

The Alumni Council met on campus Thursday, March 2 through Saturday, March 4. **President Angela Onwuachi-Willig '94** led 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 student leaders at a welcome dinner at Relish and later enjoyed a fun Bingo night event organized by the Student Alumni Council;
- 2) Over lunch, President **Raynard Kington** provided a campus update and took questions from the Council on a broad range of topics. President Kington and **Joe Bagnoli**, vice president for enrollment, presented an update on the College's revenue sources and discussed strategies the Board and College are considering regarding financial aid and options to help retain our status as a need-blind institution which meets 100% of demonstrated financial need for domestic students. The Council provided alumni feedback regarding the options under consideration;
- 3) The Council heard an update report from **Mark Peltz**, Finkelman Dean for Careers, Life and Service (CLS), on the new strategic vision for the CLS in its ongoing efforts to support students and alumni. The Council was asked to provide feedback on specific parts of the strategic plan which pertain to new career coaching services for alumni;
- 4) In partnership with the Council's Diversity and Inclusion committee, **Autumn Wilke**, assistant dean for disability resources, provided an update on the work of the [Disability and Accessibility Implementation Task Force](#) (Task Force completed its work in fall 2016);
- 5) The faculty leaders of the [Humanities and Social Studies Complex \(HSSC\)](#) project presented an update and took questions from the Council regarding the expected enhancements the facility will bring to the teaching and learning mission of the College. Participants included **Jim Swartz**, Dack Professor of Chemistry, **Erik Simpson**, professor of English, and **Keith Brouhle '96**, associate professor of economics;
- 6) 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;
- 7) The Council joined local alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students and friends for a Grinnell-in-Grinnell reception and dinner on Friday night in Quad dining hall. During the program, the four departing members were honored for their service: **Dick Raridon '53**, **Gof Thomson '62**, **Barbara Hunt Moore '53** and **Ed Senn '79**;
- 8) To build upon the excellent governance and strategic planning work completed under past Presidents **Carter Newton '77**, **Nancy Schmulbach**

**Maly '61, Susan Henken-Thielen '80, and Ed Senn '79**, President Onwuachi-Willig led the Council in a strategic planning session on Saturday morning to help guide its work for 2017-18. Specific topics of discussion included Council visibility, representative capacity, and impact;

- 9) **Kaitlyn Norton '17, Sierra Silverwood '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;
- 10) **John "Fritz" Schwaller '69** was elected Alumni Council President-Elect for 2017-18;
- 11) The Council approved a slate of four candidates for membership beginning in June 2017: **Robert Ruhl '76** (Seattle, WA); **Philip Hales '02** (New York, NY); **Brigham Hoegh '08** (Des Moines, IA) and **Graciela Guzmán '11** (Chicago, IL).

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