

Illinois State University Alumni Association

Board of Directors Meeting

June 19, 2021

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Hybrid meeting

Alumni Association Mission: To support the University through the knowledge, skills, financial resources, and loyalty of its alumni; to communicate and interpret the University's goals and achievements to others; and to promote a spirit of unity and loyalty among former students and friends.

Members present virtually: Walter Brandon, Liz Garcia, Michele Guadalupe, JD Schurter, Stan Shingles, Alice Spann

Members absent: Lisa Castleman, Tyler Clark, Christina Fontenelle, Fellicia Foster, Joe McGuire, Mary McMahan, Alyssa Cattaneo (SAC), Nick Schaack (SAC)

Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order

Steve Smith

- a. Smith called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. and introductions took place.

2. Juneteenth Celebration

Luticia Mills

- a. Presentation to acknowledge and celebrate this day of remembrance.
- b. Background provided and note that Juneteenth is now a federal holiday to celebrate pride and heritage. Informational video shown.
- c. Chicago now recognizes Juneteenth thanks to efforts of alum Torrence Gardner.
- d. Richards advised that Illinois now recognizes Juneteenth as a state holiday.
- e. Pride Month takes place in June and is recognized at ISU - New housing initiatives have been put in place.

3. ISU Leadership Updates

a. President's Report

President Dietz (video)

- i. Reflections on corona virus and financial implications, along with fiscal year changes
- ii. Appreciates Alumni Association and virtual efforts
- iii. Redbirds Rising raised 180 million and raised confidence in ISU
- iv. 24.4 million raised in private donations this year – 3rd best fundraising year
- v. Building alumni relationships helps fundraising success
- vi. Returning to normal traditions this fall will be beneficial for Athletics
- vii. Football and volleyball fully opened for fall
- viii. After 50+ years in higher education career, looking forward to retiring and staying in the community. Remodeling a house near Ewing Manor.

b. University Advancement Report

Mark Wunder

- i. Fundraising work had to pivot
- ii. Over 24.5 million fundraising in private support this FY
- iii. 3rd best year, and other 2 years were during Redbirds Rising
- iv. No super large gifts – all 10 units exceeded fundraising goals. Broad support across the University
- v. Annual Giving was 23% of overall production
- vi. Record year of giving for Birds Give Back (3rd year in existence)
- vii. Redbird Philanthropy week focused on students and was well received
- viii. Increased participation by students this year

c. Trustees Report

Kris Harding for Kathy Bohn

- i. Presidential search process reviewed
- ii. Board or Trustees May 7, 2021 meeting resolutions passed:
 - 1. Approval of MA and MS in English Education
 - 2. Approval of the establishment of a College of Engineering
 - 3. Funding approval to include
 - a. No increase in tuition and fees, but 3% increase in Room & Board for FY22
 - b. Contracts with the Foundation, Connect Transit, Alpha Baking Company, Tech Zone and Student Technologies, Microsoft licensing & support, iPeople, Campus Solutions, and Oracle
 - c. FieldTurf to resurface the outdoor track
 - d. Renovations and upgrades to occur at Milner Library, Julian Hall, Cook Hall and ISU Weavers Building to provide temporary accommodation space to facilitate the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts Rehabilitation Project
 - e. Capital project to demolish and remove structures at 402 and 404 West Locust Street properties, and construct a new Nursing Simulation Laboratory Building
 - f. “Dr. Anthony Liberta Study Suite” named at Julian Hall
 - g. “Alma’s Family Room” named at multicultural center
 - h. “Russel E. and Barbara J. Benway Student Art Exhibition Area” named at Milner Library
 - i. “Larry and Barbara Efaw Center for Educator Excellence” named at College of Education Student Success Center
 - j. Honor and title of Trustee Emeritus conferred on Sharon Rossmark

- k. Appreciation to Jada Turner, Student Trustee, for her service on the Board
- iii. Board of Trustees May 14, 2021 Executive Meeting
 - 1. Voted to offer contract to Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy to be the 20th President of Illinois State University.

d. Alumni Engagement Report

Kris Harding

- i. Welcome to new members. ISU blanket was provided to board members as thanks for service on the Board. Abraham Lincoln book provided by alum Carl Kasten
- ii. Personnel changes
 - 1. Jodi Ellsworth will replace Jill Hills on July 12th, and will coordinate event registrations and greet visitors to the office
 - 2. Graduate Assistant Emily Deppermann will assist with marketing and communications, and Graduate Assistant Kaitlin Sullivan will work directly with SAC and event logistics
 - 3. COO Jill Jones is retiring effective June 20th and will be replaced by Jill Wilberg.
- iii. Recent events included Women in Leadership, Cook with a Redbird Chef, and Chicago Suburban Network food bank service project.
- iv. Both in-person and virtual events being planned – all are listed on alumni event page
- v. Planning for a traditional 100th Homecoming Celebration.
 - 1. Friday will be a hybrid Alumni Day
 - 2. Half Century Club will be taking place during Homecoming on Friday night. Invitations to be sent in July
 - 3. Planning for in-person Legacy Brunch on Family Week-end
- vi. Requests for committee preferences will be sent to new board member slate
- vii. Reminder to complete board involvement form (found on Board Resource page)
- viii. Nelson-Brown discussed idea to host Network Leaders social during Homecoming

e. Alumni Association President's Report

Steve Smith

- i. Showed picture of engraved wine glass set given to President and Marlene Dietz for retirement gift. Padlet link will be sent out to give all the opportunity to offer additional thanks.
- ii. Reflected on "Hopes and Aspirations"
 - 1. Strategic Plan
 - 2. Align governance/committee structure

3. Virtual experiences
 4. Engage with Networks and members
 5. Develop and grow as leaders
 6. Partner and collaborate with staff
 7. Nurture an engaging, inclusive board culture
 8. Have fun and practice gratitude
- iii. Thanks to the group for DEI initiatives now being embedded in a plan

4. Consent Agenda (Action Items)

- a. Approval of April 17, 2021 minutes
- b. FY21 Financial Report as of June 19, 2021
- c. FY 22 (July 2021 to June 2022) board meeting dates
- d. Pawlicki moved to approve Consent Agenda. Richards seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

5. Continuing Business

Dave Horstein

a. Strategic Plan Overview – Why?

- i. Refine identity as a Board
- ii. Maximize our value to the University
- iii. Align with the University goals
- iv. Organize to achieve goals

b. Primary Objectives

- i. Enhance strength, sustainability and stability of Alumni Association
- ii. Foster innovation with alumni initiatives
- iii. Nurture diversity and inclusion with alumni experiences
- iv. Enrich engagement within alumni community

c. What's Next?

- i. Organize and settle in with committees
- ii. Prioritize
- iii. Communicate
- iv. Have fun and celebrate

6. New Business

Steve Smith

a. Motions to suspend on campus requirement for election of directors

- i. Scholl moved to approve. Preston seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

7. Committee/Liaison Updates

a. Written reports provided

- i. Nelson-Brown gave reminder that nominations will be accepted until July 21st for Andrew Purnell, Jr. Trailblazer Award. Richards encouraged board members to encourage others to apply.

8. Adjournment

Steve Smith

Mielneczek moved to adjourn. Seconded by Griffin. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.