



# Saint Vincent Alumni Council Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2019

Meeting Location: Fred Rogers Center

Presiding Council Member: Jason Winters, Council President

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 A.m.

The opening prayer was given by R. Zadzilko, followed by the Alma Mater led by J. Laffey and general introductions.

**Guest Speaker: Randy Kratofil, Marching Band Director.** The March of the Bearcats used to be a student-run group. Kratofil took over in 2011 and now has created classes in marching, concert and pep bands. You can minor in a musical instrument with 18 credits completed. For 2018, there were 230 students who included band as an extra-curricular activity on admission application. Band continues to grow and participate in several activities on campus.

**Guest Speaker: Joel Santoro, Student Government President.** Santoro updated Council on SGA's recent activities to improve the housing selection process, which will now be a random lottery and completed online. This year's SGA Capital Project was to add water bottle filling stations in all dorm rooms.

**Alumni Office Update: Shawn Gouch and Katie Laswell.** Shawn updated that the Alumni Office is continuing to cultivate relationships between students and alumni. Katie is focused on working with the seniors and the GOLD alumni population. Upcoming events include the Presidential Event in Bonita Springs, FL, a Pittsburgh event on March 27 at the Carnegie Museum. C. Cleveland suggested need for event in the western US – possibly Phoenix. The yearly luncheon schedule is included in the Council meeting folders.

Approval of the Minutes of the November Meeting:

**Action Item: Approved by R. Schulte, Seconded by J. Laffey**

**Wimmerstock.** J. Winters provided an update as the Wimmerstock liaison to Council. He reports there have been many changes to the event including that there will not be an Operetta (which will now be a part of the Campaign closing). S. Gouch notes that Institutional Advancement is not working on Wimmerstock. Spring Family weekend is scheduled for the same weekend as Wimmerstock. H. Kahn suggests that with timing, sponsorship approvals would likely be better for outreach in 2020. R. Stillwagon reminds Council that our involvement was a two-prong approach of 1.) Alumni Support for the event and 2.) Aide for the Father Gilbert Scholarship Fund. R. Zadzilko expresses concern that we were brought in with hopes of supplementing the Scholarship Fund but now the addition to the fund is unclear. G. Fetkovich suggests that we pull back with our support.

**Motion: F. Nelson motions that Council remove themselves from association with Wimmerstock event and not host the Easter Village.**

**No second to the motion is made.**

G. Martin suggests that we keep our offer to help with the event on the table, consider providing man-power only to facilitate the event. R. Stillwagon notes that the area of the Easter Village's planned location (Melvin Platts) is under construction.

**Motion: F. Nelson motions to stop Council's involvement in Wimmerstock. Seconded by R. Schulte. Amended by K. Colonna to read that due to the narrowing of focus of Wimmerstock and the timing, Council does not think it is feasible to provide excellent help.**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Executive Committee:** J. Winters presents the option to include a Friday afternoon meeting in the future (either April or in the Fall) to the Council Calendar. M. Sigg suggestions that it would be a helpful meeting to gain facetime with students and administrators. K. Colonna is not opposed to this type of meeting if effort are there with the students and we consult them on the

agenda. The meeting should be focused and not all updates need full attention of discussion. G. Fetkovich suggests that a full day meeting might wear on creativity.

**Motion:** *G. Martin motions to try an additional meeting of Council on a Friday. Motion seconded by R. Schutle.*

**Secretary:** A. Simmons reports a secretary is still needed for Council. Please reach out if interested.

**Treasurer:** J. Giacobbi reports that 100% of Alumni Council officers have given to the college at this point in the fiscal year. Alumni Council members are at 57% giving and Past Presidents are at 82% giving.

**Membership Committee:** A. Simmons reports the next project for the Membership Committee is review of attendance for last fiscal year and working with treasurer to determine giving status. Committee will prepare ballot for election in May meeting.

**Student/Alumni Networking and Outreach Committee:** M. Sylvania reports that Council members are lined up to participate in upcoming Get Acquainted Days.

**Fr. Gilbert S. Burke, OSB Alumni Scholarship Fund Committee:** R. Retter reports the Committee will be planning a Summer Picnic at the Martin Farm in July in order to supplement the Scholarship Fund. More information on date and details to be provided.

**Homecoming Liaison:** G. Maurer reports Homecoming will be October 4-6, 2019. Class Agents are being contacted and anniversary class focuses for classes ending in 4 and 9.

**Prep Reunion Liaison:** R. Stillwagon reports the Prep Reunion will be held June 7-9 on Campus.

**Legal Advisors:** A. Panebianco reports that questions were raised on the process of the Saint Vincent College Alumni of Distinction Award and Recent Alumnus/Alumna Achievement Award. She provided the details of the award nomination and verification process below:

- selected annually by the Alumni of Distinction Selection Committee.
- administered by a committee of sixteen (16) members:
  - The Director of Alumni Relations
  - Three (3) members of the College faculty, one from each Academic School, appointed by the Dean's of the College, in consultation with the Director of Alumni Relations.
  - Two (2) members of the Institutional Advancement staff
  - Five (5) Members of Alumni Council, selected by the President of Alumni Council in consultation with the Chair and the Director of Alumni Relations.
  - The Director of Multicultural Affairs of Saint Vincent College
  - One (1) member of Student Government, selected by the Student Government President in consultation with the Chair and the Director of Alumni Relations
  - One (1) Benedictine, as appointed by the President of Saint Vincent College in consultation with the Archabbot of Saint Vincent College.
  - Two (2) previous Alumni of Distinction recipients, appointed by the Director of Alumni Relations.
  - The Director of Alumni Relations, in association with the President of Saint Vincent College, shall appoint the Chair of the Committee.
- Except for the full-time staff, alumni and faculty committee positions shall serve a three (3) year term

Eligibility for the award includes:

- Individual inductees to the Alumni of Distinction & Recent Alumnus/Alumna Achievement Award must have graduated from Saint Vincent College, Seminary or Preparatory School. Candidates must have demonstrated significant contributions to their school, community and/or country in the areas such as, but not limited to:
- Professional Achievement (work-related accomplishments, publications)
- Church/religious involvement
- Community/Civil involvement
- Educational achievements
- Honors or awards
- Leadership positions
- Ethical;/humanitarian efforts
- Personal/family accomplishments
- Candidates shall be notified of their induction by the Alumni Office
- Those nominees not selected shall remain on the ballot for induction until they are inducted or have been on the ballot for a maximum of three years. If three years have passed without induction, the nominee may be nominated again for induction in accordance with the nomination procedure outlined above

Nominations:

- Nominations are solicited on an ongoing basis starting January 1 and ending December 31.
- A nomination form must be submitted for a candidate to be considered.
- Awards are given out at the awards dinner at homecoming.

***Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Stillwagon; Seconded by Schulte***

## **ATTENDANCE**

***H. Brinker***

***C. Cleveland***

***K. Colonna***

***G. Fetkovich***

***A. Giacobbi***

***J. Giacobbi***

***A. Jeffers***

***J. Laffey***

***G. Martin***

***G. Maurer***

***F. Nelson***

***A. Panebianco***

***M. Porter***

***J. Reilly***

***R. Retter***

***R. Schulte***

***M. Sigg***

***A. Simmons***

***S. Simmons***

***R. Sossong***

***R. Stillwagon***

***M. Sylvania***

***C. Toy***

***J. Winters***

***R. Zadzilko***

***Guests:***

***D. DeYulis***

***D. Rohn***

***J. Sanrorino***

***K. Laswell***

***S. Gouch***

***R. Kratofil***

***Respectfully submitted by Alé Simmons, Vice President, Alumni Council***