

January 2014 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 January 16-18, 2014, the Alumni Council met in Hamilton for its second meeting of the 2013 – 2014 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.

SophoMORE Connections: During the weekend, the Alumni Council participated in a variety of career programs with sophomore students. Modeled after the successful Real World program, [SophoMORE Connections](#) offers career discovery panels and networking training to younger students, while introducing them to the Colgate alumni community.

Academic & Intellectual Engagement: Bruce Crowley '79 and Valerie Shapiro '02 are leading a new ad hoc committee on alumni intellectual engagement with the university. Crowley and Shapiro met with a small group of faculty prior to the meeting to identify challenges and opportunities for Colgate. On Friday, Crowley facilitated a dialogue between Council members and Professors Jane Pinchin, Jennifer Brice and Karen Harpp who have pioneered on-line courses in which alumni have participated. A number of ideas were generated which will be explored going forward.

State of the 'Gate Panel: Alumni Council President Terry Egler '77 introduced three panelists: Brian Hutzley, newly hired Vice President of Finance & Administration, Barbara Brooks, Interim Vice President of Communications, and Gary Ross '77, Vice President and Dean of Admission. Mr. Hutzley discussed his background and interest in Colgate while articulating the financial strengths of the university. Ms. Brooks gave a summary report on the Branding & Identity Project conducted by two external consultants. Finally, Dean Ross addressed three important issues for Colgate admissions: the national failure of the common application and how his team responded, the renovation of James B. Colgate Hall to include a state of the art Admissions Center, and the impact of increased financial aid support.

Discussion with President Jeffrey Herbst: Prior to their arrival to campus, President Herbst sent a video message to the Alumni Council, addressing the general state of the college and feedback on his strategic plan. After the State of the 'Gate panel on Saturday morning, President Herbst addressed the Alumni Council on two more specific topics: US News & World Report rankings and the cost of higher education. The conversation was informative and President Herbst helped explain the university's position on these important issues.

Alumni Council Mission: Co Bertsche '63 and Bart Hale '04 led a follow-up discussion on the mission of the Alumni Council and how the Council can improve its efficacy. They addressed changes implemented

in communication with university leadership/administration and Council members.. Several recommendations for improved communications with the alumni body overall were made and will be considered for implementation.

Athletics Committee: Committee Chair Tom Murphy '90 introduced several faculty panelists at the meeting: Dean of the Faculty Doug Hicks, Professors Lesleigh Cushing, Chad Sparber, and Jason Meyers. Ann-Marie Guglieri, Senior Associate Director of Athletics was also in attendance. Dean Hicks opened the meeting to address the recent letter to athletics, signed by 62 tenured faculty members. He and Professor Meyers (chair of the faculty committee on athletics) addressed how the athletics office is working with faculty on scheduling conflicts and improving communication.

Awards Committee: Committee chair Rob Fawcett '91 led his committee through the final round of [annual award selections](#) for alumni. Recipients will be announced at Reunion for Maroon Citations, Distinguished Faculty, Ann Yao '80 Young Alumni Award, Wm. Brian Little Award for Distinguished Service, and the Humanitarian Award. A new award for Entrepreneur of the Year will be presented during Entrepreneur Weekend in April.

Career Services Committee, District Clubs Committee, and Advancement Committee: Three guests attended a joint committee meeting to review [Colgate Professional Networks](#). James Nelson '98 represented the Real Estate Council, Emily Raiber '02 represented the Colgate Entertainment Group, and Tony Burns '02 represented the Finance & Banking Network. Each panelist described their network progress with programming, marketing, and fundraising. Afterward, the three committees met to discuss further support and implementation of the Professional Networks.

University Relations Committee: Committee chair Bart Hale '04 introduced Dr. Suzy Nelson, Vice President and Dean of the College. Dean Nelson offered a PowerPoint presentation on the [campus master plan](#) relative to construction of new residence halls over the next 10-15 years. Scott Brown, Dean of Students, also provided an overview of the [2013 Relationship Statement](#) for student organizations. Both panelists, joined by Fouad Saleet (Assistant Dean of Campus Life), answered questions about sorority organizations, student support, and alumni input on the campus master plan.

Nominations Committee: The committee officially put forth its slate for 2014 to be published in the winter edition of the Colgate Scene.

| <u>Era/Position</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Name</u> |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Era I | 1957 | Mr. James O. Aston |
| Era II | 1968 | Mr. Andrew S. Roffe |
| Era III | 1980 | Mrs. Claudia J. Stephan Braden |
| Era IV | 1985 | Mr. Carmine DiSibio |
| Era V | 1991 | Mr. Craig U. Dana Jr. |
| Era VI | 2000 | Mr. Brian K. Suiter |
| Era VII | 2008 | Ms. Taylor L. Buonocore |
| At Large | 2005 | Mr. Sean F. Devlin |
| At Large | 1994 | Mr. Denniston M. Reid |
| RVP - Far West | 1995 | Dr. Christian B. Teeter |
| RVP - Southeast | 2001 | Mrs. Lesley R. McNamara |
| RVP - SWest/Int'l | 2007 | Ms. Ashley D. Kepping |

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The Alumni Corporation's next meeting will happen April 11-13, 2014. The annual meeting will be held during Reunion Weekend on May 31, 2014.

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

Best,
Theresa Donahue Egler '77
Alumni Council President