

Truman State University
Alumni Association Board of Directors
Draft Minutes for April 6, 2024; 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. CDT



- I. Call to Order and Welcome (Hart) 8:34 a.m. began with introductions. In attendance were Mahlon Barker, Joyce Gentry, Jamie Matthews, Lori Hart, Jeanne Harding, Phillip Campbell, Michelle Mollick, Alison Mayer and Stacy Tucker-Potter. Joining via Zoom Father Ian Delinger, Dustin Carmack, Bernee Long and Lisa Marty. Also in attendance were Mandi Wiser and Elizabeth Dean.
- II. Approval of Agenda - Phil motioned to approve the agenda. Mahlon seconded, and the motion passed.
- III. Approval of Minutes from October 2023 Meeting Michelle motioned to approve, Joyce seconded, and the minutes were approved.
- IV. Resolution of Appreciation - Phillip Campbell
- V. Chapter, Club, At-Large Reports
 - a. Iowa - still struggling to find leadership; Advancement has hosted events there to try to cultivate prospective leaders
 - b. Mid-Missouri - Good luck before finals event for students from Mid-Missouri; Alumni breakfast in January; a TruCare social hour this last week that was successful in conjunction with a Humane Society
 - c. Arizona - no updates
 - d. Mid-Atlantic - Good event in January with the President; hoping to do an event in conjunction with the Cardinals coming out to DC in July
 - e. Kansas City - TruCare event at Harvesters and four different decades of alumni attended; The Royals/Cardinals game will be August 10; new members of their leadership team
 - f. Northeast - continuing to work on the purple flags that the chapter puts up on strategic dates such as the Truman Experience Weekend; recent reception with the Friends of the Lyceum; upcoming event in Macon; long-drive fundraiser for the scholarship coming up; funded



four scholarships for incoming students and 1 for upperclass students

- g. St. Louis - Escape Room event in December that drew a younger group of alumni who went to a happy hour afterwards; TruCare at the St. Louis Food Bank - helped leverage a connection to a Foundation Board member who is on the board for the Food Bank and packed over 6,000 meals worth of food; Men's Basketball game was in town for the GLVC game and they did an impromptu event to bring them some swag; Educators Event and the Growing Connections event on May 9 - not events hosted by the chapter but ones that they are supporting
- h. California- Recently hosted an impromptu wine tasting.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee Reports

- i. President (Hart) - We have been working hard to make sure we communicate and have a better idea of what's going on. If there is something more you'd like to see on that monthly report, let us know. Had a meeting with the past presidents of the Alumni Board and look forward to continuing this in the future.
- ii. Vice President (Carmack) - enjoyed the past president's call; a lot of work on bylaws
- iii. Secretary (Tucker-Potter) - update in the Google folder including membership numbers; recent clerical error that resulted in the cancellation of recurring memberships that the office is sorting out. Mandi will be leaving her role as of May 16.
- iv. Past President (Matthews) - working on the transition team and ran point on the bylaws revision; listening tour conversations that she needs to follow up on; attended the Foundation Board retreat in St. Louis in January; Better Because of You campaign helped us reconnect with previous



donors; Phillip, Ian and Zach reached out to people, so Jamie will be donating \$200 in appreciation of those efforts; Giving Week is coming up April 22-26

b. Nominating Committee (Matthews)

- i. Extension of term – Lori Hart passed unanimously
- ii. New Directors – Julia will be the St. Louis representative; Brad and Todd will be at-large representatives; the slate was unanimously approved

- 1. Brad Borgstede
- 2. Elizabeth Dean
- 3. Todd Holcomb
- 4. Julia Price

- c. Chapter Development Committee (Lepperd) – developing a plan for offboarding; Bulldog Break plans for social media influencers in the works; working on a new graduate welcome
- d. Programs and Awards Committee (Campbell) – plan for the Book Club this summer is to do Company of Women by Doug Villhard; will conclude with one discussion with the author on July 18 at noon; we will feature him in the May; TruCare – good to hear the reports of the TruCare activities this past year; Today is the Big Event and the NEMO Chapter is assisting with that as a part of the NEMO TruCare; the committee has talked with Advancement about National College Colors day that has gained a lot of momentum. It is always the Friday before Labor Day. Worked to create rubrics for their central projects so they sustain them moving forward.
- e. Student University Relations Committee (Harding) – excited to welcome Elizabeth as a student representative;

VII. Foundation Board Report – (Clithero)



VIII. Old Business

- a. Alumni Association Structure (All) - need to make the bylaws less specific to allow flexibility because the bylaw changes need to be approved by the Board of Governors. The approach was to create policies that are referred to in the bylaws so we can edit those as needed.
 - i. Bylaws - Jamie reviewed the proposed changes. Stacy drew attention to the Lifetime membership referenced in Article II Section 1. Phil recommended a different approach to the way we manage the terms of chapter officers so they don't have to wear two hats and we can fill the role. We will incorporate the changes that legal has sent to us and aim to get a final version in front of the board for a virtual vote over the summer.
 - ii. Chapter Policy
 - iii. Financial Policy - Lisa inquired about purchases that would be prohibited. The group agreed that we should research what some of the prohibited items would be to make that clearer. Lisa also asked questions about the way request of funds is worded. These need to be clarified. Jeanne asked if the split of funds would also apply to scholarship donations. The group agreed that we should clarify how that process will work.
- b. Travel Program (Tucker-Potter) - sub committee created a short list of possible trips and then surveyed the people who have participated in the trip before as well as those who have expressed interest in participating in the future. The Greek Islands was narrowly the first choice and the sub committed is researching to determine which trip fits the needs of the Alumni Association.
- c. Slate Portal (Tucker-Potter) - The Board will be getting an email to set up their account in the new portal to test it out. The current version is a more base model and we can start to look at expansion and ways to create a members portal.



d. Strategic Plan (All)

IX. New Business

- a. Change in travel reimbursement procedures – Stacy reviewed with the board that we can no longer sign the reimbursement over through the form. If people want to donate their reimbursement, we will issue a check and that check can be signed back to the Foundation. We also need to get reimbursement requests in within 30 days of the trip. There are some situations where the amount shown on a receipt might not reflect total costs (i.e. if someone uses points or does a switch and the receipt only shows the difference in what was paid. We can only reimburse up to what the receipt says, so be mindful of things that may affect that total.
- b. Summer check-in scheduling – July 13 or June 22 – will send a Doodle poll to the crew including the new members.

X. University Update (Thomas)

- a. HLC financial assessment annually that show our stability. Financially very strong. Reserves and endowments. Haven't tapped into reserves in her time at Truman. A year of expenses on hand. Schools that are in trouble spend their endowment in ways that aren't approved and we don't do that. Debt. Truman has recently paid down \$30 million in debt by refinancing and paying down at a time when other schools are taking on more debt. Maintenance and Repair. Academic programs. Net increase in programs of 36 – microcredentials all the way to master's. Declining enrollment doesn't necessarily indicate poor financial health. The problem is when a university bases their budgets on enrollment projections they can't meet and create a deficit budget. We set conservative budgets in line with realist enrollment projections and not on what we hope enrollment will be. Challenged Admissions to a 10% increase in all categories. They expect to be up in all categories except for transfer. Graduate admissions is projected to be up more than 10%. Truman Experience Weekend (show and tell versus go and do). Legislative updates.

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- XI. Weekend Activities (Tucker-Potter)
- XII. Next Meeting: Friday, October 25, 2024
- XIII. Adjourn Mahlon/Alison meeting adjourned at 12:21