I’m easy for most of us to complete that sentence. Student, alum, parent, faculty member, staff member, friend … we all know who we are in relation to the college right now.

When we include the past, our answers may become somewhat more complex: “I was a student; now I’m an alum.” Or, “I’m a legacy student; both my parents and one of my grandparents attended St. Norbert.”

Look to the future, and the answers might grow more elaborate still: “I plan to go to graduate school and return to join the SNC faculty.” “Next year, our daughter will enroll at St. Norbert.” “We’re hoping to establish a scholarship for needy students.” “I plan to bring two SNC students into my company as interns.” (And of course, there’s much about the future we just can’t anticipate.)

When we look at all of it – past, present and future – what becomes clear is that, for all its change, for all its steady evolution, our relationship with our college is an enduring one. We experience a continuum of engagement and interaction that spans our lives, bonding us to those who came before and those who will come after us.

It is indeed true that, with regard to St. Norbert, we “belong to all its yesterdays and will be a part of all its tomorrows.” We are connected always.

The work of the division of college advancement is to help maintain that connectedness – to keep us engaged in the remarkable and ongoing history of St. Norbert College. Its staff strive to provide us, throughout the continuum of our lives, with a parallel continuum of involvement with the college that is both meaningful and rewarding.

It begins with outreach to our current students, to help instill in them the knowledge that long after they’ve graduated, St. Norbert will always be their “home by the river.”

It continues through the efforts of the office of alumni and parent relations staff, who help us extend a warm “welcome home” – in a literal sense when alumni return to campus to visit, and in a figurative one when we engage alumni in their home communities through activities and events.

It extends to the college’s fundraising entities, which provide opportunities for community members at all stages of their life’s journey to help the college maintain and build on its proud 112-year legacy.

And it drives the division’s development of partnerships with corporations and foundations, not only to build a stronger college for future generations, but to strengthen the bonds between the college, our community and our region.

We have all been brought together to share the special experience of belonging to the St. Norbert College community. We’re encouraged to remember that this singular institution is always home, and we have a common responsibility to preserve and carry forward what has been built here.

All of us – students and alumni, parents and friends, faculty and staff – belong to the yesterdays and tomorrows of St. Norbert College.

“I stand by the river and I know that it has been here yesterday and will be here tomorrow and that therefore, since I am part of its pattern today, I also belong to all its yesterdays and will be a part of all its tomorrows.”

– Virginia Eifert, Wisconsin naturalist
The 1898 Society

A new and vital society, established last financial year, recognizes those whose support is fueling the momentum that is taking St. Norbert College to new standards of excellence.

The 1898 Society honors in its name the year of the founding of St. Norbert College. The college’s achievements over the past 112 years and its vision for continued growth are both testimony to the ongoing generosity of the friends whose gifts, large and small, make all possible.

This donor recognition society acknowledges individuals, couples, foundations and corporations. It is a means of recognizing those who give annually to St. Norbert College, who make a major gift to the college, or who indicate their support through a planned gift by remembering the college in their will.

Current giving, lifetime giving and planned giving are recognized by membership at various levels within the 1898 Society. These guilds and clubs honor the leadership, dedication and extraordinary philanthropy that encourages excellence in our students, faculty and staff; expands the college’s academic programs; and provides for the maintenance and construction of essential facilities. (Class participation rates in this honor roll reflect the percentage of living alumni who gave to the college during the 2009-10 financial year.)

Additional information about the 1898 Society is available at www.snc.edu/go/1898society.

An Honor Roll of Donors is maintained online at www.snc.edu/advancement/annualreport.html.

How the giving levels work:

**Lifetime Giving**

**Norbert Guild** – Donors who have made gifts to St. Norbert College totaling $1 million or more over their lifetime.

**Pennings Guild** – Donors who have made gifts to St. Norbert College totaling $250,000 or more over their lifetime.

**Burke Guild** – Donors who have made gifts to St. Norbert College totaling $50,000 or more over their lifetime.

**Current Giving 2009-10**

**The President’s Club** – Donors who have made gifts to St. Norbert College totaling $2,000 or more over the previous fiscal year.

**The Dean’s Club** – Donors who have made gifts to St. Norbert College totaling $1,000-$1,999 over the previous fiscal year.

**The Main Hall Club** – Donors who have made gifts to St. Norbert College totaling $500-$999 over the previous fiscal year.

**The Founder’s Club** – Donors who have made gifts to St. Norbert College totaling $100-$499 over the previous fiscal year.

**Planned Giving**

**Anselm Keefe Society** – Donors of any age who have made a planned gift: a future bequest, charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust, charitable lead trust or life insurance policy with St. Norbert College as a beneficiary.