

**AAMC Branch/Club Liaison Committee**  
**Third Quarter, 2013 Report**

**Mission:**

Build a strong, active global network of Mills alumnae who have positive feelings about Mills College and the AAMC Board of Governors by establishing a mutually beneficial relationship between the AAMC Board of Governors and the regional branches/clubs. The Board of Governors will continue to partner with the Alumnae Relations field staff, as well as establish our own relationship with the branches/clubs.

**Meeting Dates in Last Quarter:**

None

**Scheduled Meetings Dates in Next Quarter:**

November 11, 2013

**Committee Chair(s)/Members (to date):**

Chair, Marge Nicholson. Members: Pam Sufi and Marina Simenstad.

**Strategic Accomplishments:**

Since this is a new committee, "strategic accomplishments" over the past few months have been organizational in nature and focused on networking and information-gathering.

- In order to partner effectively with Alumnae Relations field staff members, it has been essential to learn more about their strategic objectives and priorities, their structure, and their work with and support for the branches and clubs.
  - Pam Sufi and I met with Nikole Hilgeman Adams and Caitlin McGarty.
  - Lucy Do and I met with Laura Gobbi.
- I wrote a draft committee description and recruited two Board members as members of this committee.
- I attended the East Bay Branch meeting in August.

**Other Completed Projects: N/A**

**Action Items In-Progress:**

- I am having exploratory conversations with selected contact people in the branches/clubs prior to a general introduction of the committee to all branches/clubs.
  - Typical questions: What is the mission of your branch/club? How might we best introduce our new committee to your branch/club? How can we best communicate our priorities and activities – and learn about YOUR priorities and activities? Are you interested in communication with other branches and clubs? How could the BOG best support your branch/club? And you support our endeavors?
  - Some key findings thus far:
    - There is -
      - A lot of confusion about "AAMC" and the Board and AR field staff.
      - Difference of mission/purpose among the clubs and branches.

- A desire to learn more about our structure, priorities, and activities. (Little or no understanding now.)
- Desire to learn about best practices to engage students and alumnae in the regions and about strategies for successful events – from the BoG and/or other clubs and branches.
- Interest in helping us with nominations/election participation of alumnae trustees, nominations for alumnae awards, and the like.
- Interest in having Board members visit steering committee or club/branch events.

**Action Items Pending:**

- Define the work of the committee for this year. Analyze optimal committee membership and delegation of duties. Determine if we need additional committee members from the Board. Recruit additional committee members, especially those from regions outside the Bay Area.
- Do research on selected other alumnae associations and their relationships with their branches/clubs.
- Introduce the committee to contact people in each of the branches and clubs and identify follow-up steps.
- Working with the Communications Committee and other committees as needed, establish regular communication between the BoG and the branches/clubs as well as among the branches/clubs.
- Working with other Board committees as needed, increase participation of alumnae through branches/clubs in nominating and electing alumnae trustees, making Alumnae Award nominations, and the like.
- Encourage members of the BoG, while travelling, to visit branch and club steering committee meetings and activities. Working with others as needed, develop talking points for Board members to use. Explore feasibility of developing a tracking system for visits, and a way to document/disseminate key information from the visit.

**Expenditures in Last Quarter:**

None

**Planned Expenditures in Next Quarter:**

TBD

**Pending Budget Requests:**

None

**Recommendations/Questions for Full AAMC Board of Governors:**

None at this time

**Report Submitted by:** Marge Nicholson