

**Alumnae Association of Mills College
Board of Governors Meeting
December 6, 2017
6:30 pm to 9:45 pm
Reinhardt Alumnae House**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Viji Nakka-Cammauf called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. There were 11 members in attendance and 4 members who participated by phone, constituting a quorum:

President: Viji Nakka-Cammauf

Vice President: Lynette Castille-Hall

Treasurer: Tara Singh (via phone)

Board Members: Dawn Cunningham, Gloria Fangon-Hitz, Adrienne Foster, Kirstyne Lange, Dorothy Lawrence, Pierre Loving, Alexa Pagonas, Linda Stingily, Lenore Tate, Susan Thomas (via phone)

Alumnae Trustees: Susan Ardisson (via phone), Ammie Felder-Williams (via phone)

Absent: Student Governor Cindy Castillo, Alumna Trustee Yvonne Daniel, Governor Lucy Seereiter, Vice President Marina Simenstad

The following guests were invited to give presentations at the meeting: Beth Hillman, Mills College president; Maria Cammarata, vice president for finance and administration and treasurer; and Chinyere Oparah, provost and dean of the faculty.

II. COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION REPORT

President Hillman, Vice President Cammarata, and Provost Oparah discussed the College's need for a line of credit to help fund two initiatives: development of a signature undergraduate experience and of online degree programs in the School of Education. The signature experience, to be known as MPOWER, is being designed to boost student success in college and careers and to increase undergraduate enrollment. The online degree programs to be developed are an MA in early childhood education and an MA in educational leadership. The program development process will build in-house capacity for online education, and once launched, the programs are expected to enroll as many as 120 students each and generate revenue that can help build other programs. In general, opportunities for enrollment growth are greater at the graduate level than the undergraduate level. The guest presenters left at 7:30 pm.

III. KEY MOTIONS AND VOTES

President Nakka-Cammauf moved to approve the meeting's agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

She also moved to approve the minutes of the October 18 Board of Governors meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

Governor Singh presented the treasurer's report, concluding that the AAMC's cash flow reserves were more than adequate to meet expenses and that the association was in a sound position to loan money to the College. She presented the Finance Committee's motion to establish a line of credit through the AAMC for the maximum aggregate principal of \$2,000,000.00 for Mills College.

The motion was discussed, and a second motion was made to amend it by adding the following phrase: "with terms to be negotiated by members of the Board of Governors." The governors who were not College trustees voted unanimously, by roll call, in favor of the amendment. (Alumnae trustees were excluded from voting to avoid conflict of interest).

The amended motion, "To establish a line of credit through the AAMC for the maximum aggregate principal of \$2,000,000.00 for Mills College, with terms to be negotiated by members of the Board of Governors," was then presented for roll-call vote by governors who were not College trustees. The motion passed unanimously.

Governor Cunningham summarized the request from Mills College for the AAMC to fund an online student-alumnae mentoring program to be built on the PeopleGrove platform, which is also used by Stanford University and Wellesley College, among other institutions. President Nakka-Cammauf moved to approve the funding of PeopleGrove at the cost of \$9000 per year. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

III. COMMITTEE UPDATES

President Nakka-Cammauf urged governors to participate actively on committees. Governor Foster reminded the group that committee meeting dates and times needed to be shared.

Governor Stingily reported that the call for alumnae trustee nominations appeared in the *Mills Quarterly*, the (*e*)*ucalyptus* email newsletter, and the AAMC website. She asked governors for input on how to best balance the board's membership and on the skills needed on the board. She said that a survey would be sent to the governors to collect input.

Governor Lange recommended that one or two seats be designated for recent graduates. Nakka-Cammauf added that recent graduates and students should be represented on AAMC committees. Governor Tate recommended that volunteers serve first on an AAMC committee before being asked to join the board.

IV. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

The following topics were recommended for future discussion: how alumnae can be involved in various regions (by Governor Lange); the need for standardization of committee reports (by Governor Lawrence); the need for agendas to be distributed 72 hours in advance of a meeting, the need for executive committee agendas to be shared, the implementation of the 2017 Memorandum of Collaboration (by Governor Foster).

It was also noted by Governor Fangon-Hitz that some new committees did not have budgets. President Nakka-Cammauf said these committees should submit a budget to the Finance Committee. Finally, governors were asked not to carbon copy (cc) everyone in replies to information sent out by the president.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded and carried at 9:45 pm.