Kenyon College Alumni Council Meeting
May 27, 2016


Absent:  Colette Pichon Battle ’97 Beko Reblitz-Richardson ’00, Win Sheffield Jr. ’77, Cindy Sternberg Thomas ’84,

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

Guests:  Kristin Ann Meister G’00, KFEC Chair, Ms. Sarah Kahrl, Director of Kenyon Institute

Thursday, May 26

• Council met with President Decatur and Student Affairs staff regarding Title IX concerns.

Friday, May 27

• President Chris Mitchell called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. and welcomed the group. Meeting agenda:
  • Approve Winter Minutes (vote needed)
  • Kenyon Fund Support
  • Gregg Cup Luncheon and Council
  • Review Agenda
  • Council President and Vice President (vote needed)
  • One-year Reappointments (vote needed)
  • Trustee Nominations
  • Title IX
  • Sarah Karhl to present format for Kenyon Institute January Term and ask for input

• Rick Spinner asked Chris to make Title IX an agenda item, discussion followed.
  • Susie asked how we proceed. What is Alumni Council’s responsibility?
  • Julie asserted it is a countrywide epidemic on college campuses.
  • All are in agreement to circulate a communication piece to alumni, via the Executive Committee
• Chris asked for a motion to approve the winter meeting minutes. Nancy Ellis made the motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Becky Hoyt, and approved unanimously by the Council.

• Kenyon Fund Support ~ 100% contribution from council members
  *Greg Cup luncheon and awards will be held at noon, Saturday, May 28, 2016.*

• Nominations for next year
  • Chris nominated Jack Killen for President and Cindy Sternberg Thomas for Vice-President
  • Frankie nominated Christian Martinez-Canchola as Secretary
  • After discussion, the slate of candidates was approved unanimously.
  • Council selected at large membership for next year.

• Trustee Nominations
  • August 1, 2016 ~ deadline for nominations

• Next Year’s Meetings
  • Discussion to change to two meetings, fall meeting & winter weekend
  • Electronic meeting option debated
  • Unanimous vote to keep 3 meetings

• Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement updates
  • Switchboard metrics
    • Kenyon the ‘new gold standard’
    • Total adoption ‘awesome’; student adoption lacking
    • Partner with CDO to roll out Switchboard to new students at orientation
    • Encourage Switchboard ~ Facebook connection

  • Open position, Associate Director of Young Alumni Engagement
    • Kenyon Ambassador on Switchboard and other social media

_Council broke at 10:55 am and reconvened at 11:06 am._

• Committee Reports
  • Regional Activity
    • Strengthening Regional Associations
      • Communications to all ~ minutes only go to Regional leaders
      • Shared access to Google drive folder for Regionals
      • How can college support the Regionals

_Chris thanks committee for regular calls and keeping in touch_

• Targeted Focus
• Ongoing work on three themes
  • Senior Dinner
    • Bio on alums attending & how do we present them to students
  • Consolidation of social media platforms
    • Win working on social media aspects
  • Facilitation of Faculty & Alumni relationships
    • Reached out to faculty for suggestions & feedback
    • Facilitate externships and experiential learning

Alex noted CDO assisting students

Christian enquired of opportunities for people of diversity

Susan suggested panel discussions

• Communications
  • Documents and information before new council members first meeting
  • Bakers Dozen ~ fewer words / more links to information
  • “What is our voice?” How do we respond?
  • Canary in the Coal Mine

Sarah Kahrl gave a brief presentation on expanding the Kenyon Institute seminar experience, offering a one-day Saturday program in New York, and asking for ideas from the Alumni Council.

Council broke for at 11:58am and reconvened at 1:07pm.

• Alumni Council held an Executive Session

• Year End Review and Wrap Up
  • Communications (cont. from morning session) Title IX Facebook page
    • Susan ~ Do not set email to ‘reply all’
    • Nadine ~ Satellite pages on social media and website

• Changes or adjustments for next year
  • What do we give new members?
  • Handbook created by Susie
  • Playbook still developing – Secretary to follow up
  • Embrace tasks in between meetings

• Jack gives preview of next year
  • Put lots of energy into communications network
  • Build a communication strategy
• Keep eyes on sexual assault issue
  • Education
  • Prevention

• Recognition of Retiring Members
  • Nadine Fabish
  • Becky Hoyt
  • Susan Berger
  • Jack thanked Chris for his term as president

*Meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.*