

**Minutes of the Winter Meeting**  
of the Board of Directors of the Colgate University Alumni Corporation  
Friday, January 10, 2020  
New York, New York

The winter meeting of the Board of Directors of the Colgate University Alumni Corporation (the “Alumni Council”) was held on Friday, January 10, 2020, in New York, NY.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Mr. Christian Johnson ’02, President. A silent roll call was taken by Timothy Mansfield, Executive Secretary.

The following officers, directors and life member(s) were present: Mrs. Patricia E. Apelian ’76, Mr. Lawrence G. Arnold ’63, Mr. William C. Baker ’70, Mr. Thomas A. Baker ’69, Mr. Richard M. Burke ’92, Mr. Robert P. Burke ’85, Ms. Becky Bye ’02, Mr. Paul H. Cascio ’83, Ms. Melissa J. Coley ’79, Mr. Chad E. Cooley ’00, Mr. Gregory M. Dahlberg ’98, Mrs. Lauren P. D’Onofrio ’82, Mrs. Theresa Donahue Egler ’77, Mr. Bruce S. Ferguson ’91, Mrs. Susan L. Becker Gould ’03, Ms. Barbara J. Gould ’81, Mrs. Lauri Curtis Hadobas ’77, Mr. Max B. Haspel ’95, Mr. Christian B. Johnson ’02, Mr. Robert C. Johnson ’94, Ms. Cara A. Lawler ’05, Dr. Elizabeth F. Levine-Brown ’01, Mrs. Kate S. Levine-Freedman ’05, Ms. Debra S. LoCastro ’05, Mr. Timothy C. Mansfield ’, Ms. Shevorne O. Martin ’08, Mr. Kevin A. McMurtry ’88, Mr. John R. McQueen Esq. ’70, Mr. Christopher L. Nulty ’09, Mr. Timothy A. O’Neill ’78, Mrs. Jane Najarian Porter ’74, Mrs. Emily R. Radovic ’02, Mr. David L. Rea ’82, Mr. Tal-ee E. Roberts ’01, Mr. Stephen A. Rock ’85, Mr. Andrew S. Roffe ’68, Mrs. Melanie B. Schiff ’04, Mr. James C. Silas ’06, Mr. Robert B. Sobelman ’08, Mrs. Patricia L. Spindel ’79, Mrs. Kimberly J. Taylor ’80, Mr. Jon D. Tiktinsky ’82, Mr. Christopher P. Vogelsang, Jr. ’11, Mr. Carlton W. Walker ’10, Mr. Edward P. Witz ’89, Mr. C. Thomas Kunz ’72, Mr. Ian J. Murphy ’10, Mr. Jarrett R. Turner ’04

The following officers, directors and life member(s) were present for committee meetings, but not present for the general session: Mr. C. Thomas Kunz ’72, Mr. Ian J. Murphy ’10, Mr. Jarrett R. Turner ’04

The following officers and directors were absent: Mrs. Johanna Ames ’98, Mrs. Jessica M. Prata Cianciara ’01, Mr. Karl W. Clauss ’90, Mr. Thomas W. Dempsey Jr. ’72, Mrs. Elizabeth W. DiCesare ’05, Mr. Karl D. Fries ’10, Mr. Denniston M. Reid ’94

The following life members were absent: Mr. Joseph P. McGrath Jr. ’85, Mr. Gerald D. Quill ’60, Mrs. Pamela E. Odeen-LoDato ’81, Mr. Fred C. Meendsen Sr. ’54, Dr. G. Gary Ripple ’64, Mr. C. Bruce Morser ’76, Mr. Bruce F. Wesson ’64, Ms. Joanne D. Spigner ’76, Mr. Scott A. Meiklejohn ’77, Mr. Ronald A. Joyce ’73, Mrs. Christine Cronin Gallagher ’83, Mr. Gus P. Coldebella ’91

It was established that a quorum was present.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Chad Cooley ’00, Treasurer, reported that the Alumni Council has earned an extension to file its annual IRS 990 form. He works in cooperation with Colgate’s finance office to secure the appropriate Conflict of Interest forms, Contribution Acknowledgments, and budgets that the Alumni Council manages.

**Legal Counsel Report**

Andrew Roffe '68, Legal Counsel, reported the Alumni Council is in strong legal standing. Consideration was paid to all bylaw revisions and preparations for any election proceedings in 2020.

### **Executive Secretary Report**

Timothy Mansfield, Executive Secretary, reported on the progress toward an online platform for students and alumni (tentatively called The Colgate Link). He also described efforts underway for Reunion 2020 which will celebrate the classes in 0 and 5, along with the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WRCU.

### **Trustee Report**

Robert Johnson '94, Alumni Trustee, provided the following report during the General Session:

- The board last met October 4-5 in Hamilton NY. It was Homecoming weekend and we had good weather, but unfortunately, we lost the football game to Lehigh.
- This was the first board meeting with new board leadership, including Mike Herling as chair and Jeanne Follansbee and Gus Coldebella as vice chairs.
- We also welcomed eight new trustees: Pat Apelian and Melisa Coley are names you will all recognize, and they were joined by Brion B. Applegate '76, Giovanni Cutaia '94, Kimberly Huffard '87, Amy MacMillan '83, Clarissa V. Shah '10, and Jeffrey W. Sharp '89. Chris, as the president of the Alumni Council also joined us for his first meeting.
- As we've talked about in the last several board meetings, and in this body, a lot of our efforts continue around the Third Century Plan and moving that forward. As a part of that work we reviewed long term financial models and considered how the programmatic costs will affect future budgets.
- We are moving aggressively forward with campus and capital planning, especially around the middle campus plan, Olin, and a new athletics facility, and we have hired RAMSA/WXY to assist us with that planning. In December, a team from RAMSA visited campus and we're looking forward to seeing their feedback in the upcoming board meeting.
- Of course, the third century plan requires funding, and to no one's surprise we have kicked off a campaign. We're still in the planning phases, but I'm happy to announce that Gretchen Burke '81 is the campaign chair and she and her committee (including our own Chris Johnson) are providing exceptional leadership on that front.
- In less exciting, but no less impactful news, we authorized CFO JS Hope to refinance our debt and that was completed shortly after the meeting. No new debt was taken, but JS was able to take advantage of the markets and save us a considerable amount with lower interest rates.
- In additional routine business, we approved faculty appointments and formally accepted a gift of property where we plan to build additional housing for faculty and coaches.
- Of course, we had several social events where we were able to mingle with current students, faculty, and staff and these interactions are often the highlight of the weekend since we get to understand how important our work is to so many people.
- We will be next meeting in NYC January 23-25.

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The Alumni Council was pleased to hold its winter meeting at Price WaterhouseCoopers in New York City, hosted by Vice President Susie Becker-Gould '03. All other meeting logistics were managed by the officers of the Alumni Council in cooperation with the staff in the Alumni Relations Office at Colgate.

### **Dinner with Board Chairman Michael Herling '79**

The Alumni Council invited Mr. Michael Herling '79, P'08, '09, '12 and his wife Nancy '81 to join them for dinner on Thursday, January 9. Mr. Herling is a former Alumni Council member and current chair of the Board of Trustees. President Brian W. Casey was also in attendance. Mr. Andrew Roffe '68 and his wife Anna were the hosts for the dinner held at the Columbus Citizen's Foundation.

During his remarks at dinner, Mr. Herling spoke about the important role the Alumni Council plays for Colgate, the capital campaign, and [The Third-Century Plan](#). He also outlined the ambitious plans for Colgate under President Casey's leadership.

The Alumni Council was pleased to welcome Michelle Grant, widow of recently deceased member Alan Grant '64. Mr. Roffe offered a personal tribute to Alan and presented his wife with a certificate.

### **Special Event with President Brian W. Casey**

On Friday, January 10, the Alumni Council sponsored an alumni event with President Casey at 787 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue in NYC. Prior to the main event, 125 current and former members of the Alumni Council joined a private reception to reengage with one another. Once inside, Mr. Christian Johnson '02 (Alumni Council President) addressed the audience of 300 guests. He welcomed [Ms. Goldie Blumenstyk '79](#) from *The Chronicle of Higher Education* who moderated a discussion with President Casey. Discussion topics included *The Third-Century Plan*, financial aid, capital projects, and ways alumni can support Colgate.

The event concluded with a reception for all attendees.

### **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

The full membership of the Alumni Council participated in a discussion on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Mr. Timothy Mansfield, Executive Secretary, provided a brief overview of [Colgate's comprehensive plan](#) for DE&I. Following his remarks, Ms. Lauri Hadobas '77, vice chair of the Nominations Committee, gave a report on the recent meeting of the "*Alumni Board Cooperative*", a cohort of alumni volunteers from sixteen peer institutions. Ms. Hadobas reported how different institutions were managing diversity on their boards and several best practices. Following her remarks, Mr. Christopher Nulty '09, vice chair of the Communications Committee, facilitated a conversation among the full Council which ultimately led to a recommendation to the Executive Committee to create an ad-hoc committee to address these important issues.

### **Admission in Higher Education**

Mr. Christian Johnson '02 introduced Ms. Tara Bubble, Dean of Admission at Colgate to the full Alumni Council membership. Ms. Bubble opened her presentation with questions for the Alumni Council to answer in different groups whom were divided among graduation years: "what words best describe Colgate?" and "what words best describe the Admission process?"

Following some discussion, Ms. Bubble provided an overview of the college admissions industry and some of the current crises that dominated the national news in 2019. She described how other institutions faced these challenges and what they learned. Colgate University maintains high ethical standards and complies with all federal and NCAA regulations in admissions. However, Colgate is not immune to applicants who seek to "game the system" and misrepresent their qualifications.

The Alumni Council appreciated learning about the modern college admission industry and how Colgate is positioned strongly in the marketplace.

## **Lunch with Presidents' Club Membership Council**

In cooperation with Ms. Jennifer Stone (assistant vice president of advancement), several alumni leaders in the Presidents' Club Membership Council joined a productive lunch meeting. Mr. Thomas MacCowan '85 (chair) and Ms. Amy Jurkowitz '85 (vice chair) introduced themselves and other PCMC volunteers to the Alumni Council. They sought feedback and support on two initiatives for 2019-20: *Table for 13* and outreach to "power" companies with large cohorts of Colgate alumni.

*Table for 13* are small gatherings of alumni (over a meal) that include discussion topics related to Colgate and its third century. Hosts, cities, venues, and general subjects were all discussed as part of an intimate and strategic means of engagement for Presidents' Club members and guests.

The Annual Giving Office and the Presidents' Club are looking for alumni in some key (or "power") companies to help build a pipeline of new members. Some successful examples are Ernst & Young and Barclay's which include a high number of alumni and high number of Presidents' Club members.

## **Committee Meetings**

### *Alumni Engagement Committee*

Ms. Sheverne Martin '08 (chair) led her committee on a discussion on volunteer engagement. They discussed how volunteers are recruited, trained, held accountable, and recognized for their work. Ms. Martin also collected ideas and feedback on an "Alumni Leadership Weekend" (October 17-18) when volunteers will be brought to campus for training, recognition, and common messaging from Colgate.

The committee also discussed engaging former Alumni Council members. Mr. Robert Raiber '68 (former member) and Mr. Thomas Levine '70 (former member) offered to help advise the Alumni Engagement Committee on their efforts.

### *Communications Committee*

Mr. Christopher Nulty '09 (vice chair) led his committee on a review of the new Colgate alumni Twitter account ([@colgatealumni](#)) showing analytics on usage and stories. Mr. Nulty also encouraged his committee to examine the Alumni Council website for any recommendations or edits.

### *Nominations Committee*

Mr. Richard Burke '92 (chair) and his committee participated in an important discussion on the process for member nominations. Some recommendations include personal outreach to different affinity groups, asking self-nominees to provide a biography, researching top alumni who are disengaged with Colgate, creating some guiding principles on membership criteria, and collecting deeper data on the current membership of the Council (race, occupation, volunteer service, philanthropy, etc.).

### *Career Initiatives Committee and Campus Connections Committee*

Mr. Stephen Rock '85 (chair of the Campus Connections Committee) introduced Mr. Michael Sciola (associate vice president for career initiatives), Ms. Carolyn Strobel (director of Thought Into Action), and Mr. Wills Hapworth '07 (TIA) during a joint meeting with the Career Initiatives Committee. Guests provided an overview of [Thought Into Action](#) progress and plans.

Ms. Teresa Olsen, director of career services, joined the committee by phone to provide an update on student and employer engagement with career services on campus. The committee was very pleased with impressive results.

### *Academic Life Committee*

Ms. Betsy Levine-Brown '01 (vice chair) introduced Ms. Jillian Cole '10 (senior associate director of alumni relations) to provide an update on faculty programs for alumni. They received an update from Colgate staff about events from Fall 2019, and continued the discussion about *Table for 13*. They discussed Colgate's new podcast, [13](#), and shared ideas for promotion and future alumni guests. The group was also updated about the new [travel programs](#) for alumni being researched by Alumni Relations. We learned more about the great experiences from those on previous trips, and discussed ideas for future trips.

### *Awards Committee*

During the Executive Session, Mr. Jon Tiktinsky '82 (chair) announced the names of the annual alumni awards. His committee spent countless hours reviewing data and profiles to select very worthy recipients for the Ann Yao '80 Young Alumni Award, Humanitarian Award, Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Maroon Citations, and Wm. Brian Little '64 Award for Distinguished Service.

The 2020 winners include:

- *Ann Yao '80 Young Alumni Award* - John Lee '15
- *Entrepreneur of the Year* - David Fialkow '81
- *Humanitarian Award* - Jack Kupferman '77
- *Non-Alumni Maroon Citation*
  - Grace Huff - Planned Giving
  - Gert Neubauer - Campus Safety
  - Heather Palmer - Finance Operations Manager
- *Maroon Citation*
  - Robert Youker '55
  - William Baker '70
  - Raymond Hartung '70
  - Robert Gold '80
  - Kimberly Taylor '80
  - Carmine DiSibio '85
  - Joseph McGrath '85
  - Stephen Rock '85
  - Jaclyn Broad '90
  - Max Haspel '95
  - Chad Cooley '00
  - Debra LoCastro '05
  - Clarissa Shah '10
- *Wm. Brian Little '64 Award for Distinguished Service*
  - James Himoff '65
  - Russell Wilkinson '70
  - Margaret Flanagan '80
  - Stephen Errico '85

The next Alumni Council meeting will take place on April 3 – 5, 2020.  
The General Session meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Timothy Mansfield". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "T" and a long, sweeping underline.

Timothy C. Mansfield  
Executive Secretary