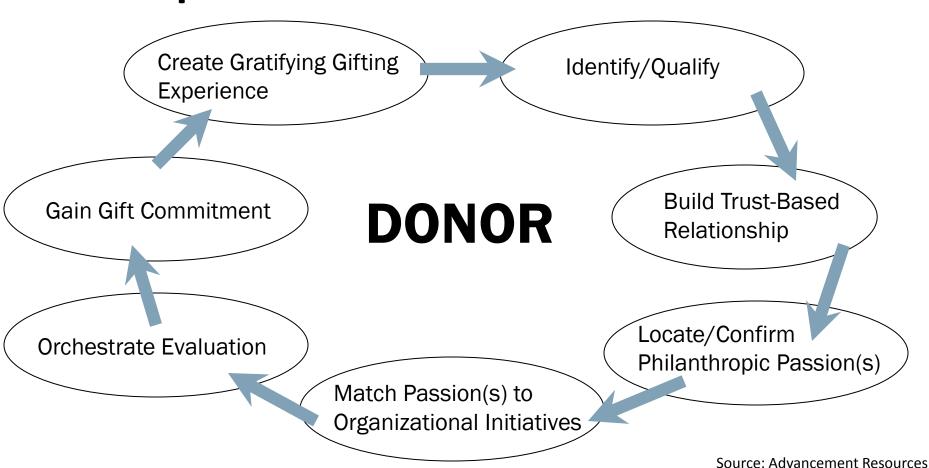
# Ways You Can Help: The Volunteer's Role in Fundraising Rodney P. Kirsch, Senior Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations **Campaign All Volunteer Summit** September 14, 2012





## Process for Facilitating Donor Development







- 1. Providing leadership in philanthropy
  - Sets an example, inspires other donors
  - <u>Personal</u> philanthropy is important
  - Given in proportion to wealth: \$25 million, but also \$50,000
  - Public announcements and celebration





- 2. Offering personal credibility
  - Your accomplishments and position in life lend prestige
  - Making testimonials
  - How to solicit a Nobel Laureate





#### 3. Identifying prospects

- Be a talent scout review lists, read newspapers, consider your professional social networks
- Penn State "always on my mind"
- A baseball cap worth \$500,000





- 4. Gaining access, building relationships, discovering passion
  - Your Rolodex is different than ours
  - You may be less threatening to and more effective with a prospect
  - Fundraising is all about engagement





#### 5. Assisting with solicitations

- Strategizing on the proposal
- Setting up the appointment
- Going on the call and telling your story
- Following up to encourage a positive response
- Thanking after the gift is made





- 6. Serving as a spokesperson
  - Understanding the case for support
  - Knowing the key messages
  - Developing the elevator speech





- 7. Being our institutional memory
  - Staff all come and go presidents, VPs, deans
  - The single constant: alumni and donors
  - It may be nostalgia to you, but it is important background information to us





- 8. Providing feedback and reaction
  - To draft proposals
  - To prospect strategies
  - To key messages
  - To faculty presentations
  - To committee meetings





#### 9. Committing time

- Taking on one or two individual tasks at a time
- Attending meetings
- Hosting an event
- Bringing a prospect to campus





#### 10. Offering loving critiques

- Building meeting agendas
- Assessing presentations
- Speaking in your terms
- Remembering the customer





#### A Bill of Rights for Volunteer Leaders

- The right of full disclosure briefings on the challenge at hand, including hurdles, opportunities, resources
- The right to professional staffing timely, comprehensive, honest
- The right to an assignment commensurate with abilities and comfort zone
- The right to express an opinion and have it considered seriously
- The right to appropriate recognition for a job well done



