

Truman State University
Alumni Association Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes for October 25, 2024; 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. CDT



The Alumni Board of Directors for Truman State University met in the Student Union Building on October 25, 2024. President Lori Hart called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m. and began with welcome and introductions.

Members in attendance: Mahlon Barker, Brad Borgstede, Father Ian Delinger, Joyce Gentry, Jeanne Harding, Lori Hart, Zach Lepperd, Jamie Matthews, Michelle Mollick, Lisa Marty, Alison Mayer, Julia Price and student representative Elizabeth Dean. Joining by Zoom was Dustin Carmack. Also in attendance were Rebekah Nelson and Stacy Tucker-Potter from the Office of Advancement.

Lisa Marty Motioned to approve the meeting agenda. Mahlon Barker seconded. The motion passed.

Michelle Mollick motioned approval of the April 2024 meeting minutes. Zach Lepperd seconded, and the motion passed.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

President Lori Hart reported on the work of the Strategic Planning committee. The new Strategic Plan will go into effect July 1. She also reported on the work of the Transition Team

Secretary Stacy Tucker-Potter reported that membership reports are the Google Drive. Advancement has moved to doing financials every month in preparation for getting a streamlined process in the proposed structure.

Past President Jamie Matthews shared that Foundation Board is excited about the proposed structure and asking how they can support it.

Nominating Committee

Lori Hart informed the group that with the proposed structure change, we will need a Treasurer. Stacy has been working to identify possible Treasurers in the hopes of having a candidate for vote in April. We have people terming off the board and are currently looking for replacements using a matrix that we developed to try to find a diverse slate of people.

Chapter & Club Development

Committee Chair Zach Lepperd reported that they had hosted the Bulldog Forever Forum on October 20 and are developing a calendar for the Bulldog Break over the next year.

Programs and Awards

Committee Chair Alison Mayer shared that they had hosted the book club this summer, assisted with selection of the Echo 25 and Homecoming



honorees and are looking to do TruCare similar to what has been done in the past.

Student & University Relations

Committee Chair Jeanne Harding told the group about their efforts to piggyback on the Echo 25 Speed Advice Giving panel on campus to connect alumni to their majors/groups/etc. Truman has hired a new role Director of Internships, and we see this as a great way to connect alumni to potential internship opportunities. The committee is also working on leveraging the legacy program.

Elizabeth Dean offered the student report. Food trucks are coming to campus once a month. WRC and Student Nursing Association are working on a women's health initiative. She has personally been working on a mental health initiative to give students resources. She feels younger graduates don't initially have pride in their school and don't want to come back. They also don't know they can join the association, and she's trying to find ways to make that known while they are students. She has an interest in starting a social media campaign or doing events and potentially a panel of chapter officers.

Old Business

Alison Mayer reported on the work of the Transition Committee. The bylaw revision will be voted on at today's Board of Governors meeting. They also have been working on the marketing side and forwarded potential taglines and slogans to Truman Marketing for suggestions. A communication and marketing calendar is being developed including road shows where we have events to roll out the new structure.

Lisa Marty provided an update on Strategic Planning Committee. They are working on achievable SMART goals. Additional discussion on the Strategic Plan is scheduled for this afternoon.

Stacy Tucker-Potter reported on the Alumni Travel Program. An ad hoc committee of previous travel participants evaluated possible travel destinations. A survey of alumni who have participated in the past helped narrow down possible travel destinations. The top ranking location was Grecian Islands. The committee vetted three companies but were not able to proceed with any of them on the timeline desired. The hope is to try again for 2026.

New Business

Lori Hart presented an idea forwarded by Father Ian. He is interested in doing a domestic travel option where we bring alumni into a community for a weekend who might not be in the market to do a more expensive international trip. The plan is that every three years the Alumni Board and Foundation Board will do a joint retreat. We would like to coordinate Paint the Town Purple event in conjunction with that retreat.



Chapter, Club, At-Large Reports

Greek Alumni: The Greek Reunion sprang from a Facebook group of about 1,100 people that formed six years ago. They are planning to host an in person reunion every other year, and their goal is to double the alumni association members (current # is 378) when they are an official chapter.

Kansas City has met to plan for 2025. The KC/Royals game for 2025 will be May 17.

Northeast was named Alumni Group of the Year. They are busy with their Spirit Flags program and have their annual banquet coming up.

Iowa is looking forward to the national structure to reinvigorate the leadership

St. Louis hosted the alumni & friends BBQ for the second year, and that is gaining in popularity. Chapter president Nick Ponche was recognized as the volunteer of the year.

Indianapolis: There was an alumni event in September. They are looking at trying to do a Truman night at the holiday market in Indianapolis as well as networking with some higher profile alumni in the area as there are several c-suite people in that area.

Arizona hosted a golf outing and social in September.

Mid-Atlantic has new president who is doing a lot to reinvigorate the chapter. They hosted a Cardinals/Nationals game and have an upcoming Christmas Lights at the Zoo event.

University Update. President Thomas Reported on enrollment and tactics for addressing recruitment and marketing. Clients are being seen at Greenwood with more in the pipeline. Kirk construction is on track to be completed in December. Truman is the home of the 2025 Special Olympics summer games, and we have been named the top public university in the Midwest for the past 28 years consecutively.

The next meeting of the Alumni board is Saturday, April 5, 2025. The Board Retreat will be on Friday, April 4, 2025.

There being no additional business, Zach motioned to adjourn. Jules seconded, and the motion was approved.