

Illinois State University Alumni Association

Board of Directors Meeting

September 17, 2022

9:00 a.m.

In Person Meeting at Office of Emergency Management

Alumni Association Mission: To support the University through the knowledge, skills, financial resources, and loyalty of its alumni; to communicate and interpret the University's goals and achievements to others; and to promote a spirit of unity and loyalty among former students and friends.

Members Present: Walton, Horstein, Griffin, Mills, Nelson-Brown, Aguirre, Ramsey, Richards, Durnell, Rillie, Fontenelle, Scholl, Goldsmith, Schurter, Grant, Shingles, Jackson, Smith, McGuire, Spann, Mielneczek, Wells, Navarro (Board of Trustees Liaison)

Members Absent: Preston, Clark

Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order

Leah Walton

- a. Walton called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

2. ISU Leadership Updates

a. President's Report

President Kinzy

- i. Record Fall enrollment
 1. Record Fall 2022 enrollment of 3983 students. The largest class in 35 years.
 2. Enrollment of 20,600 is strong
 3. Average ACT is 24; with average GPA of 3.64
 4. Freshman class - African American males increased by 22% over last year; Latino males increased by 24% over last year
 5. 1/3 of class are 1st time college students
- ii. \$40M expansion of the MCN Simulation lab is underway.
 1. Community funding will go towards the technology costs
- iii. Partnership with Memorial Health in Springfield to accommodate Junior and Senior nursing students; particularly transfer students
- iv. Illinois State named one of the country's best values in education by US News and World Report
- v. Last year was 3rd highest year for fundraising - \$31.2M and there were no 8 figure gifts.
- vi. Construction on new residence hall starting soon; 1200 beds and dining for 700.
- vii. Construction started on new College of Fine Arts building

- viii. New Sustainability efforts on campus with goal of no waste.
- ix. ISU to host 1st Gubernatorial debate on Oct. 6th.
- x. Athletics won All MVC trophy.
 - 1. 5 Women's sports teams won championships
 - 2. Softball team has 2nd highest GPA in nation behind Harvard
- xi. Position of Dean of the College of Engineering has been posted; Kinzy asked that we share with any potential candidates
 - 1. 2 Assistant Deans will be hired: 1 for academics and 1 for EDI
- xii. \$4.5M program to look at faculty and staff with an EDI lens
- xiii. A Campus Inclusion survey will be coming out to faculty, students, and staff
- xiv. Questions taken from Board members, with following information provided:
 - 1. New residence hall has not been named. Expected completion in 2025.

b. Trustee's Report

Bob Navarro

- i. Two new Trustees: Tony Byrd and Student Trustee Ash Ebikhumi
- ii. Bringing back the "Trustee in Residence" program
- iii. Rocky Donahue was thanked for his service on the board
- iv. Next meeting is Oct. 14th at 9 am in the Bone Center

c. University Advancement Report

Pat Vickerman

- i. Fundraising goal for FY is \$25M.
- ii. Annual giving is shifting gears from phone calls to mailings. Will employ 15-20 students in house. Direct mail has produced best results.
- iii. Redbird Philanthropy Engagement Center ("RPEC") will be set up to help with social media, videos, and some calling
- iv. ISU will start taking gifts in Crypto currency
- v. New company (Unite) is going to assist with an internal assessment of the corporate engagement. What can be done to help corporations achieve their goals and value the relationship with ISU.

d. Alumni Engagement Report

Kris Harding

- i. Two open positions in Alumni Engagement
- ii. Recognized Board members who will be honored by Student Affairs: Nikita Richards, Jenna Goldsmith, and Matthew Rillie
- iii. Alumni will be conducting a comprehensive survey in early spring to determine alums communication and giving preferences
 - 1. Board members will be asked to assist in review process
- iv. Let Kris know if you will be attending the Alumni Day lunch and if you want Homecoming game tickets

e. Alumni Association President's Report

Leah Walton

- i. Leah shared where she has been and where we are going this year. She has conducted exit interviews with retiring board members, attended many events, and committee meeting as well as reaching out to committee chairs, liaisons, and new board members
- ii. Liz Garcia is retiring from the Board for personal reasons. Leah thanked her for her service and a gift will be sent to her.
- iii. As requested by members, the effort will be made for more networking time amongst the board members and for questions during board meetings
- iv. Future meetings will start at 9 am
- v. Leah thanked Kris for the board social on Friday evening
- vi. Based on the results of the board survey, the boards' focus this year will be to improve communication and increase board development training
- vii. Where on campus would you like to meet? What areas of campus we want to learn about and suggested topics/speakers. Kris will be sending out a survey

3. Consent Agenda (Action Items)

- a. Approval of June 11, 2022, minutes
- b. FY22 Financial Report – Final update
- c. FY23 Financial Report as of 9/8/22
- d. Griffin moved to approve Consent Agenda. McGuire seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Continuing Business

Leah Walton

5. New Business

Leah Walton

- a. Motion to approve Karyn Aguirre's appointment to the Executive Committee
 - i. Smith moved to approve. Griffin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Motion to Approve committee assignments
 - i. Griffin moved to approve. Ramsey seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Committee/Liaison Updates –

a. Awards -Susan

- i. Subcommittee meetings are on the 20th and 26th. We will be making our recommendations by the middle of October

b. Board Development - Dave

- i. Committee is going to review the Board Handbook for updates.
- ii. Committee is going to research different Board Leadership training opportunities.

c. DEI -Matthew

- i. Update representation on website
- ii. Listening session on Representation – Oct 27th

d. Executive – Leah

- i. As a result of the Board Experiences Survey, we will be focusing on communication and Board Development leadership/training programs
- e. Homecoming -Stacy**
 - i. Sign-up sheet passed around for volunteers at Homecoming
 - ii. There will be someone assigned to Logistics to text members when and where they are supposed to be
 - iii. Network Leaders are invited to walk in the parade with the Board
- f. RED-Julia**
 - i. Festival ISU
 - ii. Blood Drive on Oct 11th
 - iii. Redbird Table Talks on Representation on Oct 27th
- g. Prime/Half Century -Tim**
 - i. Thinking of rebranding the Prime. The name Prime does not resonate with alums. One suggestion: Golden Redbirds
 - ii. Register if you want to join the Half Century dinner on Friday the 14th
 - iii. There will be a campus tour at 1 pm and Tim invited the board to join
 - iv. Issue of the cost of Half Century and possibility of increasing the budget raised. Also, about the board budget – where the money comes from and how is it divided. Kris is going to prepare a response
- h. Scholarship committee -Danny**
 - i. Start in February
- i. Student Alumni Council-**
 - i. Nick Shack – planning a fall painting night
 - ii. Working on Homecoming float
 - iii. Invited Board members to attend council meetings
- j. Athletics Liaison-Stacy**
 - i. Meet monthly -discussed NIL, Portal, NCAA policies
- k. Bone Liaison-Brent**
 - i. Will start in February or March
- l. Foundation Board**
- m. Honorary Degree-Leah**
 - i. Seeking university approval for revamping of Honorary degree selection process

7. Other Discussions

- a. BCA Homecoming tailgating is at Adelaide and Gregory- Karyn
- b. Lan is not tailgating this year-Kris
- c. BCA Meet and Greet is at 8 pm on the 14th at BLONO Pizza-Karyn
- d. Scholarship virtual fundraiser is Thursday Oct 13 -Karyn

8. Adjournment

Leah Walton

Griffin moved to adjourn. Ramsey seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.