

April 2012 Meeting Summary

APRIL 2012 MEETING SUMMARY

The Colgate Alumni Council consists of 55 alumni nominated for their exemplary volunteer service to Colgate. Its members represent the approximately 32,000 alumni in the Colgate Alumni Corporation, and each member strives to be a "Colgate ambassador": enhancing the experience of all Colgate alumni by becoming deeply familiar with the state of the college; promoting robust communications, interesting and useful programming, and other modes of connection and engagement; and providing venues for alumni to discuss Colgate issues.

Please read what the Council is working on, follow the links to additional information, and feel free to contact us: we're eager to hear your thoughts and suggestions.

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From April 13-15, 2012, the Alumni Council met in Hamilton for its third meeting of the 2011-2012 academic year. The Council's work is conducted through its committees and meetings of the entire Council. Below is a summary of the Council's work.

Sir Richard Branson Lecture. On Friday, April 13 (Colgate Day), the Alumni Council attended the lecture by Sir Richard Branson in the Sanford Field House. Branson is the seventh guest speaker, part of the Kerschner Family Series Global Leaders at Colgate sponsored by the Parents and Grandparents Fund.

President Herbst. On Sunday, April 15, President Herbst met with the Alumni Council during their General Session. He thanked the Council for their work on the strategic planning process for Colgate. President Herbst also discussed his first two years in office and his expectations for financial aid support.

Parents Steering Committee. The Alumni Council invited members of the Parents Steering Committee to attend their panel meeting on Saturday morning. Panelists included Shondell Reed (Associate Athletic Director), Debra Townsend (Vice President of Communications), and Murray Decock '80 (Vice President of Institutional Advancement) to discuss updates on athletics, university website, and capital campaign. Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Denis Cronin '69, welcomed guests and the meeting was introduced by Wendy Carey P'12, Chair of the Parents Steering Committee.

Alumni Engagement Sessions. On Saturday afternoon, members of the Alumni Council met in different groups divided by graduation era. Katie Roberts '01 and Bill Sweeney '01 moderated the opening session and invited era groups to address common questions about engagement, communication, and expectations.

Thought Into Action. The Alumni Council members were invited guests to a luncheon with Colgate students part of "[Thought Into Action](#)" and members of the Parents Steering Committee. The buffet luncheon included exhibits of thirteen different projects and opening remarks by President Herbst. On Sunday morning,

Andy Greenfield '74 (founder of TIA) presented his program to the Alumni Council and took questions.

Nominations Committee

Kevin Rusch '85, committee chair, introduced Kay Traester LaBanca '05 as the next committee chair for 2012-2014. Mr. Rusch also discussed the summer nomination season and his encouragement to recruit active alumni for consideration. He also helped forecast the extensive review process held in August and September for the Nominations Committee.

Awards Committee

Chairman Bill Sweeney '01 and his committee discussed methods to improve data management of award nominees. The committee also discussed improving the process and criteria to select Distinguished Faculty Award winners.

Communications, Athletics, and Advancement Committees

Three different committee chairs agreed to host a panel presentation with senior leaders on campus to update alumni and parents on important issues. This open committee meeting allowed participants to hear about the capital campaign, the new Colgate web design, and state of the athletic program.

Career Services Committee

Robert Johnson '94, chair of the committee, introduced Teresa Olsen (interim Director of Career Services), Chip Schroder (Associate Director of Career Services for Employer Relations) and Amanda Kalal (Associate Director of Alumni Affairs). Murray Decock '80 (Vice President of Institutional Advancement) introduced the meeting by describing the rationale to align Career Services with Advancement in July. The panelists discussed current methods to train and employ students and alumni.

The *Admissions Committee* and *District Clubs Committee* did not meet in April. Gary Ross '77 (Dean of Admission) provided hard copy data on the Class of 2016 which was subject to change the following week. Katie Roberts '01 reported that the District Clubs Committee will announce its 2012 club awards in September, after a busy spring season of events.

University Relations Committee

On Sunday morning, Sarah Compter '04 (committee chair) introduced Dr. Scott Brown (interim Dean of the College). Dean Brown asked the Alumni Council to review the four principles of residential education and discuss them in small groups. He collected feedback and will report them back to the Student Affairs Board.

On Saturday evening, several members of the Alumni Council were honored at their retirement dinner. Retirees include Paul Bradley '67, Jay Brennan '81, Bruce Clayton

'89, Sarah Compter '04, John Hoagland '78, Scott Hoekman '98, Peter Rakov '54, and Chris Wolyniak '01.

The Alumni Corporation's next meeting will be held at the annual meeting at 9:45 a.m. on June 2, 2012.

Questions? Comments? Please write to [Tim Mansfield](#), executive secretary for the Alumni Council and director of alumni affairs.

Best,

Christine Cronin-Gallagher '83

Alumni Council President