



Alumni Association

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Washington, District of Columbia

OCTOBER 28, 2016

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the George Washington Alumni Association (the “Association” or “GWAA”) was held on the Foggy Bottom Campus of The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. on October 28, 2016 at 9:15 a.m. local time.

Present at the meeting were the following Board members:

Joe Altenau	Charlie Leizear
Asha Aravindakshan (phone)	Renee Lewis
Natalya Bah	Judith Lipner
Martin Baum (phone)	Matt Manfra
Sepidah Behram	Ariz Matute
Kathleen Bikus	Chrison McManus
Aaron Binstock	Brooke Morita (phone)
Marcos Bronfman	Martha Morris
Deborah Butterfly	Pippa Morse
Christine Cannon	Roulla Nau
Christine Carnavos	Illise Perlmutter
Shannon Cerminaro-Doyle	Venessa Perry
Dean Coclin	Jim Quinlan
Fiona Conroy (phone)	John Samuel
Morgan Corr	Dianne Sherman
Barbara Domingo	Julie Silverbrook
Edwin Elfmann	April Stubbs-Smith
Jeff Fair	Rachel Talbert
Erika Feinman	Courtney Thorne
Ninio Fetalvo (phone)	Ben Trajtenberg
Beth Furtwangler (phone)	Nick Watkins
Jeremy Gosbee	Debbie Wheeler
Jennifer Guzman	Christopher Whittam
Jacqueline Hackett	Scot Wilson
Alexander Hasely	Adam Wolken (phone)
Kumar Jeev	Marilyn Yakowitz
LaVida Johnson	

The following members of the Board were absent:

Charles Calloway
Aaron Deer
Huiling Helen Li

Tim Gowa
Clarita Jimenez
Andrew Perlman

Mr. Jeremy Gosbee, Association President, acted as Chairman of the meeting, which was recorded for the purposes of minutes to be prepared by Mr. Morgan Corr, Association Secretary.

All of the above persons being present at the meeting the President called the meeting to order and announced that the Board would proceed with the transaction of business.

1. Business Session

a. President's Report –

i. Announcements: Mr. Gosbee reviewed the agenda for the day with the Board then proceeded with general announcements. He specifically congratulated Mr. Jeff Fair on recently becoming a father, Mr. Jim Quinlan for his election as President of the Philadelphia Brehon Law Society, and Ms. Illisse Perlmutter on being appointed to the University faculty. He also thanked Mr. Quinlan and the Awards Committee for a great job on the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Awards, held the prior evening.

ii. Campaign Update: Mr. Gosbee reported that so far this fiscal year 41% (25 out of 61) of Board Members have made their contributions to the University, as required by the bylaws. He further noted that fundraising is ahead of pace for the *Colonials Helping Colonials Fund* (CHCF).

b. Minutes – Mr. Corr presented the draft minutes of the prior Board meeting and invited any corrections or amendments to be offered. There being none, on motion duly made and seconded the Board approved the minutes unanimously.

c. Nominations & Governance Update – Ms. Christine Carnavos, Vice President for Nomination & Governance presented several proposals put forth by that committee:

i. Position Descriptions: Mr. Corr and Ms. Julie Silverbrook, Association Parliamentarian, jointly drafted detailed position descriptions for the roles

of Secretary and Parliamentarian, outlining qualifications, responsibilities, and desired skills for each role. The position descriptions were approved by the Nominations & Governance Committee and presented for board approval. Following a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved them unanimously.

ii. Bylaw Amendments:

1. To amend the Association bylaws to change the required number of Members-at-Large on the Board to “no less than 1 and no more than 60” which will allow for maximum flexibility with governance. Following a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the amendment unanimously.
2. To amend the requirement of Board members to provide a financial contribution “in accordance with the duly adopted Policy on Board Giving” instead of by a specified calendar date. The intention is to allow the Board to set policy from time to time by majority vote, not be required to amend bylaws. Following a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the amendment unanimously.
3. To amend the bylaws to further define what the Policy on Board giving is, when it shall be adopted, how it may be changed, and other related materials. Following a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the amendment unanimously.

2. GWAA Strategic Planning Session—

- a. Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Venessa Perry, Association President-Elect and Chair of the Strategic Planning Task Force, provided an update on the process, including a meeting held in September with the task force. Ms. Perry shared what had been learned so far, and the emergence of a “One GW: All Alumni” vision. Ms. Perry announced that a listening tour was underway, and there would be events held in DC, New York, Miami, Los Angeles, Boston, and more. A robust discussion was held among the Board about the direction of the strategic planning endeavor and role of the Association going forward.
- b. Strategic Planning Exercise – Office of Alumni Relations staff led the Board through exercises to share their views and visions in small groups, before reconvening as a whole Board to discuss various topics related to the long term vision of the Association and its role in the larger GW community.

3. GW Presidential Search – Chairman of the GW Board of Trustees, Mr. Nelson Carbonell, provided the Board with a detailed update on the work of the committee conducting the search for a new University president. He reported that before the process concludes more than 40 town halls and listening events will have been held with GW stakeholders, that the priorities and general qualifications are being derived from those meetings, and that it is anticipated there will be a new president announced early in the new year.
4. Lunch and Committee Meetings – The Board broke for individual committee meetings over lunch.
5. Afternoon Proceedings and Business
 - a. Committee Updates – The Vice Presidents chairing each committee provided brief report outs on the activities of their committees. Highlights include:
 - i. Awards Committee – The nominees for Outstanding Alumni Service Awards are:
 1. James Core
 2. Stewart Harshbarger
 3. Steven Skancke
 4. Dean Coclin
 5. Mary Miller
 6. Jean Johnson.The slate was presented to the Board for approval, and upon a motion duly made and seconded the slate was approved unanimously.
 - ii. Student-Alumni Initiatives Committee
 1. There is a new crop of Colonial Ambassadors looking for mentors, so please sign up if interested.
 2. Inaugural Ball is coming up. There are some concerns about affordability for some students. A parent has come forward helping to subsidize tickets, and they are encouraging alumni to contribute to this project.
 - iii. Career Services Committee
 1. The industry based alumni networks launched in July and there are more than 6,000 alumni who have already opted to join. Please help spread the word.
 - iv. Communications Committee
 1. This committee has combined with the ad hoc committee on direct alumni outreach.
 2. A formal outreach program has been created, as noted in the Hatchet and is something all Board members can participate in.

3. Outreach is being planned prior to the first “welcome to being an alum” event following commencement.

v. Nominations and Governance Committee

1. Committee decided not to do nominations for Board seats for next year. There is a strong diversity/balance on the Board now, the strategic planning process isn't complete so it seems wisest to know what changes will be coming to the Board and what size it will be.
2. Planning is under way for a better education process for Board members, better define the officers and roles, stronger onboarding process, and leadership development.

vi. Programs Committee

1. The grants subcommittee is in the second year of its new process, which is going very smoothly.
2. There was a significant uptick in Board member participation in alumni weekend, so let's keep that up.

b. Treasurer's Report

- i. Mr. Aaron Deer, Vice President for Financial Affairs and Treasurer reported on the revue of affinity agreements and the ongoing negotiations to renew these revenue streams.
- ii. He also reported on the financial implications of remaining an independent 501(c)(3) organization versus integrating the Association into the University.

c. Alumni Relations Report –

- i. Mr. Matthew Manfra, Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations, provided an overview of what to expect at alumni weekend. There are a record number of programs and events being hosted this weekend and there is also an increase in registrations.
- ii. Mr. Manfra provided an update on the capital campaign, which is nearing the original goal of raising \$1B. Alumni weekend is an excellent opportunity to help get closer to that goal and to engage alumni.
- iii. Mr. Manfra also noted there are several positions open in the office of Alumni Relations and to please help spread the word.

6. Adjournment - There being no further matters to come before the Association, upon motion duly made and seconded, a vote to adjourn the Meeting occurred at approximately 3:45 p.m.

* * * *

The foregoing is a true record of the proceedings described herein and has been reviewed and approved by the Board, which gave authority to the undersigned to so authenticate.

_ Name: Jeremy Gosbee

Date: