

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MILLS COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
May 14, 2014
5:30 – 9:00 PM
REINHARDT ALUMNAE HOUSE

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

President Lucy Do called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. There were 14 members in attendance.

Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

President: Lucy Do.

Vice-Presidents: Viji Nakka-Cammauf and Jennifer King.

Treasurer: Susan Thomas

Board Members: Lilly Sahagun, Pierre Loving, Marge Nicholson, Dawna Williams, Marina Simenstad, Toni McElroy, and Darice Balabanis.

Alumna Trustees: Diana Odermatt, Molly Fannon Williams, and Laura Gobbi (Senior Director of Alumnae Relations).

Board members absent were: Alumna Trustee Melissa Dile, Governor Gloria Fangon-Hitz and ASMC member Mel Petricko.

Prior to the start of the meeting the Board of Governors met some of the recipients of scholarships sponsored by the Alumnae Association. Ashley Young and Francescamaria Twohy-Haines, both recipients of Donna Hunt scholarships and Sharon Robinson, recipient of the Alecia DeCoudreaux scholarship joined the board for a pre-meeting dinner reception. As it was Trustee Governor Diana Odermatt's last meeting she was honored by President Do for her years of service to the Alumnae Association and presented a bouquet of flowers.

President Do then introduced College President Alecia DeCoudreaux who updated the Governors on campus activities. Decoudreaux followed up with results from the demands of the black students as a result of an unfortunate Facebook posting. She had previously sent a memo to the Mills community with this information. Due to the number of students who did not return between fall and spring semesters a task force is looking at the entire enrollment cycle, recruitment, enrollment, retention and graduation. Decoudreaux is pursuing some new public safety policies and implementation. Decoudreaux reported that unfortunately the budget is not good and there needs to be some restructuring and reduction in work force to be balanced for FY '15. There needs to be a sustainable model in the budget that is being presented to the Board on June 30. Decoudreaux plans to send a memo to the Mills Community outlining the issues on May 14th.

President Do next introduced Brian O'Rourke, Vice-President of Admissions, to provide the Governors with an update on the recruitment of international students. The Office of Admissions is reaching out to Hong Kong and China due to the historical relationships

with those countries and looking to expand to South America and Saudi Arabia. They are attempting to build partnerships for exchange programs with international colleges. The goal is 15 – 20% international students in the student body. Alumnae Admissions Representatives and international faculty are being enlisted to assist with recruitment.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from February 19, 2014 had been provided to the Governors at the meeting. Due to a lack of time President Do said she would reach out to each Governor to get their approval of the minutes.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

In an effort to save time, all Governors had been provided most of the committee reports in advance of the meeting.

President's Report: In addition to her written report, provided in advance to the Committee members, President Do wanted to expand on the role of Alumnae Admissions Representative (AAR). If a Governor wanted to participate there was a two-day training required to proceed. One of the roles of the AAR is to make contact with potential students to encourage them to enroll at Mills. The college is especially interested in international contacts. And interested Governor should contact Laura Gobbi of the Alumnae Relations office.

Treasurer's Report : Treasurer Susan Thomas had prepared a preliminary budget for fiscal year '14-'15. Most of the committees would maintain the same budget allocation as for fiscal year '13-'14. At present the Board has overspent its budget due to the expense of printing the Hung Liu scarves but those funds will be recaptured in the near future. A motion to accept the budget was made by Vice-president King. The motion was seconded by Vice-president Nakka-Cammauf. A vote was taken, one vote to oppose, the rest accepted. Budget passed as submitted.

Report from the Office of Alumnae Relations: (report provided in advance of meeting) Gobbi reported that there has been much more volunteer participation by alumnae in this past fiscal year. There had been 10 alumnae hosted summer send-off events. Alumnae Relations, in partnership with Career Services, sponsored 3 brunches at Founder's Commons featuring career panels in which 35 alumnae participated, many of whom had never participated in an alumnae event before. The regional clubs and branches are becoming highly mobilized and sponsoring events for their local members. 15 faculty members went on the road for events this year, there had only been 4 the previous year and zero the year before that. The 2014 senior class gift was up to 48% participation.

BREAK

President Do called the meeting back to order at 8:15 PM

- IV. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Governor Loving presented the results of the work of the Nominating Committee. For the first time on-line voting for the Alumnae Trustee was allowed and Judith Renee James '74 was elected. There was an increase of 20% in the number of votes cast and a reduction by half in the number of paper ballots mailed in. There were 25 nominations to the Board of Governors resulting in 8 applications. Loving presented the slate of newly selected Governors: Catherine Ladnier '70 and Lynette Castille Hall '75. In addition Betty Lin '99 was selected as the alumnae faculty representative. Two Board members, Lillian Sahagun '10, '12 MA and Marge Nicholson '96 MA were re-selected for a second and final term as Governors. A motion was made by Vice-president King to accept the candidates selected by the Nominating Committee. A second was made by Trustee Odermatt. A vote was taken; the result was unanimous to accept the results.

The next matter presented by Governor Loving was her resignation as the Nominating Committee chair. Marina Simenstad was nominated as Loving's replacement by Vice-president Nakka-Cammauf, which Governor Simenstad accepted. A move to close nominations was made by Vice-president King, seconded by Vice-president Nakka-Cammauf. A vote was taken to confirm Governor Simenstad as new chair of the Nominating Committee. Approval was unanimous.

The final matter presented by Governor Loving was the need to have 3 members of the Board of Governors on the Nominating Committee. Traditionally the complete Nominating Committee is created at the Annual Meeting of the AAMC. As three members of that committee must come from the Board, Governor Loving wanted nominations to take forward to that meeting. Governor Balabanis and Vice-president Nakka-Cammauf self-nominated. Governor Sahagun was nominated by Trustee Odermatt.

- V. AUTHORS' PANEL:** Vice-president King updated the Board on the status of the Authors' Panel to take place October 12, 2014 in the Concert Hall. The focus of the panel will be *Recreating Womanhood*. Tickets will be \$135 VIP which will include a meet and greet with the authors, \$35 general admission and \$25 students. Vice-president King suggested that members of the Board might sponsor the cost of some student admissions. The Board will be needed to help promote the event so stay tuned.
- VI. REINHARDT HOUSE KITCHEN:** President Do wanted the Board to think about funding a remodel of the kitchen at Reinhardt House. The AAMC fund will be stronger with the sales of the Hung Liu scarf and it really is time to update the facilities. Due to budget constraints the college won't be doing this any time soon. The idea that President Do had was that the AAMC remodels the kitchen and Events will reimburse the expense with a portion of the proceeds from rental. There needs to be an opportunity for a return on investment.

- VII. BOARD FUN EVENT:** Vice-president Nakka-Cammauf asked the Board to consider some ideas for a fun social event. Her suggestions were a cooking class, cruise on the bay, Napa wine tour and lunch, Rockwall winery in Alameda, a make your own pizza class, Day at the Spa, horseback riding and a food truck event were brainstormed ideas. Governors were asked to think about these and any other ideas they might have. The plan is that this would occur in July and be for new and old members of the Board.
- VIII. TALKING POINTS:** Governor Nicholson wanted to update the Board on the Talking Points she is developing as part of her role in the Branch/Club chair. They will be sent out with the minutes and include items to use when out talking with alumnae. She will be reporting at the Annual Meeting about the regional clubs she has reached out to and they will be making presentations.
- IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** All chairs will be given editorial rights to update and post on the Facebook page. If any Governor wants to volunteer to assist Alumnae Relations with reunion they will get reduced registration. Vice-president Nakka-Cammauf wanted to recognize both the Resource Development and Travel committees for their financial contributions to the AAMC. Vice-president King announced that the deadline for Alumnae Awards was extended to July 11, 2014.

Meeting adjourned by President Lucy Do at 9:12 PM
Submitted by Lesli MacNeil
May 19, 2014

Addendum to minutes. Due to lack of time at the meeting, President Lucy Do took an e-mail vote to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2014 meeting. The minutes were approved with no changes.
Submitted by Lesli MacNeil
June 12, 2014