

**Illinois State University Alumni Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
September 21, 2019  
Old Main Room, Bone Student Center**

**Attendance**

**Members Present:** Walter Brandon, Lisa Castleman, Fellicia Foster, Liz Garcia, Ryan Gilbert, Tim Griffin, Michelle Guadalupe, Dave Horstein, Joe McGuire, Mary McMahan, Danny Mielneczek, Dakota Pawlicki, Scott Preston, Stacy Ramsey, Doug Reeves, Marsha Reeves, Marsha Reeves, Steve Smith, Alex Smith (SAC), Leah Walton

**Members Absent:** Tyler Clark, Daniel Lopez, Susan Nelson-Brown, Alice Spann, Ron Whitton

**Guests:** April Anderson-Zorn

**Alumni Engagement Staff Present:** Kris Harding, Beth Theobald, Jamie Sennett

**Meeting Minutes**

- 1. Call to Order ..... Lisa Castleman**
  - a. Castleman called the meeting to order at 9:31AM
- 2. University Update ..... President Dietz**
  - a. State of the University Address was held on September 17<sup>th</sup>
  - b. This year marks the largest freshman enrollment in 33 years, with 3,860 freshmen, up 5% from last year
  - c. 32% of this year's freshman class is coming from traditionally underrepresented groups
  - d. University budget has been established and is up 5% from last year, coming in at \$69.6 million
  - e. MAP Program grant funding has increased to \$25 million
  - f. Multicultural Center will be opening this fall, providing a physical resource for minority population
  - g. This fall, renovation on the lower level of Julian Hall will begin to provide space for faculty and 300 students in our new Cybersecurity major
  - h. Redbirds Rising campaign has surpassed its original goal of \$150 million to over \$163 million
- 3. Icebreaker ..... Michele Guadalupe**
  - a. An icebreaker activity was completed by members of the Alumni Board
- 4. Trustee's Remarks ..... Kris Harding**
  - a. Harding presented Trustee's Remarks on behalf of Kathryn Bohn
  - b. Board of Trustees held their meeting on July 26, 2019
    - i. Julie Jones was elected as the Chair and MaryAnn Louderback was elected Secretary
    - ii. Multiple resolutions were approved by the Board, including a Master of Science in computer science, solid waste management upgrade authorization, approval of Foundation Support Agreement, and approval of 2020 Board Meeting Calendar

5. **University Advancement Update** ..... **Pat Vickerman**
  - a. 44 new members were inducted into the 1857 Society this year
  - b. FY19 was a record fiscal year for University Advancement
  - c. Endowment is currently at approximately \$140 million
  - d. Redbirds Rising Campaign total productivity of \$164 million thus far
    - i. Over 52,000 donors have contributed to the campaign
6. ***The Walls Speak: Telling ISU's Story Through its Campus Building*** **April Anderson-Zorn**
  - a. Anderson-Zorn presented a brief history of Illinois State University buildings and notable historical university facts
  - b. Book can be purchased on Amazon or local book dealers
7. **President's Report**..... **Lisa Castleman**
  - a. Castleman has been able to participate in each Board committees' meetings since taking office
  - b. Peoria Area Alumni Association event scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup> has 90 RSVPs so far
8. **Executive Director's Report** ..... **Kris Harding**
  - a. Homecoming volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated to the board
  - b. Board Activity Form should be filled out by board members to help measure our achievements towards the Board Priority Action Items
  - c. Apparel orders are being collected and can be delivered to home or picked up during Homecoming
  - d. Student Affairs Legacy of Leadership was well-attended (over 100 alumni)
  - e. Shakespeare Night was a success this year, despite poor weather
  - f. Many alumni have reached out to Alumni Engagement to inquire about starting networks in their city
  - g. Alumni Engagement hosted 240 people at the pregame tailgate before the Northern Illinois game in DeKalb
  - h. Homecoming events can be found on the Homecoming website - [Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu](http://Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu)
9. **Consent Agenda (Action Items)** ..... **Lisa Castleman**
  - a. Approval of June 22, 2019 Minutes
    - i. Ramsey moved to approve the minutes and Consent Agenda. Reeves seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously
  - b. FY19 Financial Report—Final (Update)
  - c. FY20 Financial Report as of 9/6/19
10. **Continuing Business** ..... **Lisa Castleman**
  - a. Board Priority Action Items – Committee
    - i. Castleman has requested a participant from each committee be available to form a new committee to help identify Board Priority Action Items
11. **New Business**
  - a. 2019-20 Committee Assignments
    - i. Committee assignments have now been finalized
    - ii. Every board member should participate in at least 1 committee each year
      1. Griffin moved to approve the committee assignments. Richards seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

- b. Scholarship Committee Proposal
  - i. Scholarship Committee proposed updates to Alumni Association Scholarship criteria and process to address large number of applicants
    - 1. Raise minimum GPA to 3.0
    - 2. Applications open to undergraduate students only
    - 3. Preference given to juniors and seniors
    - 4. Move application timeline to January 6, 2020 through February 15, 2020
  - ii. Brandon moved to approve the changes to the Alumni Association Scholarship process. Pawlicki second the motion. Motion passed unanimously
- c. Awards Committee Proposal
  - i. Sennett presented two revisions to the awards nomination process to increase nominations and increase diversity in applicant pool.
    - 1. Alumni Engagement staff will be allowed to submit nominations
    - 2. Provide 2 options for submitting a nomination
      - a. Option 1 - the nominator submits a nomination, 2 letters of recommendations and a resume/vita.
      - b. Option 2 - Nominee can submit a name and summary of qualifications. Candidates would be responsible for collecting letters of recommendation.
    - 3. Reeves moved to approve the proposal, as submitted. Griffin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **12. Committee/Liaison Updates**

- a. The following committees provided written reports and updates in conjunction with the meeting:
  - i. Awards Committee
  - ii. Executive Committee
  - iii. Scholarship Committee
- b. Board Development Committee
  - i. Icebreaker program kicked off with this morning's exercise
  - ii. Will be setting up leadership training, conducting by University staff
- c. Homecoming Committee
  - i. Smith suggested previous Alumni Board members should be invited to walk in the parade with the Alumni Board
    - 1. Ramsey will be sending a message to former board members to invite them to participate
- d. Redbird Engagement and Development (RED)
  - i. Committee description has changed, focusing on civic engagement
  - ii. Student Lobby Day is November 13<sup>th</sup>
  - iii. Continuing to work with School Street Pantry with a volunteer opportunity at the April Alumni Board meeting

- e. Redbird Prime
  - i. There will be a table at the Homecoming tent to help spread information about Redbird Prime and facilitate sign-ups
    - 1. Harding will look into posting information about Redbird Prime sign-ups on the Homecoming website
- f. Liaison Updates: Redbird Athletics, Foundation Board, Bone Scholar, Honorary Degree
  - i. Student Alumni Council
    - 1. 30-35 new members joined this year
    - 2. Will be participating in many Homecoming activities, including decorating
    - 3. Will be implementing new program called SAC Talk to invite alumni down to campus to speak about professional development, etc.

**13. Adjournment** ..... **Lisa Castleman**

- a. Preston moved to adjourn. McGuire seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:53AM.

**Upcoming Meetings**

Executive Committee: November 12, 2019

Board: January 25, 2020

*Respectfully submitted by Dave Horstein, Board Secretary*