

**Metropolitan State University
Alumni Association Board Meeting**

June 26, 2018, 4:45 – 6:15 p.m.
Downtowner Woodfire Grill

Board members attending: Sandy Best, Akmed Khalifa, Linda McCann, Isaac Muhammad, Michael O'Connor, Carmen Shields, Tené Wells, Irene Wright

Guests: Steve Campos, Tom Cook

Staff attendees: Kristine Hansen, Deb Vos and Noriko Ramberg (Note taker)

Tené Wells convened the meeting at 4:59 p.m.

Campaign Readiness Study Report:

Deb Vos summarized the results, presented by the consulting firm Gonser Gerber, of the study to gauge our preparedness in taking on our first-ever comprehensive campaign.

- The primary purpose of this study was to determine the internal preparedness and external feasibility of the university and the Foundation to launch a major comprehensive fundraising campaign.
- Fifty-two internal and external individuals were interviewed.
- The study confirmed that Metropolitan State University is an institution that embraces and supports a non-traditional and diverse student population. Our faculty are considered a core strength, and our existence is important to individuals and the state.
- Thirty recommendations emerged from the findings of the study (Please refer to the “Campaign Readiness Study Executive Summary” handout that lists the most salient 17 recommendations for consideration). The highlights worth mentioning are:
 - Phases: The campaign is to be 7-years in length and to have three phases—Preparation Phase (2 years), Quiet Phase (2 years), Public Phase (3 years)
 - Goal: The campaign goal is recommended to be \$25,000,000 and will be finalized prior to entering the public phase.
 - Theme: *Shaping the Future*

Approval of notes from March 27 meeting:

Motion to approve the notes moved by Irene Wright, seconded by Wells, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Financial Report:

The report will be delayed until the September meeting. The Alumni Relations Office will be engaged in new events and projects in Fiscal Year 2019; therefore, the FY19 budget will need to be deliberated with further analysis. The budget in general is on target; any remaining funds from FY18 will be used for upcoming events and projects in the FY19.

Bylaws Committee Report:

- Sandy Best, Allison Cole, Rita Dibble, Michael O'Connor, Carmen Shields and Wells worked on the compilation of the draft, revised bylaws on Saturday, June 16.
- The board members are asked to send in feedback and revision requests to Kristine Hansen within 60 days.

- Some notable updates are:
 - Legislative Committee was eliminated; the legislative work will be done by the Foundation Board.
 - Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, Fundraising Committee and Communications-Events Committee are the standing committees, and the Board members are expected to serve on at least one committee.
 - Minimum of two board members in each committee is required. The Board president may appoint each member to join a certain committee that fits in the skillset and talent of the individual.
 - The chairs of Nominating, Fundraising, Communications-Events committees may invite other alumni or other groups within the university to participate in the respective committees.
 - The duties and expectations of the Board are better defined in the revised draft.

- There has been a discussion on the continued Alumni Board involvement in the Foundation Board as a voting member. Since the Foundation Board is also currently undertaking their bylaws revision, their committee will discuss their preference and decide if the Alumni Board's involvement as a voting member shall remain in their bylaws or otherwise.

New Business:

- Selection of the 2018 Alumni of the Year recipient
Four strong candidates are nominated. Hansen established some criteria, duties and expectations. The recipient is requested to:
 - be on the cover of the *Buzz* magazine
 - make at least three appearances at Metro State-related events—speaking at an incoming student orientation, physical attendance to an on-campus event, and physical attendance to a local/community event on behalf of Metro State

The candidates are Stan Karwoski ('87), Samuel Mwangi ('01), Lyna Nyamwaya ('09) and Michael O'Connor ('92). Please refer to the detailed biography of each candidates in the handouts.

Hansen recommended that members of the Nominating Committee review the applications, possibly conduct interviews, and make their selection.

Best made the resolution that Hansen is to get consent from the Board members for the membership of the appropriate committee(s) and form the committees by September, and that the Nominating Committee will confer and make the recommendation of the Alumni of the Year recipient to the Board at the September board meeting. The motion for the resolution made by Best, seconded by Linda McCann, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- New board member candidate
Wells and Hansen met candidate Andrea Steen ('11) and made the recommendation for her to join the Board. Please refer to her biography and resume in the meeting packet.

The motion to approve Steen's membership moved by Shields, seconded by McCann, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- Acknowledgment of service for departing board members
Wells completed her term as the President of the Alumni Board and decided to resign from the Board. O'Connor resigned from the Alumni Board to join the Foundation Board. Their service for the Alumni Board was appreciated and acknowledged with gifts.

Other Business:

The success of "Metro in Your Neighborhood" alumni gathering in East Metro

The alumni gathering was held on June 21 in Woodbury, and Best and Steve Campos shared their experience. A total of seven alumni attended.

The goal of the gathering is to look for alumni who are engaged and energetic about Metro State who could possibly be suitable for Board membership, building trust and also representing the Alumni Board's (and eventually Pres. Arthur's) presence in the communities. We initially build the relationships with the participants, then get them involved in on-campus activities, and hope to turn them into donors eventually.

Hansen would like to replicate the gathering in other parts of the Twin Cities.

- Thursday, July 26 in South Minneapolis, 5-7 p.m.
- Thursday, August 16 in Northern suburbs, 5-7 p.m.

To-dos

- Hansen will send Outlook appointments to the Board to seek volunteers to host the gatherings. Recommendations of venues for the gathering is also appreciated.
- The invitation to the gatherings will be sent out by email and social media.
- Hansen will look into the feasibility of creating "How can alumni get involved?" tri-fold brochure to give out to future event participants.

Wells adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Noriko Ramberg, Office Coordinator