MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Tuesday, June 18, 1013
New Brunswick Campus, Brower Commons

PRESENT: Robert Eichert, Timothy Farrow, Board Treasurer; Maurice Griffin, Vice Chair; Glenn Gnirrep, Kenneth Johnson, Corporate Secretary; Harold Kaplan, Joe Lemkin Anthony Marchetta, Jennifer O'Neill, Katty Rivera, Jennifer Sneed, Donna K. Thornton, Vice President for Alumni Relations; Christine Tiritilli, Chair; and Brian Wennersten

ALSO PRESENT: Jennifer Boscia-Smith, Director, Alumni Communications; Lisa English, Director, Alumni Relations Newark; Scott Owens, Director, Alumni Relations, Camden; Kara Cefasco, Assistant Director of Outreach Programs; Tara Massey, Assistant Director of Alumni Programs, Kristy Omelianuk, Assistant Director of Alumni Services, Mike Rutkowski, Director of Reunions and Homecoming, Dana Shapiro, Assistant Director of Volunteer Engagement, John Wheat, Price Waterhouse, Amanda Putzer, Special Projects Coordinator and Patrice Jaskiewicz, Administrative Assistant

EXCUSED: Nikita Desai, Shawn Golhar, Salim Patel, Daniel Swartley-McArdle, Suzy Swartz, Jennifer Tennant

CALL TO ORDER:
The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Ms. Christine Tiritilli, Chair, who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MINUTES:
The minutes of the March 19, 2013 meeting of the Board were circulated in advance of the meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved following a motion (Ken Johnson) duly seconded (Tim Farrow).

CHAIR'S REPORT:
Ms. Tiritilli thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Ms. Tiritilli provided a recap of her experiences at some of the RUAA Spring events, including the RUF Presidential Events, HDA, the three Reunions and especially thanked Tim Farrow and Daniel Swartley-McArdle for representing the RUAA at Camden’s Reunion and Salim Patel for representing the RUAA at Newark’s Reunion. Christine also mentioned a great turn-out at the Annual Meeting.

Ms. Tiritilli thanked the Board for their 100% participation in Rutgers University Foundation donations for 2012-13.
In closing, Ms. Tiritilli reminded the group of Carol Herring’s Retirement on June 30th and to please try to attend her party on June 26th at Winants Hall, Assembly room at 4:00 p.m.

VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT

Maurice Griffin reported to the Board that the RUAA’s Strategic Plan will be completed in the fall.

Mr. Griffin reported that all committees have completed SWOC.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Donna Thornton thanked the departing Board members: Nikita Desai, Harold Kaplan, Anthony Marchetta, Katty Rivera and Brian Wennersten. Ms. Thornton also thanked the outgoing Board Chair, Christine Tiritilli for her leadership and dedication.

In the department of Alumni Relations, there have been some recent staff changes. Yvette Martinez is on maternity leave after welcoming a son; Dana Shapiro acting as the Director in the interim in Yvette’s absence. Jennifer Boscia-Smith will be leaving on July 26 to move with her family to Buffalo, NY. Two new employees have been hired 1) Scott D. Owens, Director Alumni Relations-Camden and 2) Tara Massey, Assistant Director of Alumni Programs. Lisa English is now the Interim Executive Director for Alumni Relations and Patrice Jaskiewicz is the Interim Administrative Assistant to the Vice President as Amanda Putzer is now working on Integration projects.

Ms. Thornton reported that the Campaign is close to achieving its annual goal of $125,000,000. There is $220,000,000 left to raise to achieve the 1,000,000,000 goal within the next 18 months. In addition, the Endowed Chairs goal is halfway toward its goal.

Ms. Thornton reported that Carol Herring is retiring on June 30th and her party is June 26th. Ms. Thornton also mentioned there are several searches underway for; Newark Chancellor, Biomedical Chancellor, Rutgers University President; Dean, School of Social Work, Dean, School of Arts and Sciences. In addition, Alumni Relations is conducting final interviews for the Assistant Vice President position now and should conclude in June. Also, interviews are underway for the Director of Alumni Communications position.

In closing, Ms. Thornton reported that Julie Hermann, the new Athletic Director started on June 17th. Ms. Thornton is scheduled to meet with Ms. Hermann to discuss meeting with alumni and continuing various ventures with Athletics. Ms. Thornton also stated she will be attending the B1G 10 Alumni Directors Conference in July.
PRESENTATIONS

Alumni Leaders Council Annual Meeting presented by Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson provided highlights regarding the program for this year's Annual Meeting. This year, there was an increase in attendance by 15% with a total of 97 participants in person and remotely. Ms. Tiritilli noted the actions of Glenn Gnirrep and the Ad Hoc Committee who made phone calls to other volunteers regarding this year's meeting and urging them to attend. A highlight of the meeting was the presentation Executive Vice President Dick Edwards provided on the Committee on Institutional Cooperation.

Board Evaluations presented by Donna Thornton

The 2012-13 RUAA Board Evaluation is currently available online with the instrument link distributed to all Board members via email. Ms. Thornton stated that the evaluation assists the Alumni Relations department with information about how to improve our programs and operations; as well as provides possible goal development opportunities. She urged everyone to take the survey before it closed on June 30.

UMDNJ Integration presented by Donna Thornton and John Wheat

Ms. Thornton reminded everyone that the integration will take place July 1, 2013. She then introduced John Wheat from Price Waterhouse Cooper who worked with the Rutgers University Foundation throughout the integration process. John Wheat introduced himself and gave an overview of his professional background.

Ms. Thornton continued with a PowerPoint presentation and highlighted the processes of the integration process for Alumni Relations, as well as a profile of Rutgers post-integration:

- RUAA’s new profile is a total of 451,000 alumni
- RUAA is 3rd in the country for greatest number of living alumni, behind Michigan and Penn State
- We are in the process of preparing to have all UMDMJ alumni become Rutgers alumni with full right and privileges as of July 1
- We have a Communications Plan with a timeline in place to help alumni integrate
- RUAA is sponsoring a Football Tailgate for UMDNJ alumni for September 7th
- RUAA will begin working to charter new groups and staff partners have been assigned as mentors
- RUAA is moving to engage their volunteers

ACTION ITEMS:

Resolution to approve charter applications – presented by Kenneth Johnson

Four charter organizations were put forth and included the following:

- Rutgers School of Social Work Alumni Council
• Rutgers Empowered Wellness Alumni Club
• Alumni & Friends of Rutgers Applied Statistics
• Rutgers Alumni Tennis Social

There was a motion to approve the resolutions (Ken Johnson), seconded (Tara Massey) with an opportunity for discussion. Jennifer O’Neill asked about the history of the Rutgers Empowered Wellness Alumni Club. Ken Johnson explained they are already a group that decided to charter now. A discussion ensued regarding the process of joining or starting a charter group and how to target potential members. Jennifer Boscia-Smith explained that depending on the actual location of the chartered organization, AR communications are targeted to alumni in these areas, with the ability to opt out if desired. The resolutions were approved unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present.

Resolution to Acknowledge and Welcome Graduates of the Integrated Schools of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey as Alumni of Rutgers University presented by Ken Johnson

There was a motion to approve the resolution (Jennifer O’Neill), seconded (Katty Rivera), with an opportunity for discussion. The resolution was approved unanimously.

Resolution to Approve the At-Large Council Members – Presented by Donna Thornton

Donna presented the Nomination’s Committee’s recommendation for the following alumni to be considered At-Large Council Members:

• Winster Ceballos NCAS'05, RBS'05
• Felipe DaSilva ENG'99
• Michael J. DeBlasio RC'02
• Marilyn Gonyo ED'76
• Lynda L. Hinkle GSC'08, CLAW'09
• John C. Kendall CCAS'80
• Jerry Masin RC'80
• Helen F. Smith Pirrello UCNB'00, SSW'05
• George A. Rears RC'89, RBS'95
• James H. Rhodes CCAS'94
• Adnan Shamsi RC'82
• Linda C. Smith RC'76
• William J. Spych Jr. UCC'96, GSC'11
• Ralph Zemel RC'69, ENG'69

There was a motion to approve the nominees (Donna Thornton) seconded (Glenn Gnirrep).
CONSENT AGENDA - MOTION TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS:

Ms. Tiritilli reminded the Board that the agenda structure will not have verbal committee reports unless a committee must address the Board about an issue, at which point the topic will be placed under the New Business section of the agenda. Christine Tiritilli calls for motion to accept reports. Motion approved. There was a motion to accept reports (Ken Johnson), seconded (Tim Farrow), with an opportunity for discussion. The written reports were accepted unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present.

PROGRESS REPORT ON RUAA BOARD GOALS presented by Christine Tiritilli

1. Welcome President Barchi to the RUAA and educate him throughout the year on issues of importance to Rutgers alumni.
   President Barchi attended the September 18 RUAA board meeting, and participated in REAL Awards and ALC. Introductory event in Southern California was canceled due to Hurricane Sandy, but will be rescheduled.

2. Educate RUAA Board Members on Advocacy
   a. Partner with the Office of Public Affairs to develop strategies that provide opportunities for the RUAA to support and enhance the University’s efforts to engage Legislators and other public officials with the University.
   b. Partner with the Office of Public Affairs to promote and support the bond referendum for 2012 election
      RUAA has actively and publicly supported the passage of Public Question 1. Distribution of information announcing the creation of The Building our Future Campaign was done at events, through social media channels, and via emails. The VP for Public Affairs attended the RUAA Retreat and the September 18 Board meeting to discuss the Bond and its importance to Rutgers. Former BOG Chair Linda Stamato’s op ed piece was featured in the November edition of ‘Think Scarlet’ and BOG member Gerry Harvey addressed ALC participants regarding the issue. End result was a decisive vote 62/38 in favor of the bond.

3. Monitor the implementation of the restructuring mandated in the legislation adopted in June 2012.
   a. Develop a Communication Plan (to include a visual timeline) to keep alumni informed on the progress of the implementation.
VP for AR is working with the Implementation Team at the University to track significant points in the process when alumni will need to receive communications. The first email is tentatively scheduled for November 19.

b. Develop plan to embrace UMDNJ Alumni.
VP for AR is a member of an Implementation Team assigned this task. Meetings with UMDNJ colleagues are scheduled for before Thanksgiving and from there a plan will be developed.

4. Review status of RUAA Strategic Plan and develop a process by which to draft a new plan.

Work closely with University partners and the Rutgers Foundation to ensure the RUAA strategic plan supports and enhances those efforts. The RUAA began data collection for the upcoming strategic planning process at the Alumni Leaders Conference.

5. Partner with the Departments of Intercollegiate Athletics and Student Affairs to further the strategic objectives of the RUAA.

Partnership agreement with Athletics has been agreed upon, VP for AR is in contact with new leadership in Student Affairs to ensure future collaborations.
More information to follow after Donna Thornton’s meeting with Julie Hermann

6. Continue to be advocates for establishing alumni centers in Camden, Newark and New Brunswick.

Camden project is moving forward, Newark is on hold pending university approval, and New Brunswick is also on hold pending discussion with university leadership.

OUTGOING BOARD PRESENTATION:

Outgoing Board Member Presentation - presented by Christine Tiritilli

The following Board members were honored at the meeting with their terms expiring on June 30: Nikita Desai DC '01, Harold Kaplan RC '59, Anthony Marchetta YEAR, Katty Rivera YEAR and Brian Wennersten CC '02. Ms. Tiritilli and Ms. Thornton recognized each Board member for their contributions, and thanked them for their service to Rutgers and the RUAA.

Ms. Tiritilli was then recognized for her service and dedication as the RUAA Chair for the past two years. All members of the Board and AR Staff shared their favorite memories of Christine while working with her, and thanked her for her tremendous contributions to Rutgers and the RUAA.
OLD BUSINESS:

None presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

None presented.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved (Christine Tiritilli) and seconded (Donna Thornton). The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kenneth Johnson
Corporate Secretary

Prepared by:
Patrice Jaskiewicz
Administrative Assistant
Alumni Relations, New Brunswick