

Hudson Secures Largest Endowment in ASU History

ASU Alumnus Donates \$5 Million to University

In what can perhaps best be measured in mere days, Tim Hudson's new tenure as chancellor at Arkansas State University has already produced [the largest endowment gift](#) in ASU history – a \$5 million donation from ASU alumnus Neil Griffin. Griffin's gift establishes the Griffin Scholars Endowment Fund, which will support scholarships for students who live throughout Arkansas or in parts of Missouri.



Hudson's collection of Griffin's endowment gift comes on the heels of a flurry of activity and excitement surrounding the new ASU chancellor. In late April-2012, Hudson began [a listening tour](#) of the ASU community, one that included taking part in ASU's convocation of scholars week and throwing out the first pitch at ASU's baseball game against Western Kentucky. That tour has also already produced meetings with the student government association, faculty senate and staff senate leaders, the dean's council, department chairs, the Board of Trustees, and individual ASU faculty, among others. According to reports, the entire ASU community is gushing over Hudson and his wife Dee Dee.



Much of the success of Hudson's 2012 listening tour may be due to [his decision to form](#) a transition advisory committee made up of ASU constituents, including area business leaders. Either way, Hudson has already been on board for the [groundbreaking ceremony](#) for ASU's new sorority row, [discussions to preserve](#) the historic Kays House on the ASU campus ([without using](#) ASU funds), and [conferring of degrees](#) at ASU's 2012 spring commencement ceremony. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that it is this type of energy that could give Hudson the upper hand should he desire to succeed outgoing USM president Martha Saunders (in 2013-14).