

The Alumni Council met on campus Thursday, March 5 through Saturday, March 7, 2015. President **Susan Henken-Thielen '80** presided over the meetings which were attended by twenty-two members of the Council. The following is a brief summary of the weekend's work:

- 1) Council members interacted with student leaders from the Student Alumni Council (SAC) during an intimate Thursday evening dessert reception;
- 2) Senior Research Associate **Jennifer Krohn** provided an update to the Council regarding accessibility and usability on campus. She thanked the Council for their work crafting and submitting a resolution that draws administrative attention to the opportunities for improved accessibility and usability of space in the construction and renovation of existing facilities;
- 3) President **Raynard Kington** addressed the Council and answered questions regarding three specific areas of concern related to student safety and campus climate: Title IX, Diversity and the recent Yik Yak posts, and the future of mental health services;
- 4) Council members participated in an interactive workshop led by **Jim Reische** and **Jim Powers** from the Office of Communication. The Council reviewed the new suite of Admission marketing materials and worked in small groups to suggest additional marketing concepts;
- 5) Past President **Nancy Maly '61** led the Council in a discussion about the future of the Alumni Awards and Senior Alumni Awards programs. The discussion resulted in an approved motion to appoint an ad-hoc committee who will review the Council's recommendations for future improvements and amendments to these programs;
- 6) Council members joined local alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students and friends for a Grinnell-in-Grinnell reception and dinner on Friday night in Quad dining hall;
- 7) **Shane Jacobson**, vice president for development and alumni relations, along with **Mae Turley** and **Jackie Aanes**, addressed the Council and provided updates regarding the Office of Development and Alumni Relations 2014-15 business plan and the fundraising and engagement strategies specific to the upcoming ARH and Carnegie renovation project;
- 8) Committee chairs **Lara Szent-Gyorgi '89** (stewardship), **Jim Decker '75** (communications), **Angela Onwuachi-Willig '94** (alumni engagement), and **Peter Calvert '79** (alumni-student connections) discussed the ongoing work of their committees to strengthen and improve alumni relations and development with the College;
- 9) **Lilliana Bagnoli '15**, Philanthropy Chair, and **Austin Cote '15**, President, reported on successes of the Student Alumni Council this academic year including National Philanthropy Week, I Heart GC Day, the Class Ambassador Program and the Senior Class Gift;
- 10) Two departing members of Council were honored for their service: **Pam Rogacki '64** and **Mark Henry '05**;
- 11) Angela Onwuachi-Willig '94 was elected Alumni Council President Elect for 2015-16;

- 12) The Council approved a slate of four candidates for membership beginning in June 2015: J. **Gof Thomson '62**, **Rick Stuck '82**, **Ryann Haines Cheung '93** and **Jeetander Dulani '98**.