

Alumnae Association of Mills College
Board of Governors Meeting
December 11, 2019
6:15 – 9:00 pm
Reinhardt Alumnae House

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

President Viji Nakka – Cammauf called the meeting to order at 6:16pm. There were 13 members in attendance, 2 who participated by phone, and 1 member absent.

Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

President: Viji Nakka – Cammauf

Vice Presidents: Lynette Castille-Hall, Marina Simenstad

Treasurer: Lucy Seereiter

Board Members: Dawn Cunningham (via phone), Debra Connick, Gwen Foster, Kristen Oliver, Myla Granberry, Miki Hong, Courtney Long (via phone), Alexa Pagonas, Cherlene Wright.

Alumna Trustee: Deborah M. Wood.

Absent: Deborah Campbell Dittman

II. COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION REPORT

President Beth Hillman discussed 2 items; 1) Challenges, and 2) (a) Campus Optimization, and 2(b) Potential Partnerships. Under item 1) Mills is in a tough cash position due to (a) lower enrollment; demographic changes have meant that enrollment is expected to trend down for the College as well as the entire state of California, (b) lower fundraising, (c) costs from the renovation of Lisser Hall; the College had to use operating funds because they hadn't raised enough money for it. This has meant that the College has had to sell IP assets and rare books such as the Shakespeare folio. Under Item 2) the College hopes to meet these challenges by pursuing (a) Campus Optimization and (b) Potential Partnerships. Under 2)(a), the College is looking at working with developers and are receiving proposals for buildings such as apartments for students/faculty, and affordable housing for teachers/educators/first responders. If pursued, these will be long term ground leases rather than outright sale of land. Under item 2)(b), the College is pursuing educational partners similar to the current partnership with Julia Morgan School as well as looking at joint programs with other institutions of higher education.

III. KEY MOTIONS AND VOTES

A motion to approve the agenda was seconded and carried.

A motion to approve the minutes of the November Board of Governors meeting was seconded and carried with two corrections: Miki Hong attended via phone, and Marina presented the Branch Club report.

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

President Nakka-Cammauf reported on 3 items: 1) Alumnae Admissions, 2) Millsgiving, and 3) Resignation of Pam Versaw. Under Item 1, President Nakka-Cammauf reports that she met with Audrey Tanner to discuss the alumnae admissions process. She hopes to accelerate this process. Under Item 2) almost 100% of the Board of Governors donated to Mills during Millsgiving; Millsgiving is a success and exceeded its goal. Under Item 3) Pam Versaw has resigned from the Board of Governors and as an alumna trustee.

V. COMMITTEES MEMBERSHIP/PROJECTS-UPDATES

AD HOC LOAN COMMITTEE: Alexa Pagonas reports that the committee will meet after January 15th.

AoCC: Report submitted. Myila Granberry reports that over \$5,000 was raised at the Alumnae Of Color Scholarship.

COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING/FUNDRAISING: Chair Cunningham reports that a communication went out to people who have not donated for several years. Several recipients sent gifts including one \$500 donation from someone who hasn't given in 15 years.

FINANCE: Treasurer Seereiter presented a report for submission.

TRAVEL: Report submitted; Gwen Foster reports that she is continuing to work with two travel companies for trips planned in 2021.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded and carried at 8:56 pm.

Next meeting date February 29, 2019

Submitted by Courtney Long
May 11, 2020