

The Alumni Council met on campus Thursday, March 3 through Saturday, March 5, 2016. President **Ed Senn '79** presided over the meetings which were attended by twenty-three members of the Council. The following is a brief summary of the weekend's work:

- 1) Council members dined with faculty, staff and students leaders at a welcome dinner at Relish and later enjoyed a fun "Family Feud" event organized by the Student Alumni Council;
- 2) President **Raynard Kington** addressed the Council and presented his vision for the College over the next 15 years (e.g. "Vision 2030"). Kington discussed how the College will use five elements (inquiry-led learning; careers, life, and service; global; the residential liberal arts; and our unique place and location) to propel itself forward in the coming years;
- 3) Council discussed the development of the new Humanities and Social Studies Complex with faculty members including **Jim Swartz**, Dack Professor of Chemistry, **Erik Simpson**, professor of English, **Keith Brouhle '96**, associate professor of economics, and **Kathy Kamp**, Earl D. Strong Professor in Social Studies and Professor of Anthropology;
- 4) With DAR staff **Brooke Benschoter** and **Jackie Aanes**, the Council members reviewed the templates for the new alumni website as well as the new suite of DAR-CRANE materials. The Council shared feedback to enhance these projects and their overall effectiveness;
- 5) 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;
- 6) Wellness Director **Jen Jacobsen '95** provided the Council an overview of the results of the National College Health Assessment and engaged the Council in a discussion of steps the College is taking to promote holistic (mental, physical, sexual, emotional) wellness on Grinnell's campus. Over lunch, the Council had the opportunity to discuss these efforts with a group of student peer educators;
- 7) **Andrea Conner**, associate vice president for student affairs and **Paul Hutchison**, associate professor of education updated the Council on the efforts unfolding through the Residential Learning Task Force and how the College is working to help students "thrive, not just survive" at Grinnell. The Council provided important feedback to the Task Force on the history and evolution of self-governance at the College;
- 8) **Sydney McClendon '16**, **Thomas Auen '16**, and **Emily Hackman '16**, reported on successes of the Student Alumni Council this academic year including National Philanthropy Week, ECN Care Packages, the Class Ambassador Program and the Steven Kent '67 Memorial Senior Class Gift;
- 9) The Council extensively discussed a proposal from the Executive Committee for the creation of a new standing committee and the reformulation of an existing standing committee. The Council passed a resolution to create a new Diversity and Inclusion Committee and to blend two existing committees to form the Alumni Communications and Engagement Committee. The new committee will partner with the College on outreach to Grinnell's diverse alumni communities to enrich the networks of diverse alumni and students across the College community;
- 10) **Peter Calvert '79** was elected Alumni Council President-Elect for 2016-17;
- 11) Six departing members were honored for their service: **Nancy Schmulbach Maly '61**, **Jim Decker '75**, **Susan Henken-Thielen '80**, **Catherine Gillis '80**, **Sherman Willis '01** and **Rania Robb '03**.
- 12) The Council approved a slate of eight candidates for membership beginning in June 2016: **Howard Schein '66** (Urbana-Champaign, IL); **Chris Meyer '70** (Sarasota, FL); **Claudia Beckwith '77** (Grinnell, IA); **Ann Poor Cary '81** (Dallas, TX); **Kelly Clements Hopfer '96** (Denver, CO); **David Jarvis '04** (Portland, OR); **Archie Tyson '05** (Memphis, TN); and **Lester Aleman '07** (Los Angeles, CA).