

where informed decisions begin

The Power of an Omnichannel Approach for Driving Alumni Giving

Wednesday, January 26, 2022



# Today's Pitcher & Batter









# Agenda

- It's a New Day in Alumni Giving
- Swing for the Fences
- Ideas to Expand & Optimize Your Outreach
- The Importance of Mobile Geo Fencing
- Make Alumni Giving Evergreen

It's a New Day in Alumni Giving



# Why Do Alumni Give?

## FOUNDATION FOR YOUR ALUMNI GIVING

## Why major donors give to colleges and universities

The most common motives people cite for higher education donations of \$50 million or more include repaying schools for benefits the donor feels that they or their loved ones have received and expressing their moral principles and values.

	Motive	Percentage
1	Compensate for benefits received	60%
2	Act on moral principles and values	57%
3	Support a cause or political agenda	57%
4	Advance a specific institution	53%
5	Express empathy for others	40%
6	Create a legacy	37%
7	Have an impact on a community	30%

Table: The Conversation, CC-8Y-ND - Source: Michael Worth, Sanjay K. Pandey and Sheela Pandey - Get the data



# Alumni Giving by the Numbers

## WHAT ARE INSTITUTIONS SEEING

- Higher Education fundraising hit a record of \$49.6 billion in 2019 and remained flat in 2020
- The average gift size was \$1,671
- Community colleges are experiencing a steady decline (down 5% from 2019 to 2020)
- Online giving was up 20% in 2020
- Donor pools are declining, due to the persistence of the pandemic and uncertainty about the market





# What About Young Alumni?

## **FOUNDATION FOR YOUR ALUMNI GIVING**

- Lag preceding generation's trends in donating
- Reasons include increased college debt + living expenses
- Uncertainty related to the pandemic
- Disconnect from campus community
- Only feel that "giving" is tied to dollars
- Cause > Campaign Goal

What is important to your alumni? Ask them!





# You Can't Always Use the Same Pitch

## FOUNDATION FOR YOUR ALUMNI GIVING

- Find what's important to them through surveys
- Turn the messaging around from the donation amount to its impact
- Let their voices lead
- Create new tables across the university to welcome alumni
- Create social interaction through groups & pages on social platforms
- Create on-campus positions to support key groups
- Constituency groups



## **NC STATE UNIVERSITY**

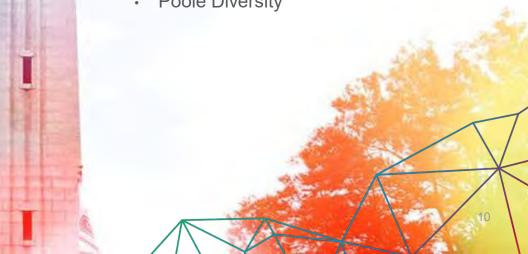
- Class of 2006
- Support with Florida recruitment
- Latinx Alumni Network (LAN)
- LAN Scholarship





- Women in Philanthropy
- Pack Partners
- Poole Diversity





## Office for Institutional Equity and Diversity News





Below are some great ways that you can learn more about the contributions of our Latinx

# at NC

## Latinx community:

- > Visit the Librarie
- > Join virtual came Series on Instag
- > Reach out to Alu Berdecia, BSBA student organiza
- > Watch Immigrat
- > Read Understan experience of La

October 15, 2021 > Read White Guy Higher Education the Study of Hig higher education

## **Alumni Drive**

Two NC State alumni have been honored by the Alumni Association for their commitment and contributions to NC State, their profession and community. The

## Two Honored for Service

Alumni Association Awards given during Red & White Week.



awards were presented as part of Red & White Week, the university's homecoming celebration during the last week Lyndenise Berdecia '06 of Miami, Fla., was named Outstanding Young Alumna. Berdecia is a digital strate-

gist for a higher education research company and founder of Berdhaus, a popprofit that provides college admissions and career coaching to historically excluded communities. She is a co-founder of the Latinx Alumni Network and established the Latinx Alumni Network Scholarship in 2020. Berdecia is a diversity adviser to the Poole Colege of Management.

Daniel Gunter '00 of Raleigh received the Award for Meritorious Service. An attorney, Gunter is counsel to Lee-Moore, a commercial real estate development firm. He has served on the dean's advisory board of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and is a past president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. In 2012, he received the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. Gunter serves on the board of directors of Habitat for Humanity of Wake County



## **Making Those Career Connections**

Trying to figure out how to land a great new job? Or do you just want to do better in the job you have, putting yourself in position for a promotion? The Alumni Association provides access to all sorts of career advice in its new Career Connections blog on the association's website.



edu/blog/. Recent topics covered include tips for pushing for diversity and inclusion in your workplace, interview skills that will help you

having a mentor to help your career flourish. The blog is one of many career services -including webinars, career fairs and oneon-one career coaching - offered to Alumni Association members, Anna Velleggia, director of alumni career services, says careers.alumni.ncsu. the blog was launched in March to provide

a wide range of tips and advice. Velleggia says the blog is frequently updated, so users can check back regularly for new items. "We want it to be a resource to you at different stages in your career," she says This is about making resources available 24/7 that aren't just stagnant."

stand out from the crowd, and the value of

to others to learn about Stay focused and organi

Set deadlines/gools Anna Velleggia, director of

AUTUMN 2021

Anna Velleggia, director of alumni career services, and one of our alums, after career advice.

ON THE

- What is the best decision you made or step you took to prepare vourself to ensure a successful job or coreer shift?
- was a natural leader and was already the go to person on the team, but when a manager role opened up about throwing my name in the hot for it. But I focused on what I had accomplished in my career, evaluated my strengths and weaknesses and knew in my heart that would be a great manager So I went for it it was the best decision l'ever made, i have now been a manager for over

Jennifer Talley '93, of April N.C., sensor director of plobal Nutauce which provides buy neaves with cloud services:

- Identify year 3-5 numnegotiables. This is a "must
- . Top into your net work: Tol

Have a question for Anna?



NC State Alumni Magazine



# Change the Narrative

## **FOUNDATION FOR YOUR ALUMNI GIVING**

- Focus on what matters today = Food Pantry + Emergency Fund
- Stories matter more than ever
- Acknowledge the "middle" donor
- What about your friends?
- Partnerships = Community + Businesses
- Where are your former student athletes?

It's time to change the pitch!



# Gameday Prep

## **ALUMNI GIVING**

- Ambassador Sign-up
- Social Media Toolkit
- Challenges
- FAQs
- Countdown
- Stories





## Favorites

## **ALUMNI GIVING**



North Carolina State University
Social Media Toolkit



Game Day!



# Gameday Engagement

## **ALUMNI GIVING**

- · Repurpose content on social
- Let alumni voices lead!
- Bring students into the mix
- Use videos to show appreciation
- Highlight new initiatives
- Don't leave out faculty and staff

Recap, reengage, and grow!





## Favorites

## **ALUMNI GIVING**



Morehouse College Challenges



## Favorites

## **ALUMNI GIVING**



Florida A&M University

Ambassadors & Stories



# How Can YOU Still Throw a Strike?

## **ALUMNI GIVING**

- Listen to your alumni
- Listen to your students
- Listen to your community

# Swing for the Fences



# Are You Counting All Your Chickens?

If the donor pool is shrinking, let's make sure we count all of your chickens first:

- Are you taking into consideration certificate and credential holders?
- Distance learners?
- Residents?
- Area congregations?
- Lifelong learners?
- Honorary degree holders and honorary alumni?
- What about those that had a relationship with your institution that did not graduate?

Do you have a single repository for all this data? A MUST!



# Are You Accounting for Digital Acceleration?

ONLINE GIVING GREW 20% FROM 2019 TO 2020, WHY?

Digital adoption accelerated by 3 years thanks to the pandemic. In North America, **65% of customer interactions are now digital**, compared to 41%.

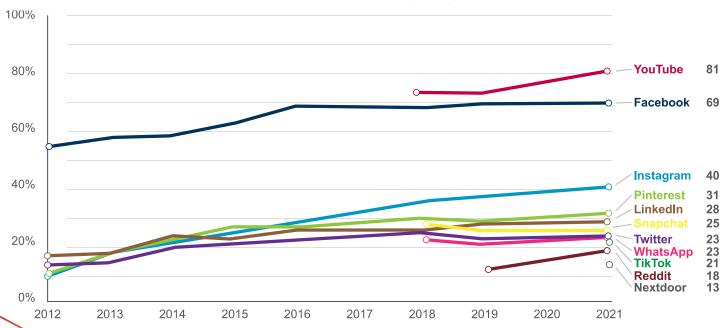
Source: McKinsey & Company Survey



## Favorite Social Media Sites for US Adults

GROWING SHARE OF AMERICANS SAY THEY USE YOUTUBE.
FACEBOOK REMAINS ONE OF THE MOST WIDELY USED ONLINE PLATFORMS AMONG
U.S. ADULTS



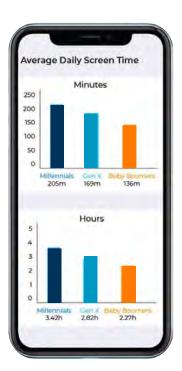


Source: Pew Research Center, "Social Media Use in 2021". Survey of U.S. Adults 1/25/21 thru 2/8/21.

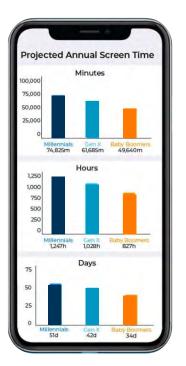


# Smartphone Usage Among U.S. Adults Today

## COMPARING THE SCREEN TIME HABITS OF GENERATION GROUPS







Source: US User's Screen Time Statistic, Apple



# Segmentation is Key in a Digital Age

More flexible. likely to change what organization they give to. Loyalty is not automatic. The organization they give to is heavily influenced by the political and social identity of the institution.



Giving based on credibility, trust and familiarity with your institution plus prior giving habits.

Ideas to Expand & Optimize Your Outreach

# Traditional Custom Audience Targeting



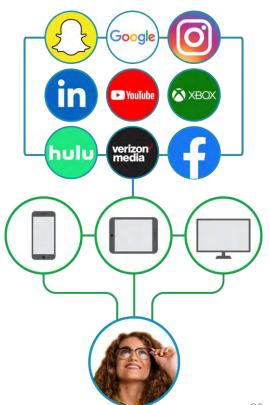
# Traditional Custom Audience Drives Giving

Technology exists today that matches your pool of alumni, faculty and donors to their **individual**...

YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and LinkedIn accounts

Their connected TV via their Roku and other streaming devices

At Encoura, we do all of the above PLUS we match your list to their mobile devices and at-home devices

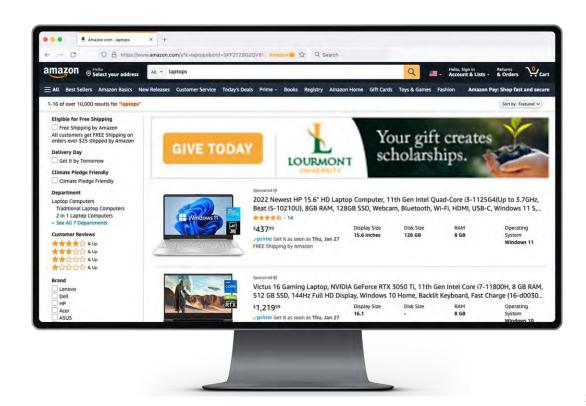






# How Custom Audience Targeting Works

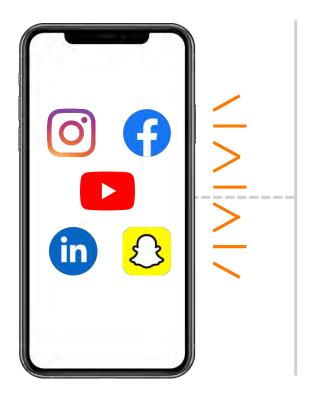






# Encoura is an Alumni Team's Best Ally

CLIENT: MID-SIZE PRIVATE COLLEGE W/ GOAL OF BRINGING "GIVE TODAY" CAMPAIGN TO MARKET QUICKLY



## **RESULTS:**

12,603

verified actions to the EDU site

658

verified actions to pledge form

**55** 

donations

Campaign was a success and client has renewed twice since then.



Custom Audience Targeting Increases Gifting

CLIENT: MID-SIZE PRIVATE COLLEGE W/ GOAL OF INCREASING AVERAGE GIFT SIZE



Postcard & Phone Call









**Email** 

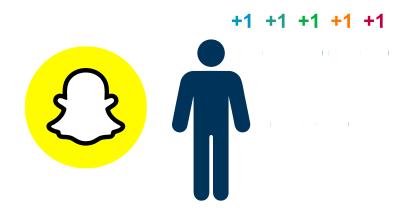
Match Social IDs

# Lookalike Custom Audience Targeting





# Lookalike Custom Audience Targeting Can Grow Your Donor Base



Lookalike Custom Audience Targeting takes your list of people who have given to your institution.

It then deciphers the online interests, mailing lists, groups joined, sites visited, products shopped of your source data and finds people with similar habits and characteristics.

Then your ads for your Institution are pushed to the Lookalike Audience over their individual Facebook and Instagram accounts.





# Sample Results in December 2021

Institution / Type	Impressions	Clicks	CTR	Cost Per Click
Public University in the East Undergrad Focus	215,000	2,330	1.10	\$1.38
Large Public Research University in the West Undergrad Focus	156,000	1,085	0.70	\$2.15
Private Faith Based University in Midwest Undergrad Focus	52,200	450	0.86%	\$1.74
Private University in Midwest Grad Focus	76,220	1,945	2.55%	\$0.58



The Importance of Mobile Geo Fencing



# Mobile Geo Fencing Can Grow Your Donor Base





- 1. Geo fencing of local area churches can remind parishioners of how your institution strengthens the community.
- 2. Geo fencing of corporations can remind employees of your athletics program and scholarship funds and how you build a talent pipeline that fuels their business, etc.)
- 3. Geo fencing your own campus is another way to tell current students, faculty and staff that alumni giving is open.
- Radial geo fencing of your surrounding community can reach neighbors, local restaurant and coffee houses and their patrons.
- Geo fencing of Jackson Hewitt & H&R Block offices (Feb thru April) reaches folks who may be coming into a refund and allows you to suggest they earmark some of those dollars for your institution.

# Make Alumni Giving Evergreen



# Is Your Giving Strategy Evergreen?

- 1. Right now, Traditional Custom Audience Targeting or Mobile Geo Fencing could be planting the idea of earmarking part of one's tax return for your institution.
- 2. Geo fencing of local area churches can remind parishioners of how your institution strengthens the community.
- 3. Geo fencing of corporations can remind employees of your athletics program and scholarship funds and how you build a talent pipeline that fuels their business.
- 4. Lookalike Custom Audience Targeting Campaigns can put your institution on the radar of thousands of adults you don't know with messages about your plans to build a new School of Engineering, your new focus on sustainability or inspiration from the Provost/President.

# Additional Resources



## **encoura** Webinar on DEMAND

## Digital Enrollment Predictions for 2022: Keeping Up with Gen-Z

In this webinar, we forecast our predictions for the digital enrollment landscape in 2022.

- The importance of personalization in digital marketing and how to effectively scale your approach using Student Mindsets™
- The continued rise of the short video as the new cornerstone for strategic engagement
- Expectations for the most popular platforms in 2022
- How evergreen campaigns can build your brand at any time of the year or admissions cycle



**Jason Stevens** Director of Digital Strategy

encoura.org/webinars

## encoura

# Have You Unlocked Your Digital Voice?

Craft a Compelling Story. Leverage the Latest Platforms. Engage Your Best-Fit Students.

Backed by a best-in-class digital operations team, Encoura Digital Solutions create customized, turnkey digital enrollment solutions that leverages the most popular platforms and networks among today's students.

encoura.org/digital





# Case Study: University of Nebraska-Lincoln

## **Keeping in Mind What Students Really Value**



## Challenge

- Pandemic limited traditional recruitment methods
- Communication to students needed at exact right time in decision-making process

## Outcome

- Website engagement **5 times higher** than with previous campaigns
- Student communications customized to what they individually value most in a college
- Thousands of new students visited website
- Highest levels of in-state student post-view and post-click interactions
- Delivering the right message at the right time in students' decision-making processes

encoura.org/unl



