



Saint Vincent Alumni Council Meeting Minutes

August 1, 2020

Meeting Location: Remote via ZOOM and Telephone
Presiding Council Member: Ryan Retter, Council President

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. A brief introduction was provided by R. Retter with a discussion of the structure, format and etiquette for this virtual meeting.

The opening prayer was led by R. Zadzilko, followed by the Alma Mater, which was played via video.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 15, 2020 Meeting: ***Motion to approve minutes was made for by F. Nelson and was seconded by G. Maurer. The motion was unanimously approved by Council.***

Remarks by Ben Becze – B. Becze addressed certain changes within the Alumni Relations Office that had occurred since Council's last meeting and discussed the Offices efforts moving forward.

Election / Re-Election of Members to Council: The slate of ten candidates – nine returning members (Kelly DeGroot, C'1997; Andrew Jeffers, C'06; John Reilly, C'68; Megan Sigg, C'13; Shane Simmons, C'10; Renold Sossong, C'12; Tom Cocchi, C'13; Chad Ferri, C'19; Molly Kuhns Stoltz, C'00) and one new member (Colton Hearn, C'18) – was presented by A. Simmons. A. Simmons also provided an overview of the election process, with the slate to be elected as a whole by majority vote. ***Motion to elect the slate of candidates as it stands was made by J. Laffey and was second by J. Marsico. The motion was unanimously approved by Council.***

Career and Professional Development Center Update

Courtney Baum discussed the plan for collaboration between the Career and Professional Development Center and Council, giving an overview of Council's role in the professional development process. The Center has developed a series of Virtual Challenges: Resume Writing Challenge (September); Handshake Profile Completion Challenge (October), LinkedIn Profile Challenge (November-December); FOCUS2 Challenge (January-March). Council is being asked to assist with these challenges by developing content (short video clips) to help students understand each of these challenges and the importance of each aspect of a student's professional profile. The office will develop technical content to go along with the clips provided by Council member. Individual members of Council will be asked to participate in this process.

Alumni Office Update

B. Becze congratulated the new and re-elected members of Council and thanked all of Council members for their efforts. While the Student First and the Forward, Always Forward Capital Campaigns both concluded well and exceeded their goals, there is a continuing need for the College and the students as a result of the pandemic. B. Becze explained that updates on Homecoming, Bearcat Open and 2020 Commencement will be forthcoming in the Bearcat Bulletin on Monday, August 3, 2020. He discussed that the Office is working on continuing strategic planning for the year, which required significant adjustment midstream. The Office had to cancel more than 40 events due to the health concerns around the pandemic, but are working to develop ideas to continue meaningful engagement between the Alumni and the College. Stuff the Trolley will be continuing this year, with an on-campus portion (a drive-by/drop-off). Additionally, the Office plans to arrange an Amazo Wishlist so that participants can place an order online and to have gifts mailed directly to the Alumni Office. J. Laffey asked about the Bearcat Day of Giving, which had been planned for earlier this year. B. Becze explained that the donor remains engaged and that the College is working on identifying a new time when it would be appropriate to hold this fundraising event.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive committee: R. Retter explained the work that the Executive Committee has been doing. The Office and Council sent letters to all incoming freshmen. R. Retter explained that Council's involvement with Move-In Day is still being developed, but we

are hopeful to have something arranged. R. Retter discussed that Council needs to remain focused on taking action between meetings and that the current environment requires Council to pursue new ideas. R. Retter concluded with a list of highlights of areas where Council has excelled recently and stated that if Council can perform well in this environment, we can do great things as a team.

Secretary Update: R. Sossong provided a general update on the continued use of technology to distribute minutes and facilitate RSVP process.

Treasurer Update: D. DeYulis explained that we met our goal of 100% for Council Members for the 2020 fiscal year. The new goal is for 100% of Council Members to contribute to the College before October 1, 2020.

Membership Committee: A. Simmons explained that there will be a virtual orientation in September via ZOOM for the newly elected and re-elected members of Council and that more details will be provided in coming weeks. She further explained that there are currently three open spots that can be filled by appointment and that Council is always looking for new / interested members. A. Simmons asked for Council to begin thinking about the Vice President nomination process, in that the call for nominations will occur at the November meeting of Council. Members are asked to reach out to Ale, Ryan or the Membership Committee if you are interested in serving as Vice President or if you would like to nominate anyone for this role.

Student/Alumni Networking Outreach Committee: S. Simmons discussed the Committee's objectives and provided an update on the Alumni Council Directory, which is very close to being completed. He explained the benefits of having this directory in place to allow us to more easily connect Council members with current students and Alumni of the College. S. Simmons reiterated the opportunities that Council has to assist C. Baum with the Center's videos for the different Challenge projects, which will be co branded between the Center and Council.

Fr. Gilbert Scholarship Committee: M. Sigg explained that the TopGolf event is still on hold and we are diligently trying to re-schedule it as soon as the TopGolf facility is re-opened. M. Sigg requested input from Council and her Committee for any virtual fundraising ideas.

Homecoming Liaison Update: G. Maurer and B. Becze provided the update that Homecoming will be entirely virtual this year, with virtual events and digital online content, etc. Additionally, the Bearcat Open, Fall Family Weekend, Hall of Fame activities will not be in-person this year. In-person commencement for Class of 2020 will not be occurring during Homecoming. B. Becze explained that, regarding Homecoming, this year's anniversary classes will be provided with an opportunity to determine if they would like to postpone their anniversary celebrations until next year or try to arrange virtual events.

Prep Reunion Liaison Update: The Prep Reunion is tentatively scheduled for the 2nd weekend of June 2021.

Legal: A. Panebianco and R. Zadzilko provided a reviewing the certain Constitutional amendments that are being considered. They are reviewing the Council giving requirement and a few other minor tweak that Council members have suggested. A. Panebianco and R. Zadzilko requested that Council members review the Constitution and make any suggestions of areas where the Constitution could be updated. A copy of the Constitution is being distributed with these minutes for Council members' review.

Core Curriculum Committee Update: R. Sossong provided an update on the ad hoc committees work and the recent joint session that was held between Council's committee and the College's Committee. He discussed the newly adopted student leaning outcomes and explained that Dr. Watkins requested Council's feedback on the following questions: (i) What did the Core mean to you while you were at Saint Vincent and what has it meant to you since you left Saint Vincent? (ii) What do you think was missing from the Core when you were at Saint Vincent? (iii) What skills, experiences, and knowledge (a) are you glad that you had or (b) do you wish that you had when you left Saint Vincent? (iv) What skills, experiences, and knowledge have you recognized as missing in your colleagues and friends that you think would be helpful to them as individuals? Council members were asked to provide any responses to these questions to R. Sossong.

NEW BUSINESS

J. Selep explained that P. Conroy was experiencing some health issues and asked for prayers and if people could reach out to him with well wishes.

R. Retter explained that we would be distributing a short survey to collect feedback on the virtual meeting.

Adjournment: R. Retter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by R. Zadzilko. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 AM.

ATTENDANCE

David Braum
Hannah Brinker
Charles Cleveland
Tom Cocchi
Kelly Sheehy DeGroot
Dom DeYulis
Mitch Farrell
Chad Ferri
George Fetkovich
Ann Giacobbi
Abigail Geisel
Andrew Jeffers
Jim Laffey

Olivia London
Jerry Marsico
Greg Maurer
Ed McCormick
Carey McMonagle
Frank Nelson
Ryan Retter
John Reilly
Rich Schulte
Megan Sigg
Rich Stillwagon
Amy Panebianco
Julie Selep

Molly Robb Shimko
Alé Simmons
Shane Simmons
Renold Sossong
Molly Stotlz
Frank T. Susko
Jason Winters
John Wojtechko
Ray Zadzilko

Courtney Baum
Ben Becze
Katie Vitale

Respectfully submitted by R. Sossong, Alumni Council Secretary. For additional detail, please see the slide materials used during this Council meeting, which are attached to these minutes.