MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Tuesday, June 17, 2014
Winants Hall – Board Room, New Brunswick

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

ALSO PRESENT: Nevin Kessler, President, Rutgers University Foundation; Peter McDonough, Senior Vice President, External Affairs, Tom Hammond, Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations, Laura Stanik, Senior Director, Alumni Communications; Lisa English, Director, Alumni Relations Newark; Tara Massey-Kissenberth, 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, and Patrice Jaskiewicz, Administrative Assistant

EXCUSED: Jennifer Sneed, Scott Owens, Director, Alumni Relations, Rutgers-Camden

UNEXCUSED: Salim Patel

CALL TO ORDER:
The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Mr. Maurice Griffin, Chair, who welcomed everyone to the meeting and warmly welcomed back Board member Jennifer O’Neill

MINUTES:
The minutes of the April 1, 2014 meeting of the Board were circulated in advance of the meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved following a motion (Kim Sciallo) duly seconded (Ken Johnson).

CHAIR’S REPORT:

Mr. Maurice Griffin reported that Jennifer O’Neill has decided to step down as Corporate Secretary and the Executive Committee has asked Kim Sciallo to take over and she has accepted.

Mr. Griffin reported that the RUAA has been actively involved in informing alumni about legislation proposed by Senator Sweeney. Three calls from Vice Chair, Tim Farrow were sent. The first two resulted in over 18,000 emails sent to Senators, Members of the Assembly and the Governor. The third call to action was sent today and the impact is not yet known.

Mr. Griffin went through the RUAA Annual Report and shared some highlights:
- Formation of RBHS
- University Strategic Plan
- New Chancellors
- New Foundation President
- Big Ten and CIC
- Rutgers alumni live in all 50 states;
  - high density areas are NYC, NJ, PA and Washington DC
- 146 Chartered Alumni Groups
- Engaging the next generation
- Welcomed RBHS alumni
- Philanthropy
- Celebrated our best and brightest

VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT

Mr. Timothy Farrow congratulated everyone on a monumental year. Mr. Farrow gave an update on the status of the proposed legislation. The bill may be presented to the legislature on Thursday and it looks somewhat promising since there is a lot of opposition to the bill.

Mr. Farrow stated we are moving forward with the Strategic Plan. He indicated to the copy of the strategic plan at everyone’s place along with the condensed version of the University plan. Mr. Farrow explained the July Board retreat will be spent looking at the plans, our new structure and how the RUAA will support these strategic priorities. We will form working groups and determine Board priorities during the retreat next month.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Ms. Donna Thornton began by thanking and bidding farewell to our outgoing Board members; Glenn Gnrrep, Shawn Golhar, Joe Lemkin, Jennifer O’Neill.

Ms. Thornton gave a recap of staffing changes for the year. We are now fully staffed for the first time in 1 ½ years. She thanked the senior team for working with her during that time and stated they did a great job.

Ms. Thornton stated she was looking forward to Rutgers entrance into the B1G Ten on July 1. There will be fireworks at High Point stadium to celebrate.

Ms. Thornton mentioned that she and several colleagues will be attending the B1G Ten Alumni and Development Conference in Madison WI in July.

Ms. Thornton then went through the RUAA’s Strategic Plan and explained the seven goals that the RUAA is working toward.

Ms. Thornton went over the budget as well as the alignment of talent which includes upgrades and new positions.
PRESENTATIONS:

Outgoing Board Members presented by Maurice Griffin

The following Board members were honored at the meeting with their terms expiring on June 30: Glenn Gnrrep RC'82, GSNB'89, SMLR'89, Shawn Golhar RC’01, Joseph Lemkin, RC’90, Jennifer O’Neill DC’95, SCILS’95, ’03 and Suzy Swartz CCAS’85, SBC’85. Mr. Griffin and Ms. Thornton recognized each Board member for their contributions and thanked them for their service to Rutgers and the RUAA.

Foundation Strategic Plan presented by Nevin Kessler

Mr. Nevin Kessler presented an overview of the Foundation’s Strategic Plan.

ALC Annual Meeting Review presented by Tim Farrow

Mr. Farrow went over the highlights of the Annual Meeting, including certifying the RUAA election process and results for the new slate: Gregory Bedard RC’97, RBS’03, James Cummings UCN’73, GSE’82, Houshang Parsa RC’80, Squire Servance ENG’04, Mary Clare Venuto CCAS’07, GSC’09

2013-2014 RUAA Board Evaluation presented by Maurice Griffin

Mr. Griffin reported there are 9 responses so far. He reminded the Board that responding counts as 20 points on their score card and the feedback is very important to the Executive Committee and staff.

Legislature Update presented by Peter McDonough, Senior Vice President, External Affairs

Mr. McDonough thanked the RUAA Board and staff for their help and gave an update on the bill being put forth before the legislature. Additional calls to both the Governor’s office and Senator O’Toole’s office are needed.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

University Senate Report presented by Bob Barraco is below:

Issues discussed this quarter:

Commencement Speaker/Honorary Degrees

The New Brunswick Faculty Council voted to rescind the invitation to Condoleeza Rice as commencement speaker and she subsequently decided not to speak, not wanting to be a distraction from the joyous event. Then there was the confusion that followed with Eric LeGrand and Former Governor Tom Kean. So not only was a new charge created on the selection of commencement speakers and honorary degree recipients, but it prompted a
series of summer Executive Committee sessions in an effort to complete our recommendations before the next cycle.

Potential Merger of Nursing School Units in Newark/New Brunswick and in Camden/Stratford

Contingent on a mutually satisfactory conclusion of the Labor Management Committee meeting process, the University Senate Executive Committee, on behalf of the University Senate, endorsed the Proposal for Union of Nursing Programs and Personnel on the Stratford Campus of the Legacy UMDNJ School of Nursing with the Rutgers School of Nursing – Camden.

This was soon after a charge was issued in response to the Newark/New Brunswick Nursing merger on the Process for Unit Mergers to consider whether the University Senate should establish a general procedure, timeline, template and process for any university unit that wishes to merge, disband or make any structural change. Work is ongoing on the charge.

Senate and Executive Committee Eligibility:

Conclusions: After discussing these matters over the course of several meetings, the USGC concluded that:

☐ A new term “major campus” should be defined, adding Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS) to the three existing geographic campuses.

☐ Six additional staff senators should be elected to represent RBHS.

☐ Three additional at-large faculty senators should be elected to represent RBHS.

☐ Two additional part-time lecturers should be elected to represent RBHS.

☐ Elections for campus-wide at-large senators should be the responsibility of the appropriate Chancellor’s office.

☐ The number of alumni senators should remain unchanged.

☐ Two additional senators should be added to the Executive Committee representing, respectively, faculty and students from RBHS.

☐ The policy document should be amended to show the current policy whereby there are two, not one, representatives of part-time lecturers per campus.

Some charges of interest

Process of Changing Rutgers Cultural and Traditional Icons:

Examine the process by which changes are made to cultural and traditional icons of Rutgers University and, where necessary, define such a process which is transparent and available to key stakeholders. Work is ongoing.

Smoke-Free Rutgers:
Examine the desirability, feasibility, impact and means of evolving into a smoke-free Rutgers, work is ongoing. Survey completed.

**Support for International Students:**

Investigate and make recommendations with regard to core university support for international students and postdocs, particularly in the area of visas.

**Definition of "Faculty" in University Policies:**

As such, the FPAC sees no need to concretely define the term and makes no recommendation that the word “faculty” be defined in University policy at this time.

**Senate Election Procedures:**

Review election procedures used by the Senate, and, if appropriate, recommend improved procedures.

**Cost of Textbooks:**

Examine the current practices involving purchasing and cost of textbooks, and investigate possible solutions to mitigate the costs.

**RUAA Committee Realignment presented by Donna Thornton:**

The Executive Committee met and discussed committee realignment for the purpose of;
- Providing advice in areas of expertise to the Board of Directors
- Conducting official business on behalf of the Board of Directors
- Creating a volunteer pipeline that leads to ALC and Board of Director leadership

The Executive Committee’s recommended new committee line-up:
- Alumni Centers
- Alumni Leaders Council (ALC)
- Awards and Recognition
- Benefits (Finance)
- Nominations
- Philanthropy

Committees to be eliminated:
- Ad Hoc on Charter Relations
- Communications
- Homecoming
- Regional Clubs
- Reunions
- Volunteer Engagement
- Student Engagement

A discussion along with a question and answer session followed the presentation.
ACTION ITEMS:

Resolution to approve charter applications – presented by Timothy Farrow

Four charter organizations were put forth and included the following:

- Rutgers Club of Indonesia Alumni Association
- Rutgers Targum Alumni Association
- Rutgers Alumni NYC Area Legal Network Alumni Association
- Rutgers GAMM-ETA Chapter of SIGMA PI Alumni Association

There was a motion to approve the resolutions (Tim Farrow), seconded (Bob Eichert) with an opportunity for discussion. The resolutions were approved unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present.

CONSENT AGENDA - MOTION TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS:

Mr. Griffin reminded the Board that if a Board member would like to discuss any item listed under consent agenda, the item will be removed, at which point the topic will be placed under the New Business section of the agenda.

Maurice Griffin called for a motion to accept reports. Motion approved. There was a motion to accept reports (Jeff Linfante), seconded (Glenn Gnirrep), with an opportunity for discussion. The written reports were accepted unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present.

OLD BUSINESS: None presented

NEW BUSINESS: None presented

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None presented

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved (Maurice Griffin) and seconded (Tim Farrow). The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Tim Farrow
Vice Chair & Interim Corporate Secretary

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