MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Tuesday, November 29, 2011
Camden Campus Center- Multipurpose Room, Camden Campus

PRESENT: Nikita Desai, Timothy Farrow, Board Treasurer; Glenn Gnerrip, Maurice Griffin, Vice Chair; Charles Ivory, Kenneth Johnson, Corporate Secretary; Harold Kaplan, Joseph Lemkin, Jennifer O’Neill, Donna K. Thornton, Vice President for Alumni Relations; Christine Tiritilli, Chair; Brian Wennersten, Gloria Wormley

ALSO PRESENT: Jennifer Boscia-Smith, Director, Alumni Communications; Donna Donahue, Assistant Director of Alumni Programming; Carla Kantner, Assistant Director Alumni Relations, Camden; Matthew Manfra, Director of Outreach Programs; Chuck Mannella, Director, Alumni Relations, Camden; Yvette Martinez, Director, Volunteer Development; Tara Massey, Reunion Committee Chair; Terry McCuen, Director, Camden Law Alumni Programs; Kristy Omelianuk, Assistant Director for Alumni Benefits; Brian Perillo, Assistant Vice President of Alumni Relations; Wendell Pritchett, Chancellor, Camden Campus; Amanda Putzer, Administrative Assistant- Alumni Relations; George Rears, Student Engagement Committee Chair; Mike Rutkowski, Director of Reunions & Homecomings;

EXCUSED: Carlos Dequina, Lisa English, Director, Alumni Relations Newark; Shawn Golhar, Frank Hundley, Anthony Marchetta, Katty Rivera, Dana Shapiro, Manager, Volunteer Services; Jennifer Sneed, Communications Committee Chair; Suzy Swartz and Kate Sweeney

CALL TO ORDER:
The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Ms. Christine Tiritilli, Chair, who welcomed everyone to the meeting. She introduced special guest, Chancellor Wendell Pritchett, and invited him to speak to the Board about the Camden campus.

Chancellor Pritchett discussed the progress that has taken place on the Camden campus, as well as the substantial growth that has occurred with some of the academic programs in the last year. He captured some of these successes through a series of numbers that he shared with the Board.

- 1,538 was the number of graduates who walked in May 2011, which was the largest class for the Camden campus
- 6,627 was the number of students that were welcomed to the Camden campus this past fall
- 1,300 is the enrollment increase experienced at Rutgers in the last three years, which is a 10% increase for Rutgers, and 25% increase for the Camden campus alone
- 26 is the number of new faculty that started at Camden in fall 2011 (highest number ever)

The Chancellor also discussed the BOG’s approval of the Camden School of Nursing, which has prompted the development of the program to include masters and doctorate curriculum. The school is currently in the process of searching for 6 new faculty to accommodate the growth and program need.
The Camden campus is also experiencing a physical expansion, with construction projects underway, or forthcoming. The new dorm is currently being built, and should house its first residents in the fall of 2012. In addition, the Camden Alumni House project is becoming a reality, with plans to have the facility built and open by the summer or fall of 2012. Chancellor Pritchett added that these construction projects not only benefit the campus, but has added an exciting energy to the campus that is shared by both current students and alumni alike.

Ms. Tiritilli thanked the Chancellor for attending the meeting and sharing all the wonderful things that have been happening in Camden. The meeting proceeded with Ms. Tiritilli making note that the following Board members were excused from this evening’s meeting: Carlos Dequina, Shawn Golhar, Frank Hundley, Anthony Marchetta, Katty Rivera, Suzy Swartz and Kate Sweeney.

MINUTES:
The minutes of the September 15, 2011 meeting of the Board were circulated in advance of the meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved following a motion (Ken Johnson) duly seconded (Charles Ivory).

CHAIR’S REPORT
Ms. Tiritilli provided a recap of her experiences at some of the RUAA fall events including the REAL Awards and ALC Conference. Christine described the REAL Awards as a spectacular evening, and stated what an honor it was to present awards to some of our amazing alumni and volunteers. She added that Coach C. Vivian Stringer connected with RUAA leaders as the ALC keynote speaker, and really engaged the attendees in her address. Both of these events coincided with the New Brunswick Homecoming, and Run for RAH.

Christine also discussed the inaugural Rutgers Alumni Day of Service, which took place on November 10, 2012. Christine participated in several events that day including a Veteran’s Remembrance service at Kirkpatrick Chapel, painting at Elijah’s promise, and fall clean up at Rutgers Gardens. She noted that it was a day full of Rutgers pride, and that there were many first time attendees who participated in this service event.

On November 14, the Presidential Search Committee met to discuss the feedback that was provided at the informational forums that were held this fall. These forums were conducted on all three campuses, and were extended to faculty, staff and students. Rutgers Boards were also invited to forums to discuss qualities of preferred candidates. The search committee will be meeting again in December, with the expectation that all committee members will provide their top ten candidates for consideration. Confidentiality has been stressed, and there is an absolute code of silence in regards to this portion of the process. Christine let everyone know that the search committee does have a website available with additional information about the search and the process: http://presidentialsearch.rutgers.edu

Christine also relayed her experience at the first Board of Overseers meeting as an ex-officio member. She attended the orientation earlier in the fall, and was assigned a mentor to work with regarding BOO affairs.
VICE CHAIR’S REPORT
Maurice Griffin provided a quarterly report regarding the RUAA Strategic Plan. At the last RUAA Executive Committee meeting on November 1st, several color changes of various tactics and objectives were presented and discussed. The following color changes and revisions have occurred on the Strategic Plan:

1. **Objective 1, Tactic 1:** Develop list of all student organizations on each campus changed from yellow to green.
2. **Objective 1, Tactic 2:** Establish procedures to maintain lists, changed from red to green.
3. **Objective 1, Tactic 3:** Identify holes between charter group listings and student list, changed from red to yellow.
4. **Objective 1, Tactic 11:** Evaluate and look within charter groups for diverse populations of alumni by various categories (campus, college), changed from yellow to green.
5. **Objective 1, Tactic 4:** Develop a list of underserved affinities, changed from red to yellow.
6. **Objective 2, Tactic 7:** Create and promote National Service Days, changed from yellow to green.
7. **Objective 4, Tactics 7, 8, 10, 12, 25 and 26:** Change the responsibility to Finance Committee/Alumni Benefits Committee.
8. **Objective 4, Tactic 22:** Plan alumni events/opportunities based on demographics, changed from yellow to green.
9. **Objective 6, Tactic 2:** Develop a code of ethics, changed from red to green.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Ms. Thornton announced that Matt Manfra, Director of Outreach Programs, was moving on to the University of Northern Colorado as the Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations. Donna congratulated Matt, and thanked him for his service to Rutgers and the Alumni Relations department. Harold Kaplan added that Matt did a magnificent job with Regional Clubs, and that he will be missed.

In regards to the alumni centers project, the architects from ikon 5 are in the process of completing renderings of the building slated for the New Brunswick campus. These drawings will be put before the Alumni Centers Committee at their next meeting on December 8th. The next step will then be to sit down with University leadership to discuss potential sites and funding. More detailed information about the New Brunswick alumni center will be presented to the Board at a later date.

The Rutgers football team is currently bowl eligible, with an announcement forthcoming as to which bowl the team will be invited to. Brian Perillo will be co-chairing a committee with Doug Fillis in RUF Athletic Development to plan the official Rutgers tailgate for the bowl.

Ms. Thornton wanted to address the situations currently taking place at Penn State and Syracuse University concerning the incidents of sexual abuse involving minors. She noted that as an institute of higher education, President McCormick has taken an aggressive stand regarding this matter, and has asked senior leadership of all Rutgers departments to gather information pertaining to all interactions and events that are held by Rutgers that involve minors. Collecting these interactions not only displays that the university will not tolerate or ignore the situations occurring at Penn State and Syracuse, but it allows for greater transparency of Rutgers University as a whole. The University has also distributed an email detailing the protocols and
procedures that all employees are expected to uphold regarding situations or suspicions of abuse. Since some of the RUAA’s charter organizations do have events and service projects that can and do include the involvement of minors, an email will be going out to charter group leaders explaining the universities policies, and their obligations as alumni leaders and representatives of the university. The email will also highlight protocol and resources should situations of abuse arise at group events. Members of the Board expressed gratitude to Ms. Thornton for addressing this issue. Charles Ivory suggested that the university look into possible employee training to identify situations of abuse.

PRESENTATIONS

Camden Alumni House - Charles Ivory

Mr. Ivory provided the Board with a status report of the Camden Alumni House. The fundraising for the project has been very successful and has raised approximately $600,000—which is half of what is needed for the renovation project. The Fundraising Committee’s three co-chairs and AR leadership recently met with architects to provide some general expectations of the project, with hopes that renderings of the alumni house will be available soon. Chancellor Pritchett is a major advocate of this project, and it has become a priority of the University to add this building to the Camden campus. Charles added that there have been some ongoing political issues regarding higher education in southern New Jersey university, with talks that there will be a merger that could take away from Rutgers-Camden. He added that the committee is still very excited and is proceeding with the Alumni House project; that nothing will change the fact that Rutgers-Camden will always exist and be home to many alumni.

Harold Kaplan stated he was happy that the building will be called a house, and asked whether the building in New Brunswick will be labeled as a house as well. Christine Tiritilli stated that no final decision has been made to officially name the New Brunswick center, but that “house” fits the Camden campus’s atmosphere. Ms. Thornton added that the word “house” was intentionally given to give the Camden location a homey feeling, and stated that naming the future building is dependent on a variety of factors including funding.

Alumni Day of Service (11/10/11) - Brian Wennersten & Charles Ivory

Mr. Wennersten started off the overview stating that it was a successful inaugural day of service, which actually ended up being an international event due to the Rutgers Club of Germany’s participation. He added that there were over 30 different projects taking place on this single day in several different states. Mr. Ivory added that a follow-up meeting involving both the Regional Clubs and Volunteer Engagement Committees will be taking place soon, so that planning for next year’s alumni day of service can start now. Yvette Martinez provided impact stats on how this single day initiative contributed overall. Some of the stats she provided to the Board included:

- Total Projects: 32
- Chartered Organizations Involved: 15
(8 of which were Regional Clubs)

- RUAA Sponsored Events: 7
- University/Outside Group Events: 10
- Volunteer time donated: Over 550 hours
- Number of participating volunteers: Over 400
- States with projects: 8
- Pounds of groceries sorted at local food bank: 2,800
- Articles of clothing collected by various groups: 615
- Bagged lunches made for Cathedral Kitchen: 300
- Pounds of food delivered by local food bank: 278
- Pounds of food collected by various groups: 124
- Thank you signatures collected for troops at NJEA Convention: 182
- Alumni and Friends collected holiday gifts for Winter Wishes: 125
- Debris removed from Rutgers Gardens: .5 tons

Alumni Leaders Conference Recap- Kenneth Johnson

Approximately 80 Alumni Leaders attended the Alumni Leaders Conference (ALC) on October 14 - 15. Activities were held on both the Busch and Old Queens campuses, and coincided with the REAL Awards and New Brunswick Homecoming. Some of the conference highlights included alumni networking opportunities, best practice and learning seminars, leadership training, a conversation with Coach C. Vivian Stringer and a historical campus tour. A survey was sent out post-conference to participants, with 25 responses received. Yvette Martinez shared some of the results from the survey which included:

- 95% of attendees were at least satisfied with the content value and the conference overall.
- 60% heard about it from an alumni eNewsletter.
- 80% of attendees felt that the Best Practices breakout sessions were very good or excellent.
- 85% feel the REAL Awards fit into the theme of the conference.
- About half of the attendees attended conference programming on Friday only, and the other half attended all conference activities.
- 89% of participants are more likely to attend the conference if it is held on Homecoming weekend.
- 90% of attendees plan to share their conference experience with fellow alumni.
- 95% of attendees would attend this conference again or recommend it to others.

Donna Thornton asked the Board members who participated in the ALC if they had any suggestions regarding the conference. Maurice Griffin stated that the decision to hold the ALC in conjunction to Homecoming was a nice integration, as it provided alumni with an opportunity to attend a football game and participate in the festivities. Jennifer O’Neill asked if there was any indication why some ALC participants attended Friday, but not the Saturday events- which the answer was yes, some individuals had personal obligations or conflicts that prevented them from joining in the Homecoming festivities.

REAL Awards Recap- Matt Manfra
Taking place during Homecoming Weekend, the REAL Awards had a fantastic turnout with over 200 attendees. The event was held in the Life Sciences Atrium, which was utilized for the REAL Awards two years ago. There were 19 honorees/groups honored at this year’s ceremony, with representatives from each of the three campuses. A new award was also debuted, the Legacy Award, which honors generations of Rutgers alumni; which was awarded to alumnus Tom Carpenter and his family. Charles Ivory added that it was a splendid event, and that the venue had a special presence about it.

Homecomings Recap- Glenn Gnirrep

Homecomings were successful this year, with a variety of unique activities taking place on each of the campuses. Newark’s Homecoming took place from September 20-24, and included the Scarlet Spirit Day, Fall Fest Carnival, a social at McGovern’s, women’s volleyball games, and a young alumni happy hour at Martini 494. New Brunswick’s Homecoming, October 14-16, held Scarlet Square at Athlete’s Glen this year, where thousands of alumni were in attendance. The RUAA gave out over 50,000 spirit items, most of which were won by attendees playing carnival games at the festival. Run for RAH took place on Sunday morning, and was extremely successful. The event had a total of 40 teams participating, 447 registrants, and raised $10,000 in donations for Rutgers Against Hunger. There was also a great turnout in Camden on October 22, where the festivities included hot dog and donut eating contests, a men’s soccer game, a beer garden and other engaging activities. Surveys and post-event follow up will be taking place soon. The Homecoming Committee will be meeting in December to discuss all three Homecomings, and to start talking about ways to market next year’s festivities.

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 (Charles Ivory), with an opportunity for discussion. The written reports were accepted unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present.

ACTION ITEMS:

Resolution to affirm the electronic vote adopting the expanded class of honorees for the 2012 Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni Awards- presented by Christine Tiritilli

There was a motion to approve the resolution (Charles Ivory), seconded (Timothy Farrow), with an opportunity for discussion. Charles Ivory voiced his concern regarding the addition of honorees to this year’s class. He suggested that we should not begin adding and subtracting honorees after a class is selected from this point forward. Charles stated that the awards and recognition nominations process is a serious one that should be honored. The resolution was approved unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present.
Resolution to affirm the electronic vote adopting the recommended nominees to the Board of Trustees- presented by Christine Tiritilli

There was a motion to approve the resolution (Kenneth Johnson), seconded (Harold Kaplan), with an opportunity for discussion. The resolution was approved unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present.

Resolution to approve charter applications – presented by Christine Tiritilli

Six charter organizations were put forth and included the following:

- Rutgers Club of Atlantic City
- Rutgers Club of Liberia
- Rutgers Club of Central Pennsylvania
- Rutgers University Historical Society Alumni
- Rutgers Chemical & Biomedical Engineering Friends & Alumni
- Rutgers University Dance Marathon Alumni (RUDMA)

There was a motion to approve the resolutions (Kenneth Johnson), seconded (Jennifer O’Neill), with an opportunity for discussion. Mr. George Rears asked whether the Rutgers Club of Liberia will include those who are from the country of Liberia or those of Liberian descent. Ms. Thornton clarified that the club was formed due interest from a professor and students here at Rutgers who are from Liberia, and that the group’s constituency will consist of any alumni of Rutgers University residing in Liberia, staff, faculty, spouses and children; international families and friends of Rutgers University who support its mission.

The resolutions were approved unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present.

PROGRESS REPORT ON RUAA GOALS:

Ms. Tiritilli provided the Board with an update regarding the progress that has been made towards fulfilling the 2011-2012 RUAA Board Goals.

1) RUAA Board Members Development

_Elevate the profile of the RUAA Board of Directors (develop a plan for this effort and present to the board for approval):_ A plan is currently being created, with hopes it will be presented to the RUAA Board at the March board meeting. Donna Thornton is working with Jen Boscia Smith, the Director of Alumni Communications, on different communication mediums used by the RUAA offices to promote the Board to the alumni audience. These communications will include portions of the website and magazine, as well as the monthly e-newsletters. Ms. Tiritilli added that if any member of the Board had suggestions for the plan, to please let her know.
Provide training for RUAA Board members in the areas of fundraising, RUAA Advocacy and Rutgers Advocacy: Donna Thornton is currently working with colleagues at the Rutgers University Foundation to develop a fundraising training session for the Board to take place in early 2012. Ms. Thornton is also collaborating with Pete McDonough, the VP for Public Affairs, on a program with relevance to the Board concerning Rutgers Advocacy.

Develop and implement a structure and protocols for the RUAA Board members as advocates for the RUAA and Rutgers: it was noted that information is more readily distributed to Board members, and includes suggested actions that can be taken regarding situations or initiatives. A more complete set of protocols will be developed and provided over the winter months.

2) Develop Board Relationships/Mentorships with Chartered Leaders

Appoint an ad hoc committee to focus on this project in collaboration with the Volunteer Engagement staff partners: a committee is being developed, with hopes that Board member Glenn Gnirrep will agree to lead this committee

3) National Alumni Day of Service (11/10/11)

Each Board member will participate in or organize a service project in conjunction with this initiative: 16 out of 20 Board members participated in the first international alumni day of service.

4) Support the capital campaign, including 100% annual fund participation by the RUAA Board members

As of November 25, 2011, 9 out of 20 Board members have made a gift to Rutgers in fiscal year 2012.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Donna Donahue made an announcement regarding the Winter Wishes program. The RUAA is working with Student Life and Rutgers Student Volunteer Council on Winter Wishes, which is a holiday gift collection project for children. Ms. Donahue let the Board know that if they still wanted to contribute to the Winter Wishes program, they could still do so. She added that there were still 450 pre-school children that had wishes that needed to be fulfilled.

Donna Thornton provided an update regarding the merger of Rutgers and the Robert Wood Johnson medical school. A task force has been formed and is collaborating on the best transition methods to make the merger as smooth as possible for all campuses involved. In addition to focusing on the varying systems and curriculums of each campus, the task force is looking to keep Rutgers University in tact statewide.

OLD BUSINESS:
None presented.

NEW BUSINESS:
Harold Kaplan brought the Board’s attention to the Tampa Bay Rutgers Club, which is separate and not affiliated with the RUAA’s Rutgers Club of Tampa Bay. The rouge club consists of
some alumni and friends who refused to charter, and have continued as an organization that charges membership dues. Mr. Kaplan was concerned that this organization exists without RUAA affiliation, while still using the Rutgers name. Ms. Tiritilli shared Mr. Kaplan’s concern, and asked that Ken Johnson and the members of the Alumni Leaders Council Committee look into this matter further since this committee governs the rights and privileges that are extended to our charter organizations.

**ADJOURNMENT:**
A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved (Charles Ivory) and seconded (Harold Kaplan). The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kenneth Johnson
Corporate Secretary

Prepared by:
Amanda Putzer
Administrative Assistant
Alumni Relations, New Brunswick