

Building Great Beginnings

Friday evening, April 28, the Office of Gift Planning welcomed members of the Gift Planning Council and special guests to a reception at the Miller Center. The event celebrated the launch of the UVA Professional Advisor Network after years of planning and informal engagement with the various advisor communities.

PAN-UVA, our shorthand for the group, comprises tax, financial, legal, and insurance advisors who include charitable planning in the professional services they offer their clients. We aim to identify and connect the advisors who are UVA alumni and friends.

In opening remarks, Jason Chestnutt, the director of gift planning, told PAN guests, “Our vision is to create a community of advisors who would like to have social and business connection with the University of Virginia and with each other.

“You are valuable assets to the Office of Gift Planning. In turn, we can be a resource for you. Philanthropy in estate planning might be only one aspect of your client relationships, but it’s the subject we live and breathe every day.”

Director of the Miller Center [William Antholis](#) followed with a timely presentation on a Center project, “First Year: Where the next president begins.” The multi-year, nonpartisan project began in October 2015 with research and scholarship from the Miller Center, UVA, leading scholars at other top research institutions, and senior practitioners. They have been writing a series of memos and essays about the first year in office of presidents throughout history, focusing on successful and unsuccessful efforts to combine policy, politics, and personnel, and drawing from the Miller Center Oral History and Presidential Recordings programs.

The memos also draw on contemporary research to focus the next president on priorities for the first year. The center then offers the work directly to the new administration’s transition team. Click to learn more about the [First Year Project](#) and the [Miller Center](#).

The event was energizing and engaging all around. We anticipate future such events with members of PAN as well as possible formation of regional groups. And we will keep you informed of progress as PAN develops and expands.

Thank you for your interest. We would be happy to [hear your thoughts and suggestions](#).

The **Office of Gift Planning** assists alumni and friends of the University who want to make a charitable gift by including UVA in their estate plans or making gifts that pay them income.

The **Gift Planning Council** is an advisory committee that offers guidance and professional expertise to the Gift Planning program. Members are volunteers with expertise in such areas as taxes, accounting, marketing, real estate, and estate planning. They include alumni, faculty, and friends of UVA.