction during its holiday social.

- The Herff College of Engineering Alumni Chapter had the highest revenue at its silent auction during their annual dinner honoring outstanding alumni and faculty.

- The Pillars of Excellence awards dinner hosted by the Law Alumni Chapter cleared its highest revenue in event history.

- The Young Alumni True Blue 5K held every fall around the University of Memphis campus registered its highest number of race participants this past year with 470 runners.

- The Luther C. McClellan Alumni Chapter raised its highest total revenue at the Homecoming Step Show this fall.
• The Fogelman College of Business and Economics Alumni Chapter recorded the highest number of paid attendees for its annual Alumni Day.

• The Band Alumni Chapter held its largest Bandmasters Championships with nearly 40 area high school programs participating in the Mid South’s premier marching competition.

• The Fogelman College of Business and Economics Alumni Chapter had its highest participation in their annual golf tournament with 33 teams and over 140 golfers.

• The Student Ambassador Board Mudball had its highest number of teams entered with 32.

• The Journalism Alumni Club had the highest attendance ever at its Outstanding Alumni Awards Dinner held this past fall.

• The Arts and Sciences Alumni Chapter reached its highest revenue for their annual dinner honoring outstanding alumni.

**AWARD RECOGNITION**

The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District III honored the University of Memphis Alumni Association with the GRAND AWARD for Special Events. The award was given for the Association’s work with the Tigers Around Town Centennial Celebration project. This is the top award given at the conference for this division. Additionally, this project received a national award for its scope and comprehensive inclusion of students, faculty, alumni and the surrounding Memphis community. This is the FIRST time that the Association has won a national award from CASE and only the SECOND time in University of Memphis history overall.

**CENTENNIAL INITIATIVES**

Five anchor events, hosted by the U of M Alumni Association, has been the cornerstone of the Association’s celebration of the University’s Centennial Celebration as well as weighted events for the overall University celebration. Due to the Centennial Celebration, many of the Association’s activities this past year have concentrated on the positioning of the Alumni Association for effective utilization during this historic time of our University’s history. The anchor events include:

**Tigers Around Town – 9.10.11 @ 12**

To celebrate the University's Centennial, the Alumni Association “let the cat out of the bag” in September, introducing 100 life-size Tiger statues. Each statue was uniquely decorated with artwork by local artists, students and alumni. The goal of **Tigers Around Town** was to not only recognize the Centennial of the University of Memphis, but to impressively illustrate the city's rich history and relationship with the U of M. Tiger statues which were sponsored by local fans, alumni and businesses were displayed throughout campus during the fall semester then moved throughout the city and state for display upon their perspective sponsors properties.
Reunion Weekend – April 20-22, 2012

The Alumni Association denoted April 20-22 of 2012 as Reunion Weekend. The weekend was filled with dozens of events reuniting old and new friends throughout our academic, alumni and student organizations. Highlights of the weekend included the unveiling of the symbolic bronze tiger monument, a tribute to the University’s Centennial coordinated by the University of Memphis Association of Retirees, panel discussions sponsored by Journalism, the Anthropology Reunion Banquet, the RSO Alumni Fair, the Black Alumni Mixer, the English Department’s 100 Books/100 Years and the Student Leadership Awards.

Alumni Association Processional Spring Commencement – May 5, 2012

Recorded as the largest graduating class in history, the spring commencement held a special allure for those graduates selected to represent the 100 years of the University of Memphis. A committee composed of the National Alumni Association Board of Directors set forth guidelines for the selection of participants in the Alumni Association Centennial Processional. The individuals that represented the “Alumni Centennial Class” are all graduates of the University of Memphis. The pool of delegates included former National Alumni Association Presidents, former Student Government Association Presidents, current members of the National Alumni Association Board of Directors and current Alumni Association Club and Chapter Leadership. The final list of participants was based on those that could attend on the day of the graduation ceremony. Where possible, keeping within the guidelines, each person represents a year that he or she graduated or the year that he or she held their official position. Each representative received a commemorative centennial medallion and “centennial diploma” presented by President Raines and Allie Prescott, current National Association President.

Distinguished Alumni Awards – June 2, 2012

Held on the alumni plaza on campus, the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Awards not only celebrates the University’s best and brightest, it also highlights the University’s accomplishments throughout its one hundred years. Special highlights this year included keepsake medallion paperweights given to each guest, select label wines specific for the occasion in a blue bottle, horse drawn carriage tours around campus and a celebrity roster of who’s who as guests and recipients. It was the largest Distinguished Alumni Awards ever held in University history and the first time it has been held on campus in decades.

Homecoming – October 20, 2012

The Centennial Homecoming will be held Saturday, October 20 and promises to be the largest Homecoming event in the history of the University of Memphis. With the excitement of the new football coach and our approaching entrance into the Big East, this Homecoming will be a reflection on the past and an anticipation of the future. The parade, pep rally and party on October 19 features 100 entries for our 100 year celebration.
The Lambuth Alumni Chapter was formally organized this past January with the addition of the Lambuth campus to the University of Memphis. The U of M Alumni Association began by welcoming all alumni to a TRUE BLUE DAY in 2011 October, then followed with a campus visit during the Spring Tiger Tour. Annual anticipated events sponsored by the alumni chapter will include the fall welcome for students, Homecoming, the recognition of outstanding alumni and commencement.