

**Kenyon College Alumni Council Meeting
May 26, 2017**

Present: Jamion Berry '97, Manjul Bhusal Sharma '16, Susie Bloom Hudgins '89, P'18, Conor Dugan '15, Nancy Ellis '72, Frankie Gourrier Jr. '08, James Greenwood '02, David Hanson '87, Veronica Hauad '03, Jack Killen '71, Christian Martinez-Canchola '12, Julie Miller Vick '73 P'12 H'97, Chris Mitchell '91, Jen Neubauer '04, Win Sheffield '77, Rick Spinner '63, Cindy Thomas '84

Absent: Andie Asimes '13, Jim Carr '62, Jody Horak Tyrpak '91, Melzetta Moody '05

Staff: Scott R. Baker '94, Alex Compton, Heidi McCrory and Nancy Sowders

Guests: President Sean Decatur, Janet Marsden, Kristin Ann Meister '00

Friday, May 27

1. President Jack Killen called the meeting to order at 8:41 a.m. and welcomed the group.
Meeting agenda:
2. Jack asked for a motion to approve the winter meeting minutes. Susie Bloom Hudgins made the motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Conor Dugan, and approved unanimously by the Council.
3. Kenyon Fund Support ~ 100% contribution from council members, met target for KF support.
4. Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement updates
 - Alumni Volunteer Survey
 - Survey closed May 7th
 - Good sampling, lots of comments to sift through, no surprises
 - No way to choose 'dual' volunteer roles, pick main role by design
 - Heidi McCrory noted overall feedback positive, pointed to areas of focus going forward
 - More feedback will be given as surveys are given deeper scrutiny
 - Email to be sent in June to those who took the survey
 - Reunion 2018 tweak (red sheet)
 - Changes:
 - Registration for campus housing will be limited to alumni in official reunion classes (5th, 10th, 15th...), official affinity reunions (Kokes, Chasers...), award winners, key volunteers and special guests (entertainment, panelists, etc.) and registration for class and affinity reunion dinners will also be limited to members of those groups.
 - Alumni not in official reunions may register for reunion and attend other events but they are not eligible for campus housing or Saturday evening class dinners.
 - Council affirmed the changes. Urged good communication.
 - An anonymous gift in honor of Alumni Council to the Kenyon Fund totaling

more than \$1,000 per member – thank you!

5. Leadership Discussion / Nominations for next year

- Jack noted that Exec Comm discussed and was proposing a slate of candidates for nomination: Cindy Sternberg Thomas for President, James Greenwood for Vice-President and Christian Martinez-Canchola for Secretary
 - Win Sheffield made a motion to vote the slate, Nancy Ellis seconded the motion
 - Motion passed
- Jack asked to approve reappointments of Manjul Bhusal Sharma and Andie Asimes to one year terms
 - Motion made by Susie, it was seconded by Cindy Sternberg Thomas
 - Motion passed
- Jack asked to appoint Sam Clougher as Class of 2017 representative
 - Motion made by Susie, Win seconded the motion
 - Motion passed

6. Awards Process

- Nancy crafted a document to establish procedures to select recipients for Kenyon College's annual Alumni Awards, and guidelines for exceptions to the procedures.
- It was agreed by all to modify instructions on the website
- Suggestion to have an FAQ section so all know how to fill out form
- Discussion centered on the rare occasion when 2 or more people deserve award

7. Committee Reports

Jack noted it has been an amazing year, committees are gaining traction, a lot of work is happening in between committee meetings. Thanked Chris Mitchell (past President) for 'getting the ball rolling'.

- Regional Activity
 - Moving to steering committee model
 - 15 Summer Send-Offs across the U.S.
 - "Kenyon in Your City" brochure
 - Alex shared policy for information sharing / mass emails sent by college
- Targeted Initiatives
 - Increased cooperation between CDO and College Relations
 - Welcome and interaction with new Dean in September
- Communications
 - Two most important items:
 - Outline ~ living document
 - Briefing Book

8. Presentation from and discussion with President Sean Decatur

- General updates on campus

- o 474 incoming first years, number holding steady via withdrawals and waitlist
- o Strong legacy: 15%, U.S. Students of Color: 19%, Foreign Students of Color: 8%
- o KEEP expansion: 35 students
- o Steps to address national decline in student enrollment
 - Put programs out in front as recruitment tools
 - Stronger emphasis on KEEP, STEM, KAMP4, KAP, and Kenyon Young Writers
- o Title IX implementation of recommendations
- o Faculty statement about open dialog on campus
- o CSAD bi-annual conference in September: 'Free Speech on Campuses'
- o Construction update
 - New multi-faith Meditation and Prayer Center in the Village

Council broke for lunch at 12:24pm; CLOSED Executive Session Lunch. Full meeting resumed at 1:25pm.

9. Introduction and discussion with Janet Marsden, Associate VP for Communications
 - AC Communications committee can help facilitate pertinent information to alumni
 - AC can be proactive sounding board for messages to broader alumni community
 - o AC would like regular presence in alumni bulletin
 - Focusing in on social media as a valuable communications tool, especially to younger alumni ~ capitalize on instant social media
 - Report in September of 5 priorities AC wants to see, and which are most effective
10. Alumni Council held an Executive Session; nominations were made to fill Council vacancies
11. Year End Review and Wrap Up
 - Changes or adjustments for next year
 - o Keeping same committee members vs. adding new committees
 - o Broaden scope of Target Initiatives committee
 - o Ad hoc group outside of council?
12. Recognition of Retiring Members
 - Jack recognized and thanked members rolling off; Scott handed out gifts:
 - o Conor Dugan '15, Nancy Ellis '72, Frankie Gourrier '08, Julie Vick '73, Rick Spinner '63

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.