More than 170 alumni pledged $13,875 in donations to the MSM-UMR Physics Department during last year’s Fund-raising Phonathon with an average gift of $77. The department greatly appreciates your generosity, which helps to support scholarships and student activities like the Society of Physics Students. "Your support makes such a difference to our department," says Dr. Paul Parris, Chair of Physics. "Scholarships are extremely important, and so are the student activities that your gifts support." Your support this year will be more important than ever in helping us attract great students to our department. This year, we will be calling our alumni March 18-April 4. When the phone rings, please take a moment to share some of your Rolla experiences with a current UMR student, and say, "Yes," when asked for a pledge. Taxpayer support accounts for only 40 percent of the university's revenue, so your contribution makes up an important part of the department's total income. Private funding also helps distinguish UMR from other universities, increasing the value of your education. Any amount you give will be appreciated. It will help make UMR a leader in alumni giving among public universities, and will help the Physics department fulfill its educational mission.