Minutes of the Meeting of the
Board of Directors of the
Rutgers University Alumni Association
Thursday, September 19, 2013
Camden Campus, Campus Center

PRESENT: Daniel Swartley-McArdle; Maurice Griffin, Chair; Carl Burns; Kenneth Johnson, Board Treasurer; Suzy Swartz; Debra O’Neal; Timothy Farrow, Vice Chair; Jennifer Sneed; Jennifer Tennant; Jeff Linfante; Sean Murphy; Donna Thornton, Vice President for Alumni Relations; Glenn Gnrrep; Sean Golhar; Kim Sciallo; Bob Eichert; and Joe Lemkin.

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Owens, Director, Alumni Relations-Camden; Lisa English, Director, Alumni Relations-Newark; Jasmine Aycox, Administrative Assistant; Patrice Jaskiewicz, Administrative Assistant to the Vice President; Carla Davenport, Assistant Director, Alumni Relations-Camden; Kara Cafasso, Assistant Director, Outreach Programs; Terry McCuen, Assistant Director, Alumni Relations-Camden; Mike Rutkowski, Director of Reunions and Homecomings; Charlene Mires, Professor of History, Rutgers-Camden, Wendell Pritchett, Chancellor, Rutgers-Camden; Yvette Martinez, Senior Director, Alumni Relations; Dana Shapiro, Assistant Director, Volunteer Engagement; Tara Massey, Assistant Director, Alumni Programs; Kristy Omelianuk, Assistant Director, Alumni Services

EXCUSED: Bob Barraco; Andy Mike; Jennifer O’Neill, Corporate Secretary

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Mr. Maurice Griffin, Chair, who welcomed everyone to the meeting

Mr. Griffin introduced Chancellor Wendell Pritchett, who gave a brief introduction and warm welcome to the Camden Campus. Chancellor Pritchett shared three data points:
- 1,518 students graduated this past May (including the first 2 students in Childhood Studies Ph.D. program).
- 6,807 students enrolled this fall semester 2013, second largest number.
- 34 new faculty this fall 2013, 300 total faculty on campus, largest number yet.

Construction of a Nursing and Science Building should begin spring 2014. The Writer’s House building will begin once bids are finalized. Rutgers-Camden Alumni House, construction is set to begin within the next month. There may be a new Business School Building sometime in the future.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the June 18, 2013 and July 26, 2013 meeting of the Board were circulated in advance of the meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved following a motion (Kenneth Johnson) duly seconded (Suzy Swartz).

CHAIR’S REPORT:

Mr. Griffin provided the board with a brief update about the new President of the Foundation, Nevin Kessler. New board members were introduced to the board this summer (Debra O’Neal, Joe Lemkin,
Sean Murphy, Carl Burns and Kim Sciallo). The Board retreat was held in July, and new board goals were developed for FY 2014. For the 5th consecutive year, the RUAA had 100% participation in the annual fund. Currently, the Our Rutgers Our Future campaign has reached $800 million towards its goal. The Alumni House Kick-of Reception was held this past August, nearly 200 guests attended. Several alumni showed their pride by purchasing a brick. Upcoming events: Homecoming 2013 on each campus, ALC is (October 25-26), Real Awards (October 25th), Q & A session with President Barchi in Princeton (October 16). Planning is underway to introduce Brian Strom, Chancellor, RBHS, later this year.

Mr. Griffin turned the meeting over to Charlene Mires, professor of history, Rutgers–Camden. Two projects she is currently working on; M.A.R.C.H. and Cooper Street History. Dr. Mires discussed the history of 312 Cooper St., site of the future Alumni House at Rutgers-Camden. Cooper St. is on the National Register of Historical Places. Over the years, the street has transitioned from residential to commercial. The goal of doing this project is to have Cooper Street become more visible for the city of Camden and our campus. We are striving to create a street scape with the stories of today, and the stories of the campus. With research, we can bring these stories out. This building is the previous Red Cross building and dates back to 1810, one of the oldest surviving buildings on Cooper St. 312 Cooper is the former summer home of Edward Smith, who owned the house for almost 8 decades. He was a physician, who served in the Mexican war.

Around the 1890’s was the home of Camden Republican Club, when the Republican Party controlled the city. During the 20th Century it served as a service home to U.S. Veterans. This house represents the history of Camden.

Mr. Griffin turned the next presentation over to Scott Owens, Director of Alumni Relations-Camden to discuss the Alumni House and Brick Campaign. He mentioned the excitement of the campus, alumni, and friends of the construction of the Camden House.

A welcome to our house ceremony will hopefully coincide around Reunion; this will depend on the progress of the construction. It would be a great time to introduce to new alumni and their parents during commencement and honors convocations. Mr. Owens is currently working with Katie Reilly and Brian O’Leary to create a marketing campaign to use for mailing, Facebook, online and other social media outlets.

VICE CHAIR’S REPORT:

Mr. Farrow updated the Board on the formation of a working group to develop a new strategic plan.

- Now: Priority is to map strategies onto university strategic plan;
  - Develop constituent groups
  - Consider Foundation strategy once Nevin Kessler arrives
- October to December 2013: Development of strategies should take place with the university’s preliminary plan.
- January 2014: At Chairs meeting/Board meeting begin work on Tactics
- April 2014: present Board with draft of January progress

The current plan is on its 5th year, we are going to continue with those goals, but we need to develop/transition to a new one. Board members at the retreat had break-out sessions to initiate new goals. We will reach out to the chartered organizations, to help work on the new plan. The university strategic plan is set to come out January 2014. The RUAA will begin working on a plan to decide how
they will reach out to the charters. The strategic plan will be used to model their progress, and what they do as a group. All, or most, will be involved in the next phase of the plan.

Anyone interested in participating on the strategic planning committee should contact Mr. Farrow or Ms. Thornton.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Ms. Thornton thanked Alumni Relations staff for moving forward despite the department's vacancies and gave an update on the hiring progress.
Ms. Thornton mentioned some key upcoming dates;

- Today marks the ground breaking for the Seminary building in New Brunswick.
- Nevin Kessler, new President of the Foundation, is set to begin in October.
- Steve Grafton, President, University of Michigan Alumni Association will be a guest speaker at ALC.

PRESENTATIONS:

Alumni Relations and RUAA Budget presented by Donna Thornton

Ms. Thornton presented the Board with a breakdown of the AR budget, which included a budgeting overview and details regarding processes established thru the RUF.

Review of 2013-2014 RUAA Board Goals – presented by Maurice Griffin

Mr. Griffin stated that the board initiated potential goals at the retreat this summer, in which he reviewed (Resolution to Adopt 2013-2014 RUAA Board Goals).
Mr. Griffin asked if there are any questions or discussions, there were none.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Mr. Griffin opened the items for discussion.

- Board Survey Results Q & A.
  - Board Membership
    - As he worked with Ms. Thornton, it is suggested shortening the board survey by taking out board membership. The Board voiced no objections.
- Face of the Annual Fund
  - Ms. Thornton discussed the face of the Annual Fund.
- Alumni Leaders Conference
  - Mr. Griffin updated the board on ALC Conference, Oct. 25-26th.
    - Keynote speaker is Steve Grafton, President of the University of Michigan Alumni Association.
    - Ken Johnson is overseeing the planning with AR staff. The Friday of the conference will be the work day, networking, and break-out sessions, time with students, and staff, welcome for RBHS alumni.
• REAL Awards
  o On Friday evening, the REAL awards will take place.
  o REAL award nominees’ names have been released and video presentations are being finalized.

• Homecoming
  o Saturday October 26 is NB Homecoming. Planning is moving forward. Mr. Griffin added that there will be a board team for Run for Rah.
  o Homecomings for each campus are about to kick-off.
  o Mike Rutkowski spoke about Homecoming briefly.
    ▪ Newark Sept 27-29th weekend
    ▪ Camden Campus Oct. 12th
    ▪ NB campus weekend of October 25th (25th-27th).

• RBHS At-Large Members
  ▪ Ms. Thornton proposed that the RUAA nominating committee conduct a call for nominations for RBHS members at large to the ALC.

ACTION ITEMS:

Mr. Griffin reminded the Board that a resolution should be moved, seconded and then discussed before a vote.

Resolution to approve charter applications – Presented by Kenneth Johnson

Two charter organizations were put forth and included in the following:

• Rutgers Club of Costa Rica
• Rutgers Club of St. Augustine

There was a motion to approve the resolutions (Kenneth Johnson), seconded (Jeff Linfante). The resolutions where approved unanimously, following a voice vote of all voting members present.

Resolution to Approve 2013-2014 RUAA Board Goals – presented by Maurice Griffin.

There was a motion to approve the resolution (Maurice Griffin), seconded (Carl Burns)

Resolution to Approve RBHS At-Large Members to serve on the ALC – Presented by Donna Thornton

There was a motion to approve the resolution (Donna Thornton), seconded (Debra O’Neal).

Resolution to Approve 2014 HDA Honorees – Presented by Glenn Gnrrep

Glenn presented the HDA nominees to the Board.

There was a motion to approve the resolution (Maurice Griffin), seconded (Daniel Swartley-McArdle).

CONSENT AGENDA:
Mr. Griffin reminded the Board that we do not have verbal committee reports unless a committee has something to bring forward to the Board and the process is as follows:

a) At the request of the committee chair, that topic is placed on the Presentations section of the agenda
b) If a Board member would like to discuss a written committee report on the consent agenda, at this point in the agenda, please ask that the item be removed and we will discuss under new business.

c) If you would like an item added to the agenda for a future meeting, please contact any member of the Executive Committee and we will consider your request as we set the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Griffin called for a motion to accept consent agenda reports. Motion to accept reports (Kenneth Johnson), seconded (Jennifer Sneed). The written reports were accepted unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members.

Mr. Griffin noted that there is nothing to discuss regarding agenda item 11.

UPCOMING NOTEWORTHY DATES:

Mr. Griffin reviewed upcoming events

OLD BUSINESS:

There is no Old Business

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Thornton presented a webinar for CASE with John Feudo about volunteer engagement.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Maurice Griffin and seconded by Ken Johnson. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Tim Farrow
Vice Chair

Prepared by:
Jasmine Aycox
Secretarial Assistant
Alumni Relations, Camden