

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## AAMC Annual Meeting May 17, 2014

The implementation of the 2013-2018 Mills College Strategic Plan started at the beginning of this school year. The strategic imperatives for the plan are:

- 1 • Developing curriculum with a purpose in a changing world
- 2 • Creating more flexible ways to obtain a Mills education
- 3 • Strengthening our commitment to inclusion, social justice, and sustainability
- 4 • Internationalizing Mills
- 5 • Providing a vibrant and inclusive campus life
- 6 • Developing partnerships

The Alumna Trustees report has details on the developments for all of these imperatives.

### **Board of Governors**

There were 9 new members of the BOG for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. We did not have a representative from the faculty. Megan Hinsch (ASMC President) was the student governor, but was replaced by Mel Petricko.

The AAMC also had a new President (Lucy Do '75), Vice President (Viji Nakka-Cammauf '82 MA), and Treasurer (Susan Thomas '80).

Julia Almanzan ('92) resigned her position as Alumna Trustee at the end of the previous fiscal year with 2 years remaining in her term. Molly Fannon Williams ('75) replaced Julia for the remainder of this term.

Diana Odermatt is finishing her first term as Alumna Trustee and has elected not to stand election for her second term.

The composition of the BOG will change less dramatically for the ensuing year with only 5 positions to be filled, including the faculty and student governors.

### **New AAMC Initiatives**

#### Outreach to Branches and Clubs

- As you can see from this year's Annual Meeting agenda, the BOG is putting emphasis on outreach to the regional branches. The Branches/Clubs Liaison Committee was formed as a result of the modifications to the AAMC Bylaws approved at last year's Annual Meeting. Along with communications to the many Branches & Clubs by the committee, I have traveled to the following

club meetings: Orange County, North Bay, Marin, Palo Alto, Hawaii, Seattle, and Contra Costa County.

## **Committees**

The standing committees for the AAMC are:

- Nominating
- Executive
- Finance
- Alumnae Awards, Alumnae of Color
- Graduate Students
- Educational Outreach
- Alumnae Student Relations
- Travel
- Communications
- Branch/Club liaison

Highlights for the year are:

### Nominating (Chair – Pierre Loving '77)

- Online voting was established for Alumna Trustee. There was an increase of 20% more ballots received over previous years, 60% of which were online.
- The predominant reason for not voting remains that the candidates are not known to the potential voter. This issue of priority for the Nominating Committee for the next fiscal year.

### Alumnae Awards (chair – Jennifer King '00, '02 MA)

Reunion 2013 marked the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of these awards and the recipients were:

- *Outstanding Volunteer award*: Lynda Campfield '00 '02 MA
- *Distinguished Achievement Award*: Thembisa Mshaka '92
- *Recent Graduate award*: Michelle Balovich '03

### Alumnae of Color (chair – Cynthia Guevara '04)

- Sponsored "Celluloids of Color – Alumnae of Color MiniCine Festival" during Reunion 2013
- Continues to have monthly Sunday brunches at Founders' Commons to provide support and mentoring to students
- Co-sponsored Phenomenal Women of Color with Alumnae Relations – Sabrina Kwist of the Division of Student Life was awarded the Phenomenal Woman distinction
- Jazz is scheduled for June 28, 2014 and will be at Littlefield Theater this year. There will be snacks and refreshments in the reception hall.

### Graduate Students (co-chairs – Lillian Sahagun '10 '12 MA and LaTasha Warmesley '10)

- Provided hot soup and chili to graduate students during 1<sup>st</sup> semester finals
- Sponsored an ice-cream social in April

#### Educational Outreach (chair – Dawna Williams '13)

- Sponsored "Cuba: A World of Rhythm" at Reunion 2013
- Sponsored "Chinese Language, Culture, and Calligraphy" during Reunion 2013
- Hosted the post party reception following the Dimension Dance performance in February
- Hosted dinner and a movie (United States of Alec)
- Hosted 6 people to the Annual League of Women Luncheon featuring the Chief Justice of the CA Supreme Court
- Hosted a Women's History Month Event
- Sponsoring attendance at Raisin in the Sun, a CalShakes presentation, on June 8, 2014

#### Alumnae Student Relations (chair – Viji Nakka- Cammauf '82 MA)

- Co-sponsored Taco Tuesday with Alumnae Relations at the beginning of the school year
- Provided snacks for students during 1<sup>st</sup> semester finals
- Co-sponsored Winter Celebration to celebrate mid-term graduates in December
- Sponsored the International Student dinner in April where International Students presented information on their research projects
- Co-sponsored the Pearl M dinner with Alumnae Relations: Rose Lopez won the Pearl M donated by Geraldine Clark '52. Both matriculated in English

#### Travel (chair – Lucy Do '75)

- President DeCoudreaux and her husband traveled on an AAMC sponsored river cruise from Moscow to St. Petersburg with a group of 20 alumnae, family, and friends. She has tentatively agreed to join the AAMC on a yet to be named trip in the summer of 2016.
- Organize a visit in April to Hakone Estates and Garden in Saratoga, CA. Thirty three alumnae, family, & friends enjoyed a formal tea ceremony, a kimono wearing demonstration. We also had a special viewing of the Year of the Horse art exhibit which was guided by Connie Young Yu ('63) and a guided tour of the garden. Connie is the President of the Board of Trustees for the estate. Her family was part of a group of owners of the estate before it was sold to the city of Saratoga.
- The 2015 program will include 9 overseas visits, 1 to Canadian National Parks, and 1 to National Parks in the US.

#### Branch/Club Liaison (chair – Marge Nicholson '96 MA)

- Branches and clubs across the country have been contacted as the first step in establishing contact and relationship between the BOG and these regional groups.
- This is the first Annual Meeting which is including reports about activities by Branches and Clubs. We invite feedback on this activity

### **AAMC Endowment**

For the year, we have received \$25,978.25 in donations to the AAMC Endowment Fund. **Professor Marion Ross ('44) very generously contributed a major portion of these donations.**

### **AAMC Finance**

Along with the improvements in the economic situation in the US, AAMC's earnings from our travel programs as well as from merchandize sales have also improved. As you have noticed, our latest addition is the fabulous scarf designed exclusively for the AAMC by Professor Emerita Hung Liu. This is available as a limited edition, so please make your purchases while they are still available.

The AAMC is very conservative in our expenditures. Our committees have been able to maintain lower costs by seeking less expensive caterers while maintaining high quality of food and refreshments for our events. Many of our events are also co-sponsored with Alumnae Relations. They have been our super partners, contributing not only money, but also their time and talent.

### **Our Partners**

Alumnae Relations is headed by Laura Gobbi, Senior Director of Alumnae Relations. Her always helpful staff include Caitlin McGarty, Nikole Adams, Allison ('12) Marin, Katja Geldof ('03), and Nicole Vermeer ('11).

Our other partners in crime on campus are the OIA Communications and Outreach, headed by Senior Director Dawn Cunningham ('85), with staff members Linda Schmidt, Angelique Felgentreff ('90), and Sarah Nash ('92). They are instrumental in providing communications to AAMC's greater audience.

It is with great disappointment for me to announce that Dawn Cunningham is resigning her position at Mills College as of June 6, 2014. She will be join her husband to write a book, and also pursue freelance work. We wish her the greatest success in her new endeavors!

Respectfully submitted,  
N.T. Lucy Do ('75)  
AAMC President