

## **Alumni Awards Committee Report**

April 17, 2021 Board Meeting

The Alumni Awards Committee met on February 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss the new Andrew Purnell Jr. Trailblazer award. This award would honor Mr. Purnell's background and compassion to give and share, to significantly improve or enrich lives of others and the welfare of the humanity. It was wholeheartedly decided to proceed with establishing this award. After Executive committee approval and presentation and approval by the entire board at the April meeting, the committee will proceed with a shortened nomination period this summer. The 1<sup>st</sup> recipient will receive the award at the February 2022 Awards dinner.

The committee members in attendance approved establishing a new award.

Chairwoman Nelson-Brown represented the Awards committee at a committee chair Zoom meeting on February 22, 2021 to discuss the Alumni Associations Strategic Plan.

The Awards committee met on March 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Strategic Plan and recommended actions/goals the Awards committee should undertake to meet the board's plan objectives. Discussions were not completed. Nelson-Brown sent a follow up email to the committee with the action items as discussed and suggestions for other items. Responses were requested.

A follow up meeting is planned for April 6<sup>th</sup> to finalize the Awards committee portion of the Strategic plan and prepare for submission by the April 30<sup>th</sup> due date.

The 2020-2021 Awards Committee members are:

### **Board Members:**

Susan Nelson-Brown – Chairman  
Walter Brandon  
Lisa Castleman  
Michele Guadalupe  
Mary McMahan  
Tisha Mills  
Alice Spann  
Scott Preston  
Nikita Richards  
J D Schurter  
Steve Smith (Ex-officio)

### **Non-Board Members:**

Mary Dellorto  
Shaun Fauley  
Kara Foster

## Board Development Committee Report

### January 23, 2021

- The committee discussed the number of anticipated seats to fill. One college will lack representation (MCN) and we didn't receive any applicants for the upcoming year. COE also had no representation on the board the past year, but several COE alumni have shown interest for this year.
  - Board demographics were reviewed and discussed as how they would be considered when using the rubric for this year's scoring.
  - Following the deadline of February 17, Rachel will compile all applicants as well as a spreadsheet with name, college, location, grad year, active status, and occupation for committee to insert scores from the rubric. Following this, scores will be compiled, and the committee will meet to choose how many to interview in March and select the slate by the end of March.
  - Kris will send out the board committee selection form in February to capture who is interested in executive committee/offices for board development to review in April. The committee will discuss and complete the leadership slate. .
- The committee reviewed the revised board candidate application and approved. The new application will be posted on February 18.
- The committee brought questions into new business on how other alumni associations recruit, when do they recruit, and requirements that are used for sitting on the board.
- It was also asked if there is a possibility for the board development committee to be a two-year commitment to have a stronger grasp of the process and to keep succession of work moving.

### March 8, 2021

- The committee met after reviewing the large amount of applications submitted by the deadline to discuss next steps for which candidates to interview.
- Interview questions were reviewed and revised. Kris will reach out to the candidates to scheduled interviews for the following week. All will be held via Zoom. Committee members that can attend can do so through each Zoom link. Kris will ask all questions on behalf of the committee. The committee will receive recordings of all interviews to review and to have for those that could not attend the time.
- A meeting was scheduled to discuss the interviews and finalize the new board member slate.

**March 25 and March 30, 2021**

- The committee met twice to discuss candidate interviews and finalize the board slate.
- The committee also decided that the board development chair and executive director will call all interviewees to inform them of the final decision. Those not selected would be encouraged to be a part of a committee and re-apply for next year.
- Lisa will provide an outline of the selection process to the full board at the April meeting.
- The committee will meet April 17 prior to the board meeting to discuss the executive committee slate as well as complete board development goals for the strategic plan.

## **Alumni Association Homecoming Committee Spring 2021 Report**

Members – Stacy Ramsey, Walter Brandon, Liz Garcia, Steve Smith, Mary McMahon, Joe McGuire, Marsha Reeves, Danny Mielneczek, Alice Spann, Tim Griffin, Brent Scholl, Kathy Murdoch, Michele Newswander, Paige Hall, Lynda Lane, Angela Onuma, and Juliana Nelson

### **Homecoming Spring 2021 – Redbirds in Flight, April 5-11**

Virtual Homecoming - Homecoming events were mostly virtual this year due to the pandemic. The committee met a couple times and brainstormed various ideas for a virtual homecoming. Some of those ideas were implemented and others were saved for the future as virtual components of homecoming may always exist moving forward for Fall 2021 and to engage our alumni who are unable to make the return to campus in years to come.

King and Queen Selection – Frank and Jean Chiodo were selected as Homecoming King and Queen. They were thrilled to be recognized and were crowned at their home by Juliana. Photos and a video were taken and will be shared in the Alumni Magazine, the Homecoming website, social media, and the parade video.

Workspace Decorating Contest – Our faculty and staff were able to enter the workspace decorating contest. They could decorate work/office space whether it be on campus or at home. They submitted pictures for us to judge. We added three new award categories to widen the scope due to the pandemic. These were Creative Pandemic Pandemonium, Best Spirit Wear, and Most ISU Spirited Pet. There were eight entries total. There were no entries for Best Spirit Wear. Winners pictures are being shared on the homecoming website.

The winners are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Best Overall Decoration: Facilities Management
- Runner-up for Overall Decorations: EMDH-Marketplace at Linkins
- Most ISU Spirited Pet and Creative Pandemic Pandemonium: Department of Sociology and Anthropology
- Original Use of Homecoming Theme: Student Health Services
- Best ISU Spirit: Student Accounts
- Best Use of Reggie: Parking Services

Parade – The homecoming committee took a zoom picture to be included in the parade video.

Fight Song – The Alumni Board took a zoom video while singing the fight song. The actual singing was provided by Michele Guadalupe. Thanks Michele! The video is being used to promote homecoming events.

Other Homecoming Events:

- Annual [Town and Gown 5K](#):
  - Participants registered by April 7 to receive the virtual running packet. The 5K can be completed any time before April 10.

- Uptown Decorating:
  - Student Alumni Council decorated businesses in Uptown Normal. Additionally, the Bloomington-Normal community can visit Uptown Normal throughout homecoming week to see the area lit with the traditional red and white lights.
- Kick-Off - Monday, April 5:
  - Homecoming officially began with a “[On the Move](#)” Kickoff for students. From 2:30 and 5:30 p.m., ISU’s University Program Board handed out Homecoming swag and Jimmy Johns on the Quad.
- How to Draw a Reggie - Tuesday, April 6:
  - Redbird families and friends learned how to draw a Reggie virtually. Prize giveaways were done throughout the event.
- History of the Quad - Wednesday, April 7:
  - University Archivist, April Anderson-Zorn and Associate Director of Event Management, Dining and Hospitality, Barb Dallinger, led a virtual discussion on the [History of the Quad](#).
- Grab and Go Carnival – Wednesday, April 7:
  - Students stopped by the Bone Student Center for a carnival snack and the opportunity to take supplies to stuff a homecoming stuffed animal. Online bingo and trivia were also held with prizes.
- Virtual Pep Rally - Thursday, April 8:
  - President Dietz, Athletic Director Kyle Brennan, several coaches and even the Big Red Marching Machine got us in the Redbird Spirit!
- Blood Drive - Friday, April 9:
  - The RED Committee sponsored a [blood drive](#) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Bone Student Center
- Black Colleagues Association Virtual Homecoming Party and FUNdraising Experience – Friday, April 9:
  - Redbirds partied the night away with DJ Vince Adams while showing support for student scholarships.
- Parade - Saturday, April 10:
  - Hosted on ISU’s Facebook page at 10am, entries sent virtual special greetings and homecoming spirit for viewers to watch.
- Tailgating:
  - To get ready for sporting events, fans and friends decorated their driveways, porches, and front doors to show Redbird spirit as part of our driveway tailgate parties. Photos posted at #RedbirdHomecoming were entered in a drawing to win Redbird swag.
- Athletic Events:
  - Redbird Soccer vs. Valparaiso
  - Redbird Softball vs. Missouri State
  - Redbird Baseball vs. Indiana State
  - Redbird Women’s Tennis vs. UNI
  - Redbird Women’s Golf Invitational

Mark your calendars - October 11 – 17 for Fall Homecoming 2021 celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> Homecoming!

**Illinois State University Alumni Association**  
**MINUTES- Redbird Engagement and Development (RED) Committee Meeting**  
**5:30 pm**  
**March 15, 2021 via Zoom**

In attendance: Leah, Dave, Steve, Susan, Julia. Stephanie and Nikita in attendance until 6:00.

Absent: Felicia, Scott, Tyler, Amanda

- Civic Engagement Awards (Stephanie) Stephanie applied on behalf of the combined work between the Alumni Engagement Office, Alumni Board, and RED Committee. Steve provided a letter of support for the application. Leah will attach the application to the minutes for everyone to review.
  
- Redbirds Care: Homecoming Blood Drive (Stephanie) A Red Cross blood drive will take place at Old Main in the Bone Student Center during Homecoming on Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 11:00-4:00. The format will be the same as the previous blood drive organized by Susan. Promotion has already started, and details are provided on the Homecoming website. <https://homecoming.illinoisstate.edu/events/blood-drive/index.php>
  
- Nikita volunteered to work 10:30-12, Julia 12-2:00, and Stephanie is going to ask Amanda to volunteer from 2-4 if available. Plans include a similar blood drive during Fall Homecoming.
  
- Strategic Vision: RED Committee plans and activities review. Discussion was held, and the plan was reviewed and updated. Leah will send the draft form to the RED Committee for all to review and comment for finalization and submission to Kris.

Next regular meeting: Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30