

President' Report October 2017- Viji Nakka- Cammauf

As I begin my second year as President I am very thankful for the many wonderful experiences and encounters I have had this past year and look forward to another year of dedicated team work the Board, AAMC and the College. We along with the College have faced some major challenges but I am confident that President Beth's leadership and her solid cabinet will ensure the sustainability of Mills.

Board of Trustees: I have learned a lot from my first year on the Board and look forward to deeper engagement as Chair of the Student Life Committee. I appreciated the open, frank, candid and thoughtful discussions on very important matters by board members.

Alumnae Scholarship

We received a gift of \$5000 from an alumna who is enjoying auditing classes at Mills. This gift will enable other alumnae to audit classes and get reconnected to Mills. Plans are underway to get the first group of auditors to start classes in the spring.

August Events: is a time of connection with students. The ASR Committee partnered with Alumnae Relations to host Taco Tuesday. There were 225 students and several college officers including the President were in attendance. Students were eager to connect with alumnae and desired more opportunities to network and engage. The SAW brunch organized by the AoCC was another engaging event and once again there were many alumnae at hand to mingle with students and extend them a warm welcome

Reunion 2017: Reunion at Mills in the fall is one of my favorite events with so many alumni returning and filling Mills campus with their excitement and happiness. I am always on the lookout for alumni life stories and they never fail to amaze me! It was a wonderful gathering of 280 reunioning alumnae and guests. The funds collected by all the reunioning classes came to \$512,957. We had great attendance at the AAMC update sessions where we talked about the MOC. There was great appreciation for the work of the Committee and a better understanding of the opportunities for Alumnae to work towards making Mills sustainable for the future generation of students.

MOC: Several meetings, along with a lot of alumnae input has led to a well-rounded and well executed final draft is now ready for a vote at the BOG meeting in October . It will then go on to the Board of Trustees for their vote. This is an exciting era in the history of the AAMC and Mills College which makes for greater partnership and collaboration between the two organizations. I have come to appreciate each one of the working committee members and count it a privilege to have been part of this amazing team.

Faculty and ASMC partnerships: I have had several meetings with faculty and ASMC officers who are looking for ways to partner with the AAMC. We have discussed and planned opportunities for deeper engagement for alumnae and alumnae with students.

Retreat: 14 governors spent an overnight at Asilomar retreat center in September. This was a time to get to know one another, build community, and work through board matters. It generated spirited discussions at times but we accomplished what was needed. We enjoyed each other during our dinner and lunch in Carmel and San Jose. It was a much needed time for our Board and will help us in our work as we together seek to strengthen our ties both with alumnae and the College.