



Saint Vincent Alumni Council Meeting Minutes

NOVEMBER 17, 2018

Meeting Location: Fred Rogers Center

Presiding Council Member: Jason Winters, President

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

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

Guest Speaker: Ms. Heather Kabala, Dean of Admission

- Brother Norman and the Archabbot have directed her to focus on an interest in Veteran Recruitment.
 - She has been in touch with many area schools with JROTC programs.
 - College working to improve Veteran support services, such as a PTSD Counselor on staff.
 - We currently have few resources to identify veteran students.
- A second focus is to expand Hispanic recruitment.
 - Shannon O'Reilly will be making a trip to El Paso and San Antonio to push this recruitment initiative.
- The Admission office has instituted a system of additional messaging to encourage students who have started applications to attend Saint Vincent to finish them.
- The Wimmer Exam is being held today.
 - 260 students attended.
 - Those who take exam receive a \$500 bonus in scholarship for participating.
- Territories for recruitment have been moved around in the office.
- Kabala is pleasantly surprised with the amount of alumni involvement in recruitment.
 - She wants to continue to build this relationship.
 - Reminder that the Alumni Grant application is available online.

Alumni Office Update: Shawn Gouch, Director of Alumni

- S. Gouch introduced scholarship recipient Natalie, who received the Clyde and Nancy Smith Scholarship.
 - Natalie wanted to thank Council for the contributions to student scholarships as, due to injury, she exhausted her four year scholarship, so the additional support helped her finish her degree.
- S. Gouch provided update on search for Assistant Director of Alumni.
 - R. Schulte asked for further details: Is there a job description that can be shared? Who from Council will help with interviews? Is the position posted?
 - S. Gouch reports that the College has completed 25 telephone interviews in the nationwide search and will hold interviews December 3, interviewing 5-7 candidates.
 - They are hoping to have an offer out by mid-December with a start date in January.
 - S. Gouch stated Jason Winters, Ryan Retter and Alé Simmons (President, President-Elect, and Vice President) would be included in interview process.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Toy Drive for CA 240 Class benefiting Pressely Ridge.
 - Nutcracker at the Benedum Center
 - Campaign Events
 - Teutonia Mannerchor Christmas Lunch

Approval of the Minutes of the August 2018 Meeting:

Action Item: *Minutes not included; to be reviewed at February meeting.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

President/Executive Committee: Council members participated in a short survey on council participation. Results below, as well as discussion.

Survey from 11/17/18 Council Meeting			
	Question 1 How many council meetings have you attended this past year?	Question 2 How involved have you been with council in the past 12 year? (1 to 5 scale)	Question 3 How involved have you been with your committee in the past year? (1 to 5 scale)
1	1	1	3
2	2	3	5
3	9	6	5
4	10	12	6
5		2	5

Respondent #	Question 4 What is your most notable contribution to council in the past 12 months?	Question 5 What is your individual goal for council in the next 12 months?	Question 6 How do you think council is performing as a whole?
1	Offering some insights regarding past council experiences	Goal - 100% contribution to college fund	As a whole, council is more active than I can recall and certainly more cooperative in spirit
2	Attending events and always willing to help with events	would like to have a more vocal role...and speak up	I believe over the past years council has made positive steps in the right direction
3	Attending all that I can	-	To get more of our council to attend our fundraising effort
4	Committee co-chair	Full participation at all of our events (committee events)	Great - night and day from when I started
5	Support of Maifest	Make a GAD and Support the Easter Village	Need more specifics from leadership so involvement is more even
6	Get acquainted days	More student involved events	At a standstill - need more growth to alumni & current students
7	20th reunion recruitment and social media info to class	Continue with homecoming & class alumni attendance	Good communication
8	Donation to SVC	More involvement with committee	More organized than in previous years
9	Helping on the Maifest committee	Continue to support our ongoing programs	Performing better than ever and getting better with more involvement with new initiatives
10	Bringing attention and guests to Maifest	To begin to develop new rule with council	Currently council is performing at a high level

Respondent #	Question 4 What is your most notable contribution to council in the past 12 months?	Question 5 What is your individual goal for council in the next 12 months?	Question 6 How do you think council is performing as a whole?
11	Participation in Easter Ball Committee	Be as active as I can	Very well
12	Helped with execution and setup of Maifest	Help with Alumni council event as part of 2019 Wimmerstock	Large enthusiasm and motivation gap between Executive members and majority of council members
13	Athletic picnics at the farm	Excel in our athletic program	More alumni impact
14	-	Support recruiting & grad/alumni relations	Sufficient, but no excitement
15	-	Be more organized - would help to be more active	Very well - the best it's been since I joined
16	Being able to participate in Alumni council activities, learn & act as a representative	Continued participation as personal time / obligations permit	About average
17	Contributing money, working on scholarship committee	Participate in GAD's and participate in new Spring event	Good efforts being made - new initiatives
18	Work on Maifest	Get more involved	As a whole, council is doing well
19	Cash to Easter Ball, GAD's	Run a successful reunion weekend	Inconsistent - those who contribute are dedicated and sincere. Those who do not are dead weight
20	Calling members to see if they were willing to be on council	Council more vocal in dealing with administration	Need to be more visible and vocal
21	Attending GAD's and fostering networking	GAD's and encouraging networking	Very poorly
22	Maifest planning / attendance	Help with Wimmerstock event, support leadership in any way I can	OK - always believe there is room for improvement, must get much better with student / alumni relations

Discussion

- R. Schulte: What are plans to cause positive change? Council has been negligent in general. Get Acquainted Day participation is awful. We need reporting from students. Who are the student government representatives? Are they invited? We are not networking with students or the seminary. We are not fundraising. We show to help with homecoming. George Martin is an example of someone who works diligently to help increase alumni visibility with students. We need to improve upon events such as Maifest and rededicate ourselves to help Saint Vincent prosper.
- R. Zadzilko: We are seeing more cooperation than ever, however we need to see that the conversation among students and the conversation here is different. We need to ask them "How can we help, what do you need?" and the services we provide need to match.
- K. Colonna: States that we are expediting a lack of specificity. We need to determine how to prioritize and need structure. We need early details on events, timing, what we can do to help.
- S. Simmons: Agreed that we need more time to plan, dates of events well in advance.
- J. Winters: Suggested full year calendar.
- J. DeSantis: Need to make sure Council is informed of the best ways we can help the College.

- K. DeGroot: Alumni Involvement is important and it's not hard. Working with the office to get the word out on events, obituaries, etc. is not a problem.
- R. Retter: Stresses the importance of being a member of Council, working for the good of the college and its students.

Secretary: Report by A. Simmons. Secretary position is open; please be in touch if you are interested in becoming more involved in Council.

Treasurer: J. Giacobbi is working with S. Gouch to centralize information for giving report at the next Council meeting.

Membership Committee: Report by A. Simmons.

- Resignation: K. Stevens, Class of 2010, Council Secretary
- Council Currently has 30 members; five who are close to having missed the requirements for memberships.
- Next Goal: Review members in question of meeting commitment; complete New Member Form update.

Student/Alumni Networking and Outreach Committee: Report by M. Sylvania and C. Danielson

- M. Sylvania presented list of upcoming events and asked for members to sign up to volunteer at each event. He wants to take a coordinated approach to the events.
 - R. Retter questioned how many Council participants attended last Get Acquainted Days.
 - M. Sylvania states we will have numbers for future Get Acquainted Days participation.
- C. Danielson reports that he is working on the networking portion of this committee. He has been in touch with Courtney Baum in the Career Center to discuss options to participate in the Senior Etiquette Dinner, the Opportunity Students Senior Dinner and the Wine and Cheese Networking event.
 - He also wants to create a repository of Council Member bios for students to have access to.

Fr. Gilbert Scholarship Fund: Report by R. Retter

- Wimmerstock 2019:
 - Special meeting on Wimmerstock; agreed to participate in following ways:
 - Easter Village
 - Merchandise Sales
 - Fundraising

Homecoming Liaison: G. Maurer reports class agents are needed next year's homecoming festivities.

- A. Simmons report Apple Watch raffle at October homecoming lead to \$500 added to the Fr. Gilbert Scholarship Fund. About 10 Council members participated in the sales.

Prep Reunion: R. Stillwagon

- Reunion is June 7, 8, 9, 2018- George Martin Chair;

Legal Advisors: A. Pianabianco and K. Colonna

- No issues brought to attention of committee.

NEW BUSINESS

- P. Conroy- Admissions Report: 609 accepted; Boyer school has greatest interest.
- P. Conroy - C. Bolish appeal - C. Bolish, student at Saint Vincent, suffered a house fire. Donations were taken from Council members and presented to C. Bolish and her family. P. Conroy thanks Council for participation.
- S. Gouch - Reminder that Giving Tuesday is November 27.

- F. Susko - Currently working for Parkhurst, wanted to share that he has had bad experiences in which students show disrespect to workers and cause disturbances in the dining hall.
- R. Schulte - After the meeting, please join Council for a luncheon with students from the Opportunity program.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by J. Laffey; Seconded by F. Nelson

Respectfully submitted by Alé Simmons, Alumni Council Vice President