



Alumni Council Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2012 Session #1

10:00 a.m.

Old Glove Factory

Present: Carl Adkins '59, Mary Brooner '70, James Decker '75, Joan Vander Naald Egenes '58, Catherine Gillis '80, Susan Henken-Thielen '80, David Holmberg '81, William Ingram '53, Nancy Schmulbach Maly '61, Karmi Mattson '97, Barbara Hunt Moore '65, Theretha Nelson-Littlejohn '70, Carter Newton '77, Angela Onuwachi-Willig '94, Renee Bourgeois Parsons '96, Rania Mohamed Robb '03, Pam Dryden Rogacki '64, W. Ed Senn '79, Kirpal Singh '97, Matthew Welch '96, Sherman Willis '01,

Absent: Alexia Brue '95, Mark Henry '05

Staff: Jackie Aanes, Jayn Bailey Chaney '05, Bonnie Primley, Severin Roberts, Dan Weeks '80, Angela Voos

- I. Welcome & Introductions, Carter Newton, president
- II. Strategic Plan update - Angela Voos, Special Assistant to the President -
Framing topics
 - Alumni Engagement
 - Distinctiveness of Grinnell College
 - Enrollment
 - Post Graduate success
This working group encountered a perception among various constituents on campus that Grinnellians thought pursuing a career with a for-profit organization was anti-Grinnellian. Yet when asked if for-profit careers were consistent with a Grinnell education, many said yes. A survey was conducted with results being Grinnellians don't have an anti-for-profit bias.
 - Teaching/Learning
- III. How can Alumni Council have a more prominent role in the Grinnell Magazine? - Dan Weeks '80, Editor of the Grinnell Magazine
 - Encourage alumni to respond or contribute to articles on the themes in each issue.
 - Announce the new members.
 - Start a section of updates from the Alumni Council which features things decided at each meeting.
The goal for the Magazine is to create conversations/discussions and involve as many perspectives as can be included.
- IV. Office of Development and Alumni Relations Update: Jayn Chaney '05, Director of Alumni Relations and Jackie Aanes, Director of Operations
 - Jayn presented a tier philosophy of alumni engagement.

- Presented the alumni survey to be conducted by Art & Sciences Group LLC. Council would like to set up results to be viewable in live meeting or webinar. Jackie will communicate possibility at a later date.
 - Update on office staffing.
 - Update on Kington events held thus far and those upcoming.
 - Improvements made to the Loggia.
 - Volunteer opportunities-update on CA taskforce, (their charge and goals) and GRASP and CDO expansion of opportunities.
- V. Committee Assignments for president-elect and past president, Karmi Mattson, past president.
- Recommendation to change committee assignments: move past president to the Awards committee and the president-elect to the membership committee.
 - Discussion was tabled until the afternoon session.
- VI. By-laws Review – Carter Newton, president
- Current by-laws are not reflecting the procedures of the Council.
 - Proposed creation of a governance committee whose purpose would be to review the by-laws and propose updates to by-laws prior to October 2013 meeting.
 - Send out final version of proposed by-law changes at least 1 week prior to October meeting.
 - Vote on proposed changes at the October meeting.
 - i. Committee members: Mary Brooner, Ed Senn, David Holmberg and Renee Bourgeois Parsons. Dean Lerner, former council member and attorney will be approached to provide legal council.
- Motion was made and seconded to create a governance committee as outlined above with final report and vote to be made at the October 2013 full Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
- VII. Memorial for Raynard Kington’s mother – Carter Newton, President
- Discussion of Council members’ giving a combined gift to Grinnell College in memory of Raynard Kington’s mother who passed away this week. Each person to think about it for further discussion at the afternoon session.
- VIII. Meeting was adjourned for Lunch

Alumni Council Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2012 Session #2

2:00 p.m.

JRC 209

- I. Opening and Introduction of Todd Linden, President and CEO, Grinnell Regional Medical Center and member of the Grinnell College Board of Trustees
- Discussed the interaction of the College and Medical Center as a recruitment tool and as an internship opportunity for students.
 - Gave an overview of the College’s strategic investments in community projects.
 - Held an open Q/A session.
- II. Committee Reports
- A. Pioneer Fund/Development – Mary Brooner, Chair (Power Point)

- Committee feels alumni engagement to be an integral part of the College's Strategic Planning process and asked for support of Council in making outreach calls to alumni from a list provided to them. The calls will not only engage more alumni but broaden the visibility of the Council.
- The purpose of making these outreach calls is to engage alumni, build better/stronger relationships and follow-up if necessary and should not be fundraising calls.
- 3-5 names with email addresses and phone numbers will be provided by the Office of Development and Alumni Relations to Council members for contact.
- It was suggested that Council email to establish a vision for the call and arrange a convenient time to converse.
- A process to debrief Council members and ensure that appropriate College offices benefit from the experiences and the impressions and information gleaned will be established.

Motion was made and seconded to support the Strategic Planning process by making outreach calls to alumni whose names would be provided from the office for the purpose stated above. It was asked that documentation be made that these calls are not slated as fundraising calls. Motion carried unanimously.

- Steven Kent Challenge is not at 100% participation. Encouraged members to earmark their gifts for the challenge.
- Committee is calling to thank donors and will be contacting leadership donors and prospects.
- Pioneer Fund is currently ahead of participation goals for the year.

B. Alumni Relations – Rania Robb, Chair

- David Holmberg will be moving to this committee from the Communications committee.
- Sue Henken-Thielen, chair of Communication committee gave an overview of what the committee had done for the CA survey.
- In response to the October 2012 Volunteer weekend discussions it was deemed necessary to redefine the class agent role, look at SAA as a tool to connect class agents, provide additional/better training, set up some type of engagement marker to send out quarterly, evaluate outcomes and look at possibilities for archiving class agent information received from classmates since many types of social media are being used as tools for engagement.
- A Class Agent Taskforce has been created to understand, review and assess the role of the Class Agent and consider how the role can be reshaped to meet the needs of the alumni community, to help CAs understand the requirements and expectations of their role, and articulate communication strategies that help them better serve their classmates. This taskforce will work from a timeline and report back to the Council at their October 2012 meeting.

C. Tabled discussion of Committee assignments and Governance Committee – Karmi Mattson, past president

- Motion was made and seconded to swap committee assignments of the president-elect and past-president with recommendations to change the by-laws to reflect those changes.

- It was decided that the motion could not be made without adopting by-law changes first.
 - Motion was made and seconded to rescinded original motion.
 - Motion was made and seconded to hold a special electronic meeting in April and to vote on changing the bylaws to reflect the committee assignment changes of the pres and pres-elect. Passed unanimously.
- D. Resumed discussion of the memorial for Raynard's mother.
- Decision was made that each person interested in participating, will send a gift to the College with the notation that it is for her memorial. The gift will be a gift from the Alumni Council in its entirety with names of the council members listed individually in the Honor Roll as acknowledgement. Those who wish to participate in the memorial should send their gifts to Severin Roberts by March 31, 2012.
- III. Meeting adjourned 4:30 p.m.

Alumni Council Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2012 Session #3

9:45 a.m.

ARH 318

- I. Committee Reports (contd.)
- A. Communication – Sue Henken-Thielen, Chair (Power Point)
- Had an introductory meeting with Dan Weeks '80 about the vision of the Grinnell Magazine, developing stronger relationships and Alumni Council communications that could be added to the magazine.
 - Talked with Jim Reische about: what draws students to Grinnell, how we take pride in and are building the unique qualities of Grinnell and Iowa; crafting a definition of who we want to be; building a brand; and acquiring feedback for his vision.
 - Discussed the CA survey and the CA role.
- B. Networks – Pam Rogacki, Chair
- Development and Alumni Relations is in the process of hiring an Alumni/CDO combined position.
 - Their internship program is progressing well. Will be trying to expand further this year.
 - They reintroduced their spring break externships this year; 26 were offered.
 - Post grad hiring is now a focus. They are looking for ways for alumni to seek jobs from other alumni/alumni companies and are exploring the possibility of online postings.
 - The Wilson Program received the results of the profit/non-profit survey that was conducted.
 - The program supports alumni in teaching short courses and career classes. If anyone is interested in being a part of the Wilson Program, contact Mark Montgomery.

- Development and Alumni Relations is also going to hire a combined alumni/admission staff.
- Admission report: In 2012-13 they will be expanding their admitted student interview pilot program through which admitted students are called by alumni to answer questions they may have. On another note, applications were up 52% for the class of 2016.

C. Alumni Awards – Matthew Welch, Chair (Power Point)

- Alumni Award nominees were submitted for review
Motion was made and seconded to accept the slate as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Matthew publically thanked Marcia Grosenbach for her assistance with the committee and her efforts in researching, compiling, and distributing candidate information to committee members.

D. Membership Committee – Karmi Mattson, Chair

- Presented slate of members whose terms are up for renewal
Carl Adkins
Jim Decker
Catherine Gillis
David Holmberg
Nancy Maly
Rania Robb
Ed Senn
Sherman Willis
Mary Brooner
Kirpal Singh
Terry Nelson-Littlejohn
Matthew Welch

Those leaving the Council either by term ending or resignation

Lee Weisel
Sean Flammer (resignation)
Jodi Hester (resignation)
Karmi Mattson

Motion was made and seconded to accept renewal of members. Passed unanimously.

- This year the Committee asked for membership applications from specific areas where the Council was under-represented. There is a list of alumni who have expressed an interest in being on Council but it has been quite awhile since they were contacted. The Committee proposes to ask those members on the list to reapply.

Motion was made to accept the nominations as presented. Passed unanimously.

- President Election – Karmi introduced the candidates who each spoke briefly:
Candidates: Susan Henken-Thielen
Nancy Maly
Kirpal Singh
Ed Senn

- i. Each Council member was allowed 6 votes which could be allocated in any way they wished among the candidates.
 - ii. Absentee votes were accepted with the stipulation that the votes would be counted in the first pass only and not if there was a run off.
 - iii. 70 votes were needed win.
 - iv. Top 2 candidates would proceed to a run off if a majority vote was not received.
 - v. A second ballot was cast and Nancy Maly was elected president-elect.
- II. Afternoon Outreach sessions – Jayn Chaney
 - Outlined Council expectations for the sessions.
- III. Suggestions for March meeting
 - Contact different student areas, athletics, humanities, and fine arts for an update on their activities.
 - Multicultural groups.
 - SPARC.
- IV. Visions and Priorities – Matthew Welch, pres-elect
 - 2 part role: Represent the College to alumni and represent alumni to the College.
 - Focus: on things that matter and what they can do.
 - Effectiveness: Maintain effectiveness.
 - Priorities as he sees them: Assist in the Strategic Plan, Examine relationships with volunteers and governance.
- V. Upcoming Meeting Dates: **October 5-7, 2012**
March 1-3, 2013
- VI. Carter presented Karimi with a parting gift for her service on Council.
- VII. Meeting adjourned 11:55 a.m.