

## Illinois State University Alumni Association Board of Directors

June 22, 2019

### Minutes

**Board Members Present:** Kathryn Bohn, Walter Brandon, Jr., Tyler Clark, Fellicia Foster, Lisa Castleman, Liz Garcia, Ryan Gilbert, Michelle Guadalupe, Dave Horstein, Jerry Kerber, Daniel Lopez, Jr., Danny Mielneczek, Susan Nelson-Brown, Stacy Ramsey, Doug Reeves, Kaci Rollings, Steve Smith, Alice Spann, Leah Walton, Ron Whitton

**Board Members Absent:** Tim Pantaleone, Scott Preston, Marsha Reeves, Joe McGuire,

**Incoming Board Members:** Tim Griffin, Mary McMahon, Dakota Pawlicki, Nikita Richards

**Alumni Engagement Staff Present:** Kris Harding, Lauren Hardy, Beth Theobald

**Guests Present:** Jan Murphy, Julie Jones, Jeff Mavros, Mark Wunder

### Call to Order

Reeves (President) called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m. at the Illinois State University Alumni Center. He welcomed the board members and noted there would be an annual meeting of the alumni association membership immediately follow the conclusion of the board meeting.

### University Update

Jan Murphy, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, provided an update on behalf of President Larry Dietz who was on vacation. The following information was shared with the board:

- The 101<sup>st</sup> General Assembly adopted a budget for upcoming fiscal year of \$69.6 million – a 5% increase over previous year's appropriation
- Funds were increased for monetary awards program (MAP) along with added funds for the new Aim High program
- Funds were also approved for several new and renewed capital projects (approved but not released) – including renovation the Fine Arts complex and Milner Library
- No tuition increase was approved by the Board of Trustees although a modest academic fee increase was approved
- Fall 2019 will welcome the largest incoming freshman class in recent years; enrollment closed for first time since 2014
- Incoming freshman and transfer students are more diverse than ever before
- There has been significant growth in Honor Program
- ISU educates the third largest number of students in Illinois
- Forbes recognized Illinois State as one of the best mid-sized employers in the United States
- Kathy Bohn and Bob Navarro were appointed to Board of Trustees
- Redbird Athletics won Missouri Valley Conference All-Sports Championship recognition

### University Advancement Update

Mark Wunder, Assistant Vice President for Development, provided an update on behalf of Pat Vickerman, Vice President for University Advancement. The following highlights were shared with the board:

- The Redbird Rising Campaign surpassed its goal reaching more than \$155 million as of June 2019
- Over 51,000 donors, including 23,000 first-time donors, have supported the campaign
- 25 visionary gifts and commitments of \$1 million or more have also been received
- Annual giving has totaled \$39 million
- Campaign funds will support scholarship, leadership and innovation initiatives
- The Birds Give Back – One Day for Change event help on Feb. 28 raised \$625,494 from \$1,734 gifts
- Campus support for the campaign remains strong from faculty and students
- New Redbird socks are now available for purchase

### **Trustee's Remarks**

Julie Jones, Board of Trustee liaison, shared updates from the May Trustees meeting related to confirmation of new and returning Board of Trustees and decisions not to increase tuition but instead, adjusted academic fees. She also shared information about newly funded projects, including HVAC upgrades at Watterson Towers, Bone Student Center concourse improvements, Julian Hall enclosure project and the purchase of property on Locust Street for future use.

### **Enrollment Management Update**

Jeff Mavros, Director of Admissions, gave an in-depth presentation on Illinois State University recruitment and retention initiatives, emerging trends, and opportunities for alumni engagement and outreach with prospective students and their families.

### **President's Report**

Reeve shared that he has been honored to participate in numerous activities with the University during the second quarter of 2019, including:

- Alumni Association Board Meeting and the Special Membership Meeting
- Planning and participation associated with the Phoenix alumni event
- Board Development Committee calls related to selection and interviews of prospective Board and Executive Committee candidates
- Coordination and engagement in a staff appreciation luncheon and recognition awards for the Ag Department
- Assembly of keychains for spring commencement
- The Glass House alumni event
- Half Century Club events including the welcome lunch, reception and induction ceremony for the class of 1969

### **Executive Director's Report**

Harding provided updates on the several items, including:

- Alumni Engagement welcomed Danielle Brady and Lea Atas as graduate assistants, as well as Abby Wolski and Laura Ledin, who are serving as summer interns
- Half Century Club reunion, held on April 26 & 27, hosted more than 70 guests for Friday lunch and 90 at the induction dinner
- Approximately 95 guests attended the Alumni Association/College of Fine Arts reception in New York City
- Over 230 Redbirds attended the White Sox pregame event
- Successful network events have been held in recent months in Peoria, Dallas, Washington DC, Atlanta, and St. Louis
- The Mennonite College of Nursing Gala was well attended and successful
- #RedbirdImpact events are happening across the country including locally with Alumni Association Board member participation
- Upcoming events include:
  - ISU Night at Chicago Cubs on June 25 and Peoria Chiefs on June 29
  - The Student Affairs Legacy of Leadership event on July 22
  - Alumni Night at Shakespeare Festival with the performance of *As You Like It* scheduled for July 27
  - Redbirds at Raging Waves in Yorkville on July 27
  - Chicago Young Alumni is hosting a wine tasting on August 8
  - Redbird Day at Brookfield Zoo is August 10
  - ISU Tailgate at NIU is August 31
  - Dallas Alumni Network Mecum Auto Auction on September 3
  - Peoria Campaign reception on September 26 at the Peoria Riverfront Museum
- Other information worth noting:
  - Current board member committee requests have been assigned and individuals will be notified in late June
  - Board Involvement Forms should be completed quarterly
  - Board contact information and biographies are being updated
  - Flat Reggie's are available for travel and posting on social media
  - Kathy Bohn and Bob Navarro have been selected to serve on the Illinois State University Board of Trustees

### **Consent Agenda**

Smith (Secretary) submitted the minutes of the April 13, 2019 Board of Directors meeting for approval. Harding provided a brief Financial Report (preliminary through June 12, 2019) and included a schedule of future board meeting dates (July 2019 – June 2020). Gilbert motioned to approve both items as part of the consent agenda. Ramsey seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

### **Continuing Business**

Reeves reported that committees will be updating the priority action items. He requested that one member from each committee be assigned to participate in an ad hoc group that will oversee this initiative in the year ahead. The committee chairs were asked to make these appointments.

### **Committee/Liaison Reports**

The following committees provided written reports and updates in conjunction with the meeting:

- Board Development
- Redbird Prime/Half Century Club

The Homecoming Committee also indicated it was interested in having more volunteers assist with activities this fall.

### **Adjournment**

Reeves requested a motion to adjourn. Bohn made the motion. Brandon seconded. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Executive Committee: August 28, 2019

Board: September 21, 2019

*Respectfully Submitted by Steve Smith, Board Secretary*