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Alumni Association Board of Directors, Illinois Wesleyan University

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AABD Meeting March 28, 2014

In Attendance: Sundeep Mullangi, Tracy Garrett, Scott Huch, Jim Richter, Adriane Powell, Barb Nathan, Elly Jones, Sonny Freeman, Jessica Shull, Ed Pachetti, Ann Harding, Brenda Milcik, Molly Rollings, Rachel Paturi, Austin Aldag, Steve Lessaris
On Phone: Guy Gebhardt

President Sundeep Mullangi called the spring meeting of the AABD to order: 9:14am

Because of other commitments, Sundeep asked Barb Nathan, Alumni Rep. on the Board of Trustees to give her report. She reviewed the goals of the President for the University; the updated 10-year Strategic Plan; reviewed some of the groundbreaking work IWU professors are doing. On behalf of the AABD, Scott Huch requested an opportunity for the AABD to provide formal input to the Strategic Plan.

Sundeep updated the Board on the campaign; Ann Harding has announced her retirement from IWU (26 years); Jeff Mavros has accepted the position of Director of Admissions at Illinois State University (16 years); Tracy Garrett has announced her retirement from the AABD.

Minutes from October 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

Committee Reports & Charters - Scott Huch reminded the Board of the purpose of the charters: to establish 3-4 measurable, attainable goals for each Auxiliary Group and Committee. Charters will be updated at the spring meeting of the AABD.

- **Wesleyan Fund Committee**, Molly Rollings: Dashboard started; suggested asking those alums who already support the Giving Office events to participate on the AABD as part of the Wesleyan Fund Committee; spreading the word of the next *All In For Wesleyan* on April 2 by phone calls to primary contacts to prep for calls on the day; Sonny Freeman suggested returning to a version of the Class Agent model to assist with calls.
- **Alumni Admissions Network**, Jennifer Shaughnessy, IWU Admissions Office-presented by Scott Huch: Sonny Freeman will join this committee to assist with growing this effort.
- **Regional Alumni Groups**, Guy Gebhardt: involvement with Regional Chapter calls is increasing; Regional chapters will begin a book club activity and read the same book that incoming Freshman are given for discussion and connection; Seattle, Atlanta, Dallas & Phoenix chapter membership expected to increase due to State Farm centralizing 8000-9000 employees to these hubs; Guy singled out the Chicago Region (Maryanne Wolf-Astrauskas) for exceptional work.
- **Class Newsletters**, Brian Beam, presented by Brenda Milcik: postings on the online newsletters have doubled in the last year, more recent grads are most active; next goal is to get online editors identified for all newsletters; Class of 2014 will be asked to opt in to newsletter email notifications at cap & gown pickup; Sundeep asked if

we have considered newsletters for Affinity Groups? Jessica Shull expressed concern that these groups already have active social media networks; Jim Richter said PRIDE uses newsletters to communicate events. Discussion centered around the purpose of the class pages and consideration of renaming “Newsletters” to something more accurately reflecting current technology.

- **Parent Board** – no report
- **Minority Alumni Network**, Deon Hornsby, presented by Scott Huch & Jim Richter: goal to increase Latino visibility on campus; considering an “umbrella” for East Asian/South Asian students; Ann stated the University didn’t break down the student/alumni records to this degree, but once alums are identified the records can be updated.
- **Council for IWU Women**, Jessica Shull: 5 scholarships given during the Summit in February; discussion around efforts to diversify presenters at the Summit; goal is to invite presenters from other Affinity groups. Carol Liske will take over as Current President at the October AABD meeting.
- **Pride Alumni Community**, Jim Richter & Rachel Paturi: Rachel has agreed to co-chair Pride; shared the program for the March 29, 2014 Pride Summit; will hold a business meeting following the Summit to set goals for the group and discuss possible activities.
- **Greek Alumni**, Rich Marvel & Gregg Garafalo: no report, no charter. Sonny Freeman spoke to the progress in the absence of Gregg Garafalo & Rich Marvel.
- **Young Alumni**, Steve Lessaris: no report, no charter. Adriane spoke to the progress in the absence of Steve Lessaris.

Scott Huch moved to table the Charters of the Greek & Young Alumni, & adopt those presented; Molly Rollings seconded. Adopted.

Frank Boyd, Associate Provost – Wesleyan Update

Van Miller, Wesleyan Fund Update & All In For Wesleyan 2014.

Scott Huch reviewed the By-laws and the implications of the changes made at the October 2013 AABD.

SPRING MEETING:

- Auxiliary Groups and Committees bring charters to the board for approval
- Nominating Committee brings award nominations to the board
- Chairman appoints Nominating Committee for the next year

MID-POINT CONFERENCE CALL [AUGUST/SEPTEMBER]:

- Nominating Committee will bring nominations for additional directors and, in odd years, officers and trustee nominations, for a vote
- Auxiliary Groups and Committees notify the board of who will chair their group for the coming year

FALL ANNUAL MEETING:

- New directors & officers take the gavel at this meeting
 - Directors serve 1 year; officers serve 2 years
 - President Elect serves 4 years

Alumni / Faculty Partnership – Sundeep Mullangi reviewed the new process to connect alumni and faculty for alumni participation in the classroom; alumni-populated database accessible by faculty and students for subject-matter experts and mentors. Jessica raised the concern that IWU doesn't have a single, up-to-date, searchable, database that holds all information on all alumni. Ann stated that the database exists, but is not accessible by all staff, faculty and the alums. Steve suggested making the link between student and alum more direct rather than only through faculty.

Award Nominations presented by Tracy Garrett, AABD Secretary. Molly Rollings moved to approve nominations. Nominees were approved unanimously.

Student Senate Report presented by Austin Aldag in preparation for the Alumni/Student Summit later this afternoon; Austin said the Senate is looking for suggestions to get the students invested in Homecoming.

Alumni Association Board of Directors Dashboard presented by Ed Pachetti for input. Sundeep asked that some elements from the Trustee Dashboard be included on ours. Update information 4-6 times per year.

Elections:

- AABD secretary to fill open position – Sundeep presented Ed Pachetti for the role of secretary. Sonny Freeman moved to approve; Molly Rollings seconded. Approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40p.m. Will reconvene in the Turfler Room for the Alumni/Student Summit.