

**Alumnae Association of Mills College  
Annual Meeting**

May 13, 2017  
2:00 PM  
Reinhardt Alumnae House

**I) Introduction**

President Viji Nakka Cammauf welcomed alumnae and called the meeting to order at **2:27 PM.**

Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

***Board Members Present:***

President: Viji Nakka Cammauf

Vice President: Lynette Castille-Hall

Members: Adrienne Foster, Kirstyne Lange, Pierre Loving, Alexa Pagonas, Lenore Tate, Linda Stingily, Susan Thomas.

***Board Members Absent:*** Gloria Fangon-Hitz, Catherine Ladnier, Lilian Sahagun, Lucy Seereiter, Susan Ardisson, Yvonne Daniel, Dorothy Lawrence.

***Association Members:***

Lynda Campfield, Dawn Cunningham, Kathy Janes, Cynthia Guevara, Myila Granberry, Micheline Beam, Patricia Duncan Hall, Marlene C. Hurd, Kristin Carver, Michelle Balovich, Connie Davidson, Judith James, Renee Dyer, Melissa Mooney, Sharon Jackson, Cassandra Curry, Susan Thomas, Karen Madison, Camellia Hudson Franklin, Gwen Foster, Tara Singh, Rozena Harten, Lesli Mac Neil, Kathleen Stavis, Pierre Loving, Lucy Do, Karlin Sorenson, Vicki Luibrand, Carol Lu Zischke, Linda Stingily, Karen Madison, Maria Dominguez, Miki Hong.

**II) President's Report**

- 1) AAMC President Viji Nakka Cammauf reflected that it had been a very full year, with great moments and sad moments. Great moments included 297 alumnae attending Reunion to celebrate the inauguration of Beth Hillman as Mills College president. The 50<sup>th</sup> year reunion class of '66 had 34 alumnae in attendance. The total pledge for this class was \$213,766 and the total pledge for all the classes was \$1,496,713.
- 2) The following alumnae were award for special contributions:

Outstanding Volunteer: Anna Henderson '82

Recent Graduate: Courtney Long '01

Distinguished Achievement: Content "Corky" [Mott-Smith] Sablinsky '56

- 3) The AoCC celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> year of its founding and honored Dr. Bruce Williams for his outstanding career and service to generations of students. The AoCC has an endowed scholarship in honor of Alecia DeCoudreaux. The AoCC has already awarded two student scholarships and are moving steadily towards their goal of raising \$150,000. At a recent reception, with Bonnie Guitton as honorary chair, the AoCC had raised \$20,000.

Sadly, Marge Nicholson, Vice President and Alumna passed away. Lucy Do's mother Nguyen Ngoc Chau, Helen Do passed away in December 2016.

- 4) The BOG had full membership this year with 18 members. In lieu of a faculty member being on the board these years, the BOG invited various faculty to report at the BOG at one of its meetings.

The BOG went on a retreat in a February. They stayed overnight in Sonoma. It was a productive time for the BOG as they engaged in community building and strategic planning.

- 5) There have been many active committees this year: Educational Outreach; Finance; Nomination Committee; Alumnae Student Relations; Travel; Awards; AoCC. The AAMC will be aligning the committees to cohere with the strategic plan of the college and the arrangements of the COMPACT.
- 6) It was very helpful for the BOG to have had President Beth Hillman attend every one of the BOG meetings. Several officers of the College also attended some of the BOG meetings. The trustees will attend a BOG meeting at least one a year. The BOG honored Sharon Washington with a silver eucalyptus pin for her stellar work at the college.
- 7) Students: AAMC had meaningful and memorable events involving the College students and for the students: Taco Tuesday (now includes the graduate students); Winter Celebration; International Dinner; Pearl M – this year Kristen Oliver received the Pearl M pin. She has been an active part of the Alumnae Students Relations Committee. Her 92 year old grandmother was at the dinner. We presented her with an ornament of Mills Hall.
- 8) The Working Committee had a fruitful and productive time creating points of agreement towards a memorandum of collaboration between the AAMC and the

College. Dawn Cunningham, a vital team member of the group, shared a summary of these events [see last item on this AAMC annual meeting report].

- 9) Gifts to the AAMC: the Board was bequeathed a gift by Audrey Gibney with a clear direction that the funds be given to the college programs.. The BOG received 2 proposals and voted to grant \$100,000 each to Oakland Promise and Undocumented Students. Both are endowed scholarships in honor of Audrey Gibney.

New funds have been given to the AAMC specifically to be set aside for alumnae who wish to audit classes at Mills. Viji Nakka Cammauf proposed to confer with the Provost's Office to identify classes offered by the faculty who might allow auditors.

### **III) Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the 2016 AAMC annual meeting were approved unanimously.

### **IV) Treasurer's Report**

The 2017-2018 budget was balanced with the Gibney trust funds directed into the investment fund. There were changes made to fund various clubs, but it was noted that alumnae outreach was needed to boost funds directed at AAMC operations. An important addition to this year's budget was the introduction of part-time staff to help with administration needs.

### **V) Nominating Committee Report**

Governor Pierre Loving introduced herself as the chair of the Nominating Committee and made announcements about the slate of new members to the Board of Governors. The Nominating Committee met 8X this year and reviewed 16 applicants that were applicants for candidacy for the BOG. After the Nominating Committee vetted the candidates, the Committee recommended for the 2017-2018 year the following individuals for board membership: Lynnette Castille-Hall (Vice President), Dawn Cunningham, and Tara Singh. Ammie Felder-Williams was elected by the AAMC to be Alumna Trustee. After recommendation of the slate to the BOG, a vote was asked of the AAMC to approve the slate. All present were in favor with one abstention.

### **VI) Nominating Committee Selection**

The meeting moved forward to vote for the new members for the 2017-2018 Nominating Committee. 7 members needed to be elected, with 3 currently serving on the BOG, 4 not serving, and 3 alumnae needed as alternates for the committee. It was noted that those serving on the Nominating Committee could not be considered for the BOG or Alumna Trustee position during their tenure on the Nominating

Committee. The BOG members of the nominating committee were determined: Linda Stingily (Chair of the Nominating Committee), Adrienne Foster, Alexa Pagonas. Lenore Tate was slated to serve as an alternate member from the BOG. The 4 non-BOG alumnae to serve on the Nominating Committee is as follows: Connie Swan-Davison, Camellia Franklin, Maria Dominguez, and Cynthia Guevara. The 3 alternates for the committee included Myila Granberry, Patricia Duncan-Hall, and as noted Lenore Tate.

Current Alumna Trustee (AT) Judith James is to step down in June, and Ammie Felder-Williams will be the new Trustee to serve on the BOT (Board of Trustees). The AT is influential as 3 ATs at any given time will serve on both the BOG and BOT. The BOT is the governing body of the college and is a component of the college administration. The BOT exercises influence over the choice of the College's president.

## **VII) Compact Update**

Dawn Cunningham gave an update on the COMPACT between the AAMC and the College. The process is now in the stage of negotiating principles of the relations to be shared between the College and the AAMC. Many of the new relationships defined were approved by both entities. This year, a working group was formed and met for the COMPACT to operationalize on points related to RAH, fundraising, reports on items of collaboration and agreement. The feedback received so far has been positive through surveys. Alumnae have given philanthropic support and wish to see this collaboration. There is much enthusiasm to keep RAH as a "homebase" for Mills Alumnae.

80% of surveyed alumnae agreed that COMPACT reports would provide stronger relations between the AAMC and the College. The alumnae also supported joint fundraising efforts between the College and the AAMC. There were some questions about how to identify Mills College to the world. A point of contention was that 84% of alumnae very much wanted Mills College to be designated as a Women's College. Many did not desire Mills College to be referred to as a "historically" Women's College.

Moving forward, the COMPACT will legalize documentation of new principles that are approved.

## **Meeting Adjourned 4:43**

Minutes taken by Miki Hong

