

Alumni Student Federation Board of Governors
May 12th, 2018 - Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

ESC Staff:

Maureen Winney, Lindsay Valenti, Kimberly Neher,

ESC Administration

Walter Williams

Board Members:

Ralph Aloe

Keith Amparado

Lori Jiava

Melissa Clark

Lainie Kit

John Corrou

Jawana Richardson

Melinda Wilson

Marcia Waffner

Jeannie Lockwood

Michael Woloszyn

Kevin Slattery

Jim Roth & Ada Martinez conferenced in

Excused: Hady Aouad

Call to order 9:00 AM by Board President Keith Amparado

- President Amparado asked all in attendance to introduce themselves going around the room.

Approval of minutes from October 2017

Motion by Jeannie Lockwood to accept minutes. Seconded by Lainie Kitt. Carried.

Office and Committee Reports

President's Report- Keith gave the following report:

- Thanked Althea Lueherson for setting the stage for a great board.
- Thanked Jim Roth for being the Parliamentarian. As well he thanked all Alumni Federation board members and committee members for working together to improve the lives of students.
- Thanked Maureen for working weekly with him and helping with the transition of Dr. Mitch Nestler as the Officer in Charge. As well as Maureen helping out in the search for a new president for the College.
- Middle States accreditation is in the process of reviewing the college. It should go smoothly.

- Keith is trying to learn more about the college as he has been making an effort to visit as many centers as possible. He had visited 30 centers and he appreciates the diverse student population.
- He feels it is important to be informed about the needs of the college so that all departments can make informed healthy decisions for the future of the college.

Maureen stated that the “Road to 400” has been postponed until a later date.

- Keith spoke about working with Dr. Fullard with the Fortified Classroom.
- Arranged a meeting for the Black Male Initiative steering committee with: Clayton Steen, Dr. Fullard, Maureen Winney, Carmen Feliciano, Catherine Law, Craig Pride, Lisa Whitesaid and the Diversity Committee.
- Keith spoke of his invitation to the Foundation Board the week prior. He said he was able to learn much from Dr. Nestler and Mary Caroline Powers in regard to academic affairs, funding, mentoring and coaching.

Kevin Slattery communicated that he wants to help the college more.

Keith and Maureen presented Jeannie with a plaque for her service to the board.

Treasurer/Student Activity Fee – report given by Kim Neher (Kelly DiCarmine, SAF Chair was out at a college graduation ceremony). Highlights:

- SAF Committee met on Saturday, April 14 to review all the SAF requests for the 2018-19 academic year. The committee is well represented with eight members representing most regional locations, nursing, graduate studies, and labor.
- Staff from the Office of Student Life and Alumni and Student Relations were present at the meeting.
- Committee members were invited to a Skype call prior to the meeting for introductions and a brief orientation. This was the first time this type of pre-meeting was held. It proved to be most beneficial.
- This year a new submission process was implemented. We used *Smartsheet* a new program to collect and review proposals. We are still learning this program and we will continue to try to streamline the submission and review process.
- The committee reviewed over 170 budget proposals from locations, programs and student clubs.
- The total amount requested for the 2018-19 academic year was \$ 975,344. The total allocated for 2018-19 academic year was \$886,982. This is slightly up from last year. The committee worked through the proposals and made some necessary cuts. They were able to increase the scholarship request by \$2,000.
- As a follow-up, the student activity fee increase to \$35.00 that, this board voted on went into effect in January of 2018.
- The general consensus from this year’s committee was:
 - Really focused on equity – how many students/alumni will be served?
 - Focused on how much was spent last year.
 - In agreement on reducing expenses on facilities, food, give-a-ways, and printed materials when possible.

- Suggested using alumni as speakers for club events whenever possible.
- Committed to the quality vs. quantity of events focusing on maximum number of students benefitting.
- Suggested less social only and more mission focused events for student clubs.
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Maureen stated that the 1st SAF Committee allowed students to self-nominate a selection committee for the board which would encourage new volunteers.

Walter Williams thanked Maureen for her reaching out to everyone and explaining what SAF does, as well as how the process works. He appreciated seeing many new faces.

Keith stated that he met with Dr. Nestler regarding the future interaction of the college. Keith feels that there will be a lot of growth for the college during the time without a president and with an Officer in Charge in place.

Walter shared that we are in a good place with a lot of alumni going to open houses.

Foundation Board – John Corrou – appreciated all the volunteering from the alumni. He made mention that out of the Foundation board there are only a few alumni, the rest are not graduates of ESC but are interested in helping and serving the college’s mission as volunteers.

- He also stated that the board appreciates the thank you letters for scholarships because the primary expenditure of the Foundation Board is scholarships.
- \$516,000 went to various college initiatives: such as the college academic conference, rewards to the faculty and staff as well as supporting the College Council.
- Dr. David Fullard came to the Foundation Board and requested funding assistance for the fortified classroom which would help released prisoners and minorities to help them further their skills: writing and public speaking- which would be more than just a mentor program.

Walter said that Dr. Fullard has requested \$ 12,000 in seed money from the college as well to help adjust some programs. If the Foundation Board can come up with matching seed money, the college can come up with the same to make a total of \$24,000.

He also spoke about Stewarts Shoppes has over 400 stores that can help donate towards college tuition.

We can apply for grants.

We can look at other college boards and see what % of donations comes from contributions. Look at the Student Alumni Board and see if we have 100% donations from this board, but we do not.

Keith emphasized that it is important to be 100% contributing.

John Corrou discussed what the Fortified Classroom can do for society as a whole. He spoke about how much more an incarcerated person costs society vs. how much it would cost to help them become more skilled individuals who will become productive members of society.

Walter discussed what we can learn from the data and see what the successes are in the 1st semester.

- It is important to have good mentors in the Fortified Classroom.
- Stated that it was a Pilot program las year and now how do we roll out a full center? We need to create a sound business model to ensure that we keep the students enrolled and engaged.

Annual Fund, Campaign Update, Presidential Search, College Report – Walter Williams

- **Recognized groups within SUNY University: criteria: Development, PR, Advancement**
Empire was recognized for 2 programs statewide
 1. Road to 400
 2. Alumni awards program
- **Walter stated that ESC does things ‘great’ and it is a testament to the dedication of the staff, board and volunteers.**

Challenge Report was submitted by Stephanie Corp.

- **Walter expressed that the College would like to do something different than the Road to 400. Made note that it would be nice to revive a staff campaign with faculty and staff.**
- **We need to work on a strategy to get donors to get into a consistent pattern of giving. We have a base of 65,000 alumni.**
- **Feasibility Study – done across many states – the report should be complete soon (within 2 to 3 months) and recommendations will include a \$35-\$40 million goal.**
- **Nearly 10 years ago, ESC raised \$10 million- some of which was state construction money.**
- **Financial Aid is easier to raise at ESC**
- **We have more named Professorships getting endorsements to cover costs.**
- **Look to trying to establish a series of ‘Centers for Excellence’. Such as a Centers for Excellence for: Autism., Military & Veterans., Teaching & Mentoring.**
- **Look to provide students with financial assistance and obtain endowment grants.**
- **We need to look at our annual fund and work to bring more donors into the funnel so that we have a healthy pipeline.**
- **Anticipating a new idea for campaign around August and September so that there can be more individuals involved for the 50th year anniversary of the College (2021).**

President Search

- **Dr. Mitch Nestler has been named the Officer in Charge**
- **The new Chancellor wants the search done by “the book”.**
- **The search process and timeline were explained to the board and reports from Mary Caroline Powers are submitted as a report to this meeting.**

Alumni and Student Relations Committee- report given by **Maureen**, full report attached.

Highlights are below:

- Growing and expanding partnerships and new partnerships are on the horizon with help from Hady Aouad and the Alumni Career Panel. The Residency Program in Lebanon is on hold because of Dubai.
- Thanked Kim for all of the hard work with planning all the big events and working with 130 accounts.

Lindsay reported:

- State wide recruitment in motion: utilizing 2 alumni volunteers at each of the 60 statewide panels.
- Having the alumni at these recruiting events gives the perspective of a strong college.
- Need approximately 40 commencement volunteers statewide.
- Social media has grown according to Social Radiant from 2013- to – 2017. (stats given in the report).

Maureen thanked Lindsay for heading the Social Media because there isn't really anyone in charge of it.

Walter thanked both Maureen and Lindsay for their dedication to the mission of the College.

Black Male Initiative / Diversity - report given by Jawana Richardson, full report attached.

Highlights are:

- There are 2 components to the BMI :
 - Steering Committee
 - BMI Student Initiative
- Dr. Fullard – Advisor
- BMI initiative has done a Civil Services Job Search and has looked into people in the criminal justice system re-entering into society and examining skills for writing, math and public speaking.

- She thanked Maureen and Lindsay for helping to make the BMI event such a success.

Jeannie suggested that the name of the BMU be changed to be more inclusive of all who fall within the scope of the mission of BMI which serves men, women, Latino, LGBTQ and African American. Many members agreed.

Maureen said that if anyone had any name suggestions to send them to Jawana.

Student Academic Affairs Committee- Melinda Wilson (report attached)

- Wellness Retreat
- Great diverse committee – made up of strong minded and strong-willed people
- New projects starting – such as the Powster Project. This is an important program for new students. Go to a campus and create a poster to show who the representatives are with pictures and short bios. The committee is looking into the cost.
- The committee is looking into promoting the college through internet and radio station. They want to have more communication about the college to get out to the students.
- They are looking into how to broaden their message about the changes at the college, including the finances, programs and curriculum.
- Thought about doing podcasts with faculty, staff and students over the radio. Looking into costs.

College Council – Judy was not present, but Maureen went over the report

- Presidential search process is underway. Timeline has been established which will begin with committee selection this month and will culminate in appointment of new president in May 2019.
- Officer in charge appointed in the interim... Mitchell Nesler, Phd.
- Mary Caroline Powers announced her retirement at the end of June. She will return part time to assist in the presidential search.
- Strategic Plan ...on track to pursue Middle States certification in 2020. Goals, objectives with measurable outcomes and responsible VPs have been assigned
- Financial report.. Expenditure of new electronic enterprise system to automate office function, data collection, and enhance compliance using this new technology. Goals to increase enrollment and reduce operating budget underway to maintain financial health of the college

National Labor College – Lainie gave the following report: (attached)

- June 2018, the NLCaa will hold their Annual Meeting at Harry Van Arsdale Center for Labor Studies.
- In attendance will be: Lainie Vicki O’leary and Andrea Rodriguez, Tony Caputa via conference call. Maureen will conduct the meeting via conference call as well.
- Subjects to be discussed: Fund raising by possibly having a reunion for the NLCaa. at the old campus. A post was put up asking who would be coming to the reunion.
- Send out letters in August about the reunion in Maryland in September or October 2018.
- A scholarship to be awarded for the Fall, 2018 semester.
- The Facebook page that was started, Friends Interested in NLCaa, which had over 100 members, has increased to 218 members.

Veterans and Military - Kevin Slattery

- Presented the SALUTE Resolution (attached)
- A great way to thank and honor those who serve and are committed to their nation and communities.

Walter thanked Kevin for all of his efforts and dedication to the Veterans and active Military

- Kevin said that with the new initiatives like Salute and the National Test Center it will help with mentor programs, the North Country Club Initiative at Fort Drum, Student Veteran and Military Club
- These all support the mission of the OVME (full description of the program attached) *“Mission Statement: The Office of Veteran and Military Education (OVME) advocates and provides college-wide academic, retention and support services for U.S. Armed Forces’ veterans, military and family members from initial contact through graduation. “*

Awards Committee - Ralph Aloe

The committee: Ada Martinez, Melva Visher, Ralph Aloe, Catherine Roberts, Michael Woloszyn

- Revived the Alumni Awards Program
- Went over the nomination total of 27

The candidates will be :

- Erin Sullivan – Emerging Leader
 - Dr. Emad Rahim – Community Impact
 - John Corrou – Distinguished Leader
- Ralph thanked Lindsay and everyone for their help and assistance.
 - In need of a marketing plan
 - Felt there should be a 4th category next time for a Veterans and Military Award

VOTE – Ralph motioned to accept 3 nominated candidates, Lainie seconded it. The vote was carried with all ‘ayes’ and 1 ‘abstention’.

Maureen and Lindsay both thanked the Awards Committee

Nominating and Governance Committee: Kim Neher, Lori Jiava , Jeannie Lockwood, Lainie Kitt

Nominating Committee Duties Include:

- Develop orientation manual for new members– year 1
- By laws, annual review and present any changes at spring mtg
- Board duties, annual review and present any changes at spring mtg
- Welcome letters from college and board presidents, annual update
- Committee lists, maintain and assign new members
- Board list, review for equal representation throughout the year
- Review all nominations to the board from the college, ongoing

Nominating and Governance Committee Report:

- The committee continues to work on an orientation packet to present to new members.
- The Committee requested board members write and send the committee a brief bio. Lori has been collecting the bios. Most of the board members have sent one. Board members who have not should send it to Lori or Kim as soon as possible.
- Lori has begun to edit some of the bios already. The committee will continue to make edits. When completed they will be added to the alumni website.

Pay it Forward Committee – Lindsay Valenti (report attached)

- The committee has been focused on: Recruitment, Retention and Philanthropy
- Looking into a coaching program
- The committee is in need of a chair person as it is losing several members due to 1 year appointments.

Diversity Committee – Jawana Richardson (report attached)

International - Maureen gave report for Hady – report attached with Jawana’s report

- International Programs: Hady Aouad ☐The Int’l program has been working in many areas to promote diversity and inclusion. Working with the Prague center through Dr. Ali Tanweer, to launch the “Prague Committee,” the goal is to have a positive impact similar to the Middle East Committee that was launched in December 2016.

- Requested the formation of two ESC International clubs. In Lebanon, ESC exists through two different universities: AUT: The American University of Technology in the region of Halat, and AUST: The American University of Science & Technology in Beirut. The mission of the club is to work with senior students in Lebanon through their different areas and beliefs to promote ESC ideologies relevant to diversity.
- The Middle East committee recently hosted a seminar to bring awareness to Autism. The event was held at the AUST campus with the participation of the Lebanese Autism Society.
- This summer Intl Programs will commence their Alumni programs. The alumni programs will focus on cultural differences and other topics of diversity, equity and inclusion. Our International career day workshop planned for April 19th was postponed due to political and military unrest in neighboring Syria.

New Business-

- Maureen spoke about the graduate studies and policy committees. These appointments are standard appointments that happen every spring. If interested, email Maureen.
- Workplace by Facebook – was looked into more closely by Kelly Williamson and Kim Neher – a closed group for the college. Discussed how it was working, notifications coming up and others not liking it.
- Keith made mention that he likes partnering with the Foundation Board.
- Maureen discussed Partnerships. Working with Jim Roth and Northwell to partner for college credits with their program. ESC started this with Old Westbury. Hopes to make a partnership with the college.
- Dr. Tweedy to present to this board in the fall in regards to ‘**partnership**’ initiatives.
- **Board Growth-** - International Programs – would like a representative for the Prague program.
- Jeannie offered to help Maureen find other programs that need vocation representation with geographic location representation.
- Maureen speaks about the new faces on the board.
- Lainie motioned on behalf of the labor college that Jeannine represents all labor programs and remains on the board as a labor representative since Warren Wyshire vacated the seat.
- Jeannie had termed out of the spot and Caleen Davis has been invited to fill that spot.
- Maureen made mention that there are 9000 alumni from Van Arsdale Center and that we need to roaden our base of volunteers for fresh ideas.
- Maureen emphasized that we keep good volunteers and good people working on committees to help bring the college forward.
- The more people around the table the better
- And to continue keeping people who are terming off – engaged.

Open discussion

Walter -we have fantastic alumni and we need to use word of mouth and social media. Continue to challenge our board to broaden our reach
Continuing initiatives such as BMI, Veterans and Military, creates new opportunities for those who are terming out.
Perhaps look into emeritus designation to keep those engaged.

Lainie - CUNY / Murphy College, etc... we need to keep Labor alive on this board. Jeannie is with 5 trades. She has great resources.

Maureen – wants to expand our reach to keep Jeannie involved.

Lainie proposed emeritus and or advisory council.

Keith – wants Walter and John Corrou involved to help keep good volunteers engaged college wide and to do it wisely.

Walter – perhaps go up to a Council for a board of trustees.

Jeannie – there are 2 million trades people that she can help add and recruit to our roster.

Maureen – new committee structure chair – more committees needed – chairs.

Old Business

- Lindsay – alumni engagement score was 70,663 up 6.4% 72,868
- Working on tracking commencement
- Considering a plan of action to put minutes of meeting on the website
- Kim – Events are in the packet along with the reimbursement form
- Next meeting proposed October 18th – 19th

Old Business – Lindsay spoke about alumni engagement statistics. Which will help track commencement

Plan of Action – mins meeting on the website live.

Motion to adjourn by Lainie Kitt seconded by Jeannie Lockwood

Meeting adjourned at 11:57 am

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Jiava

Secretary to the Board