

The Alumni Council met on campus Thursday, October 27 through Saturday, October 29. President **Angela Onwuachi-Willig '94** led the meetings which were attended by twenty four members of the Council. The following is a brief summary of the weekend's work:

- 1) New Council members **Howard Schein '66, Chris Meyer '70, Claudia Beckwith '77, Ann Poor Cary '81, Kelly Clements Hopfer '96, David Jarvis '04, Archie Tyson '05, and Lester Aleman '07** were welcomed to their first campus Council meeting;
- 2) Council members dined with faculty, staff, and student leaders at a welcome dinner at Relish and later enjoyed a fun trivia night event at Bob's Underground organized by the Student Alumni Council;
- 3) In preparation for this meeting, the Council joined all first-year students in reading [\*Whistling Vivaldi: How Stereotypes Affect Us and What We Can Do\*](#). At the fall meeting, chief diversity officer **Lakesia Johnson**, along with three new staff members from the Office of Intercultural Affairs, provided an update on the campus' diversity strategic planning process and led the Council in a workshop exploring stereotype threat and implicit bias and how these issues manifest on Grinnell's campus;
- 4) Over lunch, President **Raynard Kington** provided a campus update and took questions from the Council on a broad range of topics;
- 5) The Council heard an update report from **Mike Latham**, dean of the College, and **David Cook-Martín**, associate vice president for global education, on the Global Grinnell efforts and the new Institute for Global Engagement;
- 6) Leaders from the Residential Learning Task Force including Andrea Conner, associate vice president of student affairs, **Paul Hutchison**, associate professor of education and **Deanna Shorb**, dean of religious life, led a discussion on the work of the task force to date, including the implementation of the new alcohol policies. Following the presentation, they led a focus group conversation on self-governance at Grinnell College;
- 7) Council members participated in informal career conversations with students at the Friday evening GRINNELLINK reception co-sponsored by the Center for Careers, Life and Service;
- 8) **Shane Jacobson**, vice president for development and alumni relations (DAR), along with DAR directors **Jayn Chaney, Mae Parker, Adam Laug** and **Jackie Aanes**, addressed the Council and provided updates regarding the new [alumni.grinnell.edu](http://alumni.grinnell.edu) website, the Office of Development and Alumni Relations 2016-17 business plan, and its comprehensive fundraising and engagement strategies. Following the presentation, the Council discussed in small groups some strategic questions with regard to those efforts;

- 9) **Kaitlyn Norton '17, Jun Taek Lee '18, Jarren Santos '17, Teresa Villarreal '17, and Jenny Dong '17**, reported on the work of the Student Alumni Council and the Steven Kent '67 Memorial Senior Class Gift efforts so far this year. The Council accepted their challenge to match all senior gifts on a 1:1 basis;
- 10) The Council approved a slate of ten alumni for receipt of a 2017 Alumni Award to be presented at Reunion 2017;
- 11) **President Onwuachi-Willig** led the Council in discussion of opportunities for continued cross-committee efforts related to strengthening the Council's visibility and effectiveness in reaching the broad community of Grinnell alumni;
- 12) The Council meetings closed with a nostalgic dinner trip to Rube's Steakhouse in Montour, Iowa.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Our thanks for your continued interest in the work of the Council.

Warm Regards,

Angela Onwuachi-Willig '94, alumni council president  
Jayn Bailey Chaney '05, director of alumni and donor relations