



Alumni Association Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 17, 2021
7:30 p.m.

Video Conference Call

Alumni Council Members: Kristine Parbuoni (President), Daniel Mansour (President-Elect), Kelcymarie Bye (Past President), David Ngo (Treasurer)¹, Geoffrey Heinzl (Secretary), Greer Huffman (UMSOP Alumni Affairs), James Bresette (MAL²)¹, Mitchell Johnston (MAL)¹, Eziaku Ogbonna-Makia (MAL), Maria Palmer (PharmD '22), Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner (MAL), Hoai-An Troung (MAL)¹

ACTION ITEMS

- **Maria** will initiate discussions with the school regarding re-instituting a graduation banquet.
- **Greer** will include an awards recognition ceremony in a future all-alumni reunion event.
- **Greer** will distribute a call for nominations, a reminder, and a final slate of candidates before the annual business meeting.
- **All members** will encourage additional alumni to attend the annual business meeting.

NOTES

- I. Logistics
 - A. Call to Order & Welcome (Kristine Parbuoni)
 1. Kristine called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.
 - B. Approval of Minutes from November 17, 2020 (Geoffrey Heinzl)
 1. Kristine reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting and recommended a minor change. Magaly motioned to approve the minutes; Daniel seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
 - C. Treasurer's Report (David Ngo)
 1. David could not attend the meeting; Kristine assured the association that few funds had moved since the past meeting. Per her reporting, funds for the honored and honorary alumnus awards and the scholarship were the only funds allocated since the previous meeting. Any questions should be directed to David via email.

¹ Could not attend

² Member At Large

D. Conflict of Interest form (All)

1. No conflicts were declared.

II. Committee Reports

A. Nominating Committee (Daniel Mansour)

1. Daniel appreciated the proactivity of the nominating committee during the nomination and review processes. He also thanked Greer and Kristine for their guidance during the application review.
2. Kristine reported that all awards had been accepted as of today. Dr. Kathryn Walker won the B. Olive Cole Honorary Alumnus Award and CDR Sadhna Khatri won the Evander Frank Kelly Honored Alumnus Award.
3. Awards were previously distributed at events; winners of the 2019 and 2018 awards were recognized at a luncheon during 2019 graduation events. Winners of the 2020 awards were distributed solely via mail. Kristine asked how the winners of the 2021 awards should receive their awards. Daniel referred to other organizations' modus operandi, with a notification of congratulations in the mail and delaying a full event for the winners' honors. Eziaku agreed. Magaly recalled that the banquet during which recipients were recognized no longer occurs. When re-instituting the banquet was discussed, Magaly recounted the initiative from the students themselves requesting that the banquet not be held. Maria agreed that a high price point could be a barrier for some students. She suggested that discussions of re-instituting the banquet during a 'post-COVID' era could provide an incentive that would appeal to the students. When Kristine suggested mailing the 2021 awards to the winners, Geoffrey recommended holding onto the awards until an event is held. Magaly noted that the previous recognition event was poorly attended and costly. When Geoffrey proposed another event for all awards, including those from the School of Pharmacy and other organizations, Magaly noted that students and their families would be disappointed if winners of awards were not formally recognized at a graduation event.
4. Kristine inquired about the likelihood of a reunion event in the fall. Greer reported that funds had been set aside for an in-person all-alumni reunion weekend. Considering the rapidly changing guidelines from the UMB campus and the School of Pharmacy, she was uncertain as to what and how future events would be held. When plans are laid, Greer will add an awards recognition ceremony to another event as part of an all-alumni reunion. Greer also reassured the association that a school-wide graduation celebration would be held in future years.

B. Scholarship Committee (Jim Bresette)

1. Kristine announced that Jordan Fraker had received the Aaron and Rosalie Paulson Scholarship.

C. Special Events Committee (All)

1. No items were discussed.

III. Old Business

A. Website (Kristine)

1. Kelsy, Greer, and Melissa Carroll worked to update the association website and post the minutes from recent meetings (January and May 2020).
2. Daniel thanked Melissa for all of her work on the website during a busy, virtual time.

B. Bylaws (Kristine)

1. The updated association bylaws were approved and posted on the association website March 21, 2021.
2. Daniel described the lengthy process required to have the bylaws approved by the dean and the president during a remote-work situation.

IV. New Business

A. Officer Elections

1. Kristine and Greer noted that calls for nominations for association council positions were not distributed. Greer suggested that a call for nominations could be distributed next week (May 24–28) to avoid other announcements that will be distributed school-wide.
2. When discussing a timeframe for nominations, a one-month open call was suggested to be too long. Kristine recommended a two-week timeframe with a one-week reminder.
3. Kristine recommended holding the annual business meeting on June 21, 2021 at 6:30 PM.
4. Greer suggested that an election survey could be distributed prior to the meeting via email, and the election results announced at the business meeting. Magaly noted that pre-meeting voting is a common practice in other professional organizations. Daniel recalled receiving a formal, individualized ballot with candidate biographies from other organizations, suggesting that such a digital format would lend some credibility to pre-meeting voting. Upon further scrutinizing the association bylaws, Kristine and Geoffrey noted that elections should be held during the business meeting itself.
5. Magaly voiced concerns about achieving the 15-member quorum at the business meeting. Kristine suggested that future officers address the issues with the 15-member quorum and the election requirements for officerships with bylaws amendments. Greer will provide a link requiring registration to assure that a 15-member quorum is achieved.

6. Greer asked if the slate of candidates would be released before the meeting. Daniel agreed with such a release. Geoffrey recommended including the slate with the agenda, which Greer confirmed would be possible to distribute prior to the meeting.

V. Open Forum (All)

A. No items were discussed.

VI. Adjournment (Kristine)

A. Kristine thanked the attendees and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.