



**Alumni Association Council Meeting Minutes  
March 3-4, 2006**

Present: Present: Elena Bernal '94, Jim Bowhay '81, Del Coolidge '64, Mike Ison '93, Rob Killion '90, Jeff Kohlman '66, Dean Lerner '74, Judy Mahle Lutter '61, Avram Machtiger '74, Ellen McDonald '81, Marilyn Musser '74, Sam Perlman '90, Sarah Purcell '92, Kino Ruth '79, Kartik Sheth '93, M. Leslie Stearns '87, Gretchen Osterhoff Thomson '62, Lisa van Sand '85, Deyo Johnson '07, Caitlynn Wells '08, John Bohman '06, Chris Ochoa '06

Absent: Barry Huff '73, Andy Ono '55, Dorothy Smardack Palmer '62, Samir Sashikant '00, Jack Swenson '61, Kit Wall '77

Staff: Kaitlynn Lewis, Severin Roberts, Kate Foster, Bonnie Primley

Guests: David Clay, vice president for business and treasurer of the College

**Friday, March 3, 2006 8:00 p.m.**

I. **Welcome** by president, Marilyn Musser.

II. **Reports:**

**Development Committee** – Del Coolidge, chair

- The committee reviewed phonathon results.
- Council has reached 100% participation in the Steven Kent Challenge.
- Senior Challenge is currently at 50% participation. Visibility day will be the first part of April.

**Volunteers Committee** – Kino Ruth, chair

- The committee discussed ways of making sure that the spirit of volunteerism at Grinnell continues to be in everyone's mind.
- The committee recommended that review of volunteer performance and accountability continue as a part of the new alumni relations committee.

**Student Alumni Association** – Caitlyn Wells, vice president and Deyo Johnson, president

- SAA is in the midst of reorganization, evaluating their constitution and implementing some new programming to become a more self sufficient organization.
- The group sponsored numerous events on campus this semester and is exploring new ideas for next semester.

**Student Government Association** – John Bohman, president and Chris Ochoa, vice president

- Updated the Council on the activities of SGA and their goals for this year.
- Two of SGA's main focuses are the establishment of wind energy and encouraging alumni giving.
- SGA will also be reviewing the campus sexual assault policy.

**Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, March 4, 2006 - 9:00 a.m.**

- I. **Welcome**
- II. **Minutes** of the September 2006 council meeting were approved with changes as indicated.
- III. **President's Report:** Marilyn Musser, president, reported these highlights of recent campus activity:
  - The Strategic Plan and tactics program have been released and is posted on the web at <http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/institutionalplanning/strategicplanning/>.
  - Grinnell is in the top 25 colleges (number 7 with respect to our peer institutions) with students participating in the Peace Corp.
  - The new Joe Rosenfield Student Center will be dedicated October 5-7.
  - Look for upcoming changes in the forum and the library.
  - Quad is being maintained for special events and as a backup. Cowles is being remodeled into apartment style housing to accommodate around 45 students.
  - Dedication of Kershaw Hall was a milestone in the campus as Grinnell strives for increased diversity and inclusivity.
  - Students recommended a wind-farming initiative to the administration.
- IV. **Election and Membership Development Committee:** Mike Ison, chair  
**Election of new Council Members:**
  - A slate of nominees to fill the three open council positions along with five alternates was passed by majority vote.
  - The committee will write procedures for the election process.**Election of President Elect:** Mike Ison, chair
  - M. Leslie Sterns was elected unanimously as president-elect.
- V. **Presentation:** Dave Clay, vice president for business and treasurer of the College, gave a presentation called "Finance at Grinnell," a discussion of the endowment and College investment policies.
- VI. **Reports:**  
**Career Development Committee** – Lisa van Sand, chair

- The committee held a brainstorming session about the current projects they oversee and the procedure for transitioning then to the new networking committee.

**Communication Committee** – Kartik Sheth, chair

- Introduced Kate Foster '87, the new director of communications.
- The committee discussed suggested changes to the alumni website.
- Reviewed current projects and how they will transition to the new committee.
- Discussed ways of using the Grinnell Magazine to connect with alumni.

VII. **Council bylaws:** A motion was passed to waive the 30 day notification of changes to council members. Corrections regarding changing the name of the nominating committee to the election and membership development committee and correction of wording inconsistencies in the bylaws were amended by majority vote.

VIII. **Selection of New Committee Chairs:**

Pioneer Fund and Development - Judy Lutter

Communications - Sam Perlman

Alumni Relations – Elena Bernal

Alumni Networks – Rob Killion

IX. **Reports:**

**Reunion & Awards Committee:** Leslie Stearns, chair

- Proposed Alumni Award winners were accepted by majority vote.

**Office of College & Alumni Relations:** Kaitlynn Lewis, director of alumni & community relations

- Office staff development update.
- Upcoming alumni events will be posted on the website as they are confirmed.
- The Reunion preliminary schedule is on the web. Registration deadline is May 15.
- Response of faculty and administration to the Council Committee restructure is very positive. The committees have created new ways in which the Council can be more fully utilized by the campus community.

**Pioneer Fund:** Severin Roberts, director of the Pioneer Fund

- Currently we have 7113 donors, 25% of alumni base.
- Phonathon continues to be successful. There are approximately 30 student callers and all alumni, parents and friends have been called.

X. **New business:**

- Next meeting: Oct. 5-7, in conjunction with the Joe Rosenfield '29 Student Center dedication. Council activities will be on Thursday with Volunteer/Reunion Planning the following days.
- The council will review the bylaws for inconsistencies in the attendance section.

Meeting adjourned 3:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 4, 2006.