

April 2013 Meeting Summary

The Colgate Alumni Council consists of 55 alumni nominated for their exemplary volunteer service to Colgate. Its members represent the approximately 31,000 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 12-14, 2013, the Alumni Council met in Hamilton for its third meeting of the 2012–2013 academic year. Included during the weekend was the Global Leader [Lecture](#) by former President Calderon of Mexico and the 16th annual Konosioni [Auction](#). The Council's work is conducted through its committees and meetings of the entire Council. Below is a summary of the Council's work.

Retirement Dinner

On Friday, April 12, the Alumni Council recognized several members of the board who are retiring in June. They included: Sandy Braddy-Hall '76, Amy Dapot '96, Tom Dempsey '72, Mike Herling '79, Amy Leo '03, Mike Morrone '68, Jeff Oberg '76, Lynn Plant '77, Bob Quitzau '55, Joanne Spigner '76, and Bill Sweeney '01.

Communications Committee

Vice President of Communications, Debra Townsend, introduced the Edwards Consulting firm hired to help the university develop its brand & identity in higher education. The consultants held several focus group discussions with the Council to learn the perceptions and recommendations from Colgate alumni.

Tim Mansfield, Associate VP of Advancement and Director of Alumni Relations, also provided the Alumni Council with an overview of new mobile applications for alumni. The advances of mobile technology will allow for alumni to access the directory from their smartphone, beginning in the summer or fall. Mansfield stated the importance of staging this opportunity intelligently and reassuring alumni of their privacy protection.

State of the 'Gate

Board of Trustee Chairman Denis Cronin '69 introduced the session with an overview and discussion of Trustee activity. Afterward, the Athletics, University Relations, and Admissions Committee were represented in a panel presentation by several staff and administrators. David Hale '84 offered an overview of campus master planning and budget restrictions for construction and growth. Gary Ross '77 gave an overview of the applicant pool for the Class of 2017, signaling the May 1 deadline for

acceptances. Finally, head coaches Kathy Brawn (women's soccer) and Greg Fargo (women's hockey) gave updates on their programs.

Student interaction

Members of the Alumni Council met with two sets of students during the April meeting. During lunch on Friday, members of the Student Government Association met with six Alumni Council members to discuss successes and challenges that students faced this year. At 1:30, a group of nine students met with the entire Alumni Council for an Open Forum. Topics of discussion included Greek Life, diversity, campus climate, and what alumni should know about their Colgate experience.

District Clubs Committee

Kathryn Roberts '01, chair, led the committee on a discussion about cultivating the club leader community. They discussed a Facebook [group](#) to share information and conference calls with campus to learn about events/ideas. All recommendations from the January and April meetings were delivered to the Office of Alumni Relations for implementation.

Career Services & Advancement Committees

Committee chairs Robert Johnson '94 and Bob Raiber '68 introduced Mike Sciola, Associate VP and Director of Career Services. Sciola discussed an overview of staffing and resource development in career services, including internship funding and additional support from Advancement. Sciola and Tim Mansfield (Alumni Relations) also discussed "Professional Networks", communities of alumni in similar industries to help cultivate opportunities for students while engaging alumni closer to Colgate.

Alumni Council Election

Mark DiMaria '84, election chair, gave an overview of the timeline and expectations for the pending alumni council [election](#). There will be one contested position (ERA VII) and the Alumni Council is encouraged to vote and to support its nominee.

General Session

President Jeffrey Herbst joined the Alumni Council during the General Session to offer an update on strategic planning and engage in open discussion with the members. The President discussed alumni engagement, student life, and academic priorities. He thanked the Alumni Council for their honest feedback and counsel, while also recognizing their support of the capital campaign.

Several officer positions for the 2013-2014 fiscal year were successfully elected including Executive Secretary (Tim Mansfield), Treasurer (Robert Johnson '94), and Legal Counsel (Co Bertsche '63). Terry Egler '77 was officially elected as President and Joe McGrath '85 as Vice President.