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Minutes

Alumni Association Board of Directors

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2013

October 11, 2013

Alumni Association Board of Directors, Illinois Wesleyan University

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### Recommended Citation

Alumni Association Board of Directors, Illinois Wesleyan University, "October 11, 2013" (2013). *Minutes*. 24.  
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**Illinois Wesleyan University AAEB Annual Meeting  
Homecoming  
October 11, 2013**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jessica Shull, Carol Liske [Pres. Elect-Women's Council], Jim Richter, Sundeep Mullangi, Brian Beam, Scott Huch, Marianne Wolf-Astrauskas, Rachel Paturi, Tracy Garrett, George Freeman, Steve Lessaris, Marilyn Neis, Molly Rollings, Brexton Isaacs [Student Senate Pres], Ann Harding, Brenda Milcik, Adriane Powell, Debra Burt-Frazier, Pat Palmer, Ed Pacchetti, Rich Marvel

**On Phone:** Guy Gebhardt

**Guests:** Eileen Galvez, Assistant Director, Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs; Dale Engel, Chicago Regional Committee; Mark Sheldon; Nick Nichols; Cecelia Mendoza, Program Coordinator for Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs

**Call to Order:** 9:11am by Sundeep Mullangi

**Welcome & Introductions**

Thanks was extended to Ann and her staff.

Debra Burt-Frazier is now Doctor Burt-Frazier. Congratulations, Debra.

**MINUTES** -. Scott Huch moved to approve minutes from the 2013 spring meeting as submitted. Pat Palmer seconded. Minutes were approved.

**Committee Reports**

**PRIDE** - Jim Richter & Josh Butts reported that Pride is laying the groundwork for a March 29, 2014 Summit for alumni, students, faculty & staff. AAEB is invited to attend the summit; alumni are key in the programming component. Todd Zoellick will chair the summit. Good feedback from students at the gathering on 10-10-13. All are welcome to join the National Coming Out Event at Evelyn Chapel at 5:00 pm.

**WOMEN'S COUNCIL** – Jessica Shull & Carol Liske asked for ideas on how to get more people with a passion for the Council to volunteer to move the organization forward. Suggestions included a volunteer training workshop after the April meeting; focusing on the specificity of commitment; individually addressing people to help with specific needs; finding creative ways of participating. Sundeep commended the Council on their 97% giving rate.

**REGIONAL CHAPTERS** - Guy Gebhardt & Marianne Wolf-Astrauskas

Over the last few years our events and our attendance have really spiked with the largest growth in western U.S.: Phoenix/San Francisco/Seattle/Denver. We have added some new regions such as Minneapolis, Seattle and Denver that were brought on since the campaign started four years ago. We need to develop those regional presidents, so that they can carry on after the campaign without the President or staff attending every event.

**GREEK** - Rich Marvel & Sonny Freeman

Rich reported they are working with staff to establish an auxiliary board to the committee which consists of house members of each of the undergraduate chapters, with the goal of a

grass roots outreach through the houses as opposed to a higher level coming from the alumni board. Alumni volunteers at the chapter level are needed to increase alumni participation from each of the houses to build the network and to work with the AAEB. Working with Van Miller of the Wesleyan Fund to mine out statistics for the giving of Greek alumni to expand the giving circle. Alumni Event is planned for Saturday at each of the houses.

-Sonny We have met with Blake Bradley, new Director of Greek and Sorority Life; Karla Carney-Hall, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students; All-University Judiciary Committee, and President Wilson to increase stewardship of university property, responsibility, volunteerism, and philanthropy. We want to increase internal competition of giving among houses by offering rewards such as giving programs to houses free of charge because of the giving level of the alums. One example is the "Choices" program on drugs & alcohol abuse. Alumni members of Chapters are trying to go out and represent the university as Greek alumni in service, such as helping returning soldiers in a hunt with the purpose of building the soldier's self confidence and helping them to assimilate back into society. Blake Bradley is challenging houses to look at their diversity and see how it reflects the diversity on campus.

- Ann reported the IWU Alpha Gamma Delta chapter will celebrate 100 years in 2014. Formal rush was successful. ACACIA is back into Adams because numbers have recovered.

-Marilyn Has there been any discussion of inviting another sorority onto campus, and have the quotas been met?

-Eileen reported Quotas are down a little. Working with Blake Bradley on a plan to help the houses reflect the campus demographics. Mark Sheldon requested Blake to attend an AAEB meeting and give a report.

**NEWSLETTERS** - Brian Beam reported that all classes from 1960-2013 have been transitioned to the online class newsletter format. Posts to the online newsletters are up: 520 since last meeting. Will lay out a plan to promote interaction and remaining technology needs. Will promote with the marketing and communication areas of the university.

**YOUNG ALUMNI** – Steve Lessaris reported Sundeep will meet with Frank Boyd and Jonathan Green about how to bring working alumni into the classroom.

**ON-BOARDING** - Sundeep Mullangi & Scott Huch will create a packet for all existing and new AAEB members that will include a current copy of AABE history and governing documents. AAEB members are invited to share information for inclusion with Scott, Sundeep, Ann, or Brenda.

**TIME, TALENT & TREASURE AGREEMENT** – Sundeep reported that all AAEB members will be asked to sign a Time, Talent and Treasure Agreement yearly to formalize their commitment to the Board and to the University.

**BYLAWS** - Scott Huch, Temporary Chair

The President turned to the next item of business on the agenda, the consideration of amendments to the Bylaws. He called on Scott Huch, who chaired the *Ad Hoc* Bylaws Revision Committee. On behalf of the committee, Mr. Huch, moved “that the ‘Bylaws of the Illinois Wesleyan University Alumni Association’ be amended by striking them in their entirety and substituting the proposed bylaws revision of the same title that was

incorporated with the Notice of this Meeting and that is now laid before the concurrent meetings of the Alumni Association Executive Board and Alumni Council.”

The President asked Mr. Huch to take the Chair temporarily for the purpose of leading the Executive Board and the Alumni Council through the process of considering the revision of the association’s Bylaws.

Mr. Huch assumed the Chair and made some introductory comments. He first thanked the *Ad Hoc* Bylaws Revision Committee, which consisted of himself, Elly Jones, Tracy Garrett, and Steve Lessaris. He then reviewed the process by which the proposed bylaws revision had been written and reviewed by the committee, and he explained the requirements for considering amendments to the current Bylaws.

The Chair requested unanimous consent to suspend the rules in order to allow for consideration of the proposed bylaws revision without having each article read aloud and voted on *in seriatim*. No objection was heard.

The Chair then went through the proposed bylaws revision, article by article, and summarized the main points with an emphasis on the most important changes. There was a general discussion among the participants.

Tracy Garrett moved to amend Article VIII, Section 1, of the proposed revision by replacing the word “forward” with “forwarded”. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Jessica Shull moved to amend Article IX, Section 2(e) of the proposed revision by striking the word “National”. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair put the question to the Executive Board. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. A quorum being present, the Chair declared that the requirement of the existing Bylaws for a two-thirds majority vote had been satisfied.

The Chair also put the question to the Alumni Council. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. With a quorum of the Alumni Council present, the Chair declared that the requirement of the existing Bylaws for a two-thirds majority vote had been satisfied.

The Chair then declared that the new “Bylaws of the Illinois Wesleyan University Alumni Association” were adopted, effective immediately. Because there is no provision for an Alumni Council in the new Bylaws, the Chair declared the meeting of the Alumni Council adjourned *sine die*. Mr. Huch then yielded the Chair of the Board of Directors meeting to the President, who thanked the committee and congratulated the Directors on successfully completing this important task.

**10:42 Break**

**11:02 Resumed**

**HOMEcomings UPDATE** - Ann Harding reported that 1081 alumni and friends are pre-registered. Photos of Alumni Award winners will be in the Eckley Lounge until next year’s awards. Past winners from 2008 on are in the stairwell at Ames Library. We are working on more visibility for Alumni Office. The search continues for a new location for the Alumni Office.

**TONY BANKSTON**, Dean of Admissions joined the meeting and reported on the status of Admissions and current student body. Admissions is moving to a Net-Tuition Revenue Model. IWU is aiming at 500-515 students per class or 1900 total student population. Smaller but stronger is the message. Added staff members Adam Guo '10 as an International Admissions Representative in China and South East Asia and Kimberly Stabosz '09 as a Texas Regional Representative Admissions Counselor. Admissions is looking for ways to "energize alumni" to promote IWU. A written report was submitted by Jennifer Shaughnessy on Alumni participation in contacting potential students, ways to improve that contact, a request for entire board to join the AAN, a request to submit a congratulations letter to accepted students, and proposed measures of tracking alumni contact with potential students. Action items came out of the discussion.

**STUDENT SENATE REPORT** – Brexton Isaacs, Student Senate President, introduced attending Student Senate Executive Board: VP-Kent Larson, PR-Lizzie Egan, University Events-Amy DeBoer, Awareness-Hannah Smith, Parliamentarian-Alex Bechtel, Treasurer Austin Aldag, Civic Engagement-Blair Wright, Media-Kevin Piotrowski. Brexton reported on year to date activities. Discussion about how to engage students in Homecoming. It was suggested that the student homecoming committee work with alumni with Homecoming programming. Maybe pair up students and alums for a mentor/friendship during homecoming. Suggested a combined meeting of Alumni Association Board of Directors & full Student Senate in March to explore mentoring/sharing/engagement ideas. Scott Huch & Sundeep Mullangi will work with Blair & Brexton. Several action items rose from the discussion.

**JEFF MAVROS & VAN MILLER** reported on the status of the Wesleyan Fund. Participation is at 22% (up from 18%); goal is 33-37%. July 17 All In For Wesleyan had 2,574 donors, of which 1,924 were alumni. 302 made first time gift to the IWU and 177 of those were alumni. \$480k raised for scholarships. The story will be revisited in several ways. August 1 will launch "The Shirt" IWU style, with proceeds going to the scholarship fund. Photos on Facebook/Website are encouraged. Written Report was submitted by Molly Rollings on the AAEB response to "All In".

**MAN** - Deon Hornsby reported the August picnic in Chicago was well attended (60 people) with great energy. MAN was not created as an African-American group, but as a minority support group. MAN will become "The Network" an umbrella organization with "pillars" for each minority group. Ann requested a history of MAN to document it for the Alumni Office.

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS** - Tracy Garrett reported for Elly Jones. A competitive analysis of Alumni Associations from similar liberal arts colleges and universities was shared. Ideas were shared. Specific actions will be discussed at March 28 meeting.

**MOCK DASHBOARD** (Scorecard) - Molly Rollings shared possible areas to be measured and tracked by the AAEB are: donations, attendance at events and giving circles. Additional suggestions were made. Dashboard will be on the March agenda. Molly, Ed & Sundeep will work with Van & Jeff to narrow down 5 items to measure that will tell us the overall health of the group.

**STUDENT/ALUMNI COUNCIL** – Group Discussion continued on getting students and alumni interacting on a regular basis and how that fits into the Advancement strategic plan. Suggestion was made to plug into classrooms or existing RSO's.

**TRUSTEES REPORT** - Barb Nathan submitted a written report which included: new Trustees, budget approval, summer projects, technology update report, new IWU videos and web site redesign information, diversity initiatives and summer enrichment Program.

**Meeting adjourned at 3pm**

**Next Meeting:** March 28 & 29, 2014, on campus