

Alumni Association Annual General Meeting Thursday, November 07, 2024 University of Windsor Odette School of Business, Conference Room 123

# **MINUTES**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Gordon Orr, President, Ken Alexander, Past-President, Dorothy Leung, President-Elect, Settimo Vilardi, Treasurer, Danielle Breault Stuebing, Jennifer Boyes-Garbin, Michael Chantler, Julie Fraser, Robert Gordon (President), Kevin Hamilton, Ghalia Hashem (virtual), Jennifer Johrendt (virtual), Jonathan Leung, Carole Obeid, Amanda Orr, Brian Porter, Beth Ann Prince, Dwania McLarty-Peele (virtual), Terry Roman, Jake Rondot, Geri Salinitri, Gisele Seguin, Sue Williams, Martha Young (virtual), Judy Bornais, (VP External), Kelly Gosselin (Secretary), Nancy McMahon (recording secretary) and invited guests.

Absent: Amangel Bhullar, Sahar Dawi, Amin Safaei

REGRETS: Jennie Atkins, Chris Baillargeon, John Cappucci

START TIME: 5:45pm

## **CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMING REMARKS**

Gordon Orr, President, Alumni Association welcomed the board of directors, Dr. Gordon, Judy Bornais and invited guests to the Annual General Meeting (AGM). G. Orr called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the University of Windsor sits on the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi. Thanked the Odette School of Business for hosting the AGM in the John Friedrichsen Centre for Student and Community Engagement. He noted that all requirements had been met to hold the 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM), reminded members of their voting privileges, and introduced the current Alumni Association Board of Directors.

# **GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT & VICE-CHANCELLOR, University of Windsor**

Dr. Gordon brought forward greetings on behalf of the University of Windsor and recognized the role the Alumni Association plays in the community and on the campus. He stated that the partnership between the Alumni Association and the University is both powerful and transformative and deeply committed to the success of our students and alumni. Through student scholarships, career development and campus initiatives, the Alumni Association help drive the University's strategic priorities that enhance the student experience. Volunteering your time, talent, and dedication supports the University's mission, expands its impact and strengthens the University community. He expressed heartfelt thanks to the Alumni Board for their tireless work and looks forward to continued progress. He personally thanked G. Orr for his friendship and wished D. Leung the best of luck as she assumes her role as President of the Alumni Association.

G. Orr thanked R. Gordon for his unwavering support throughout his term as President of the University of Windsor and will always be grateful for his friendship.

MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MOTION: To accept the Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

S. Vilardi/D. Leung

**CARRIED** 

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Gordon Orr presented the Alumni Association's activities over the past year that focused on the three strategic priorities:

To provide meaningful connections to current and future alumni for career support, mentorship, and networking:

- The Hire UWindsor Campaign provided resources that foster career growth and success with the Careers and Co-op Education Office. The partnership made great strides in creating new connections, awareness and professional networking.
- The 10K Coffee platform continued to offer alumni the opportunity to mentor and gain knowledgeable advice.
- Enhancing the communication strategy to deliver meaningful, affinity-driven messages to better engage our alumni that includes E-News, the brand awareness campaign and digital platforms such as radio and print.

To provide innovative opportunities for alumni to remain connected and engaged with UWindsor, embracing any geographical location:

- The commitment to create inclusive, innovative ways to keep alumni connected focused on supporting the alumni database with new technology. By improving the ability to reach alumni globally with up-to-date and relevant contact information expanded our engagement opportunities worldwide.
- The Alumni Benefits Service Programs expanded on a variety of exclusive discounts that served as tangible reminders of the value of staying connected to the UWindsor community.

• Throughout the past year a wide range of activities, events, and alumni engagement programs that catered to different interests and demographics within the alumni community were offered.

To cultivate pride in UWindsor, inspire and recognize alumni:

- The launch of the Alumni Spotlights and Accolades program highlighted outstanding alumni in our E-News and social media platforms.
- During Alumni Week our Alumni Legacy by Generations celebrated the rich multigenerational ties to the University.
- The Alumni Awards of Excellence and Alumni Sports Hall of Fame ceremonies honoured and celebrated individuals that have demonstrated exceptional achievements, or contributions.
- The Spring and Fall Convocations welcomed 5,000+ graduates to the alumni family.

In closing the Executive Committee strengthen the succession planning efforts with the announcement of a new position, Board Member-At-Large, designed to help facilitate the board's directives. Streamlining the responsibilities of the Strategic Planning and Nominating Committee into the Executive will optimize the resources of the Alumni Staff. The Alumni Association Board will move forward to developing a new strategic plan in 2025, that will be cohesive and align with Aspire: Together for Tomorrow.

**MOTION**: To accept the report of the President as presented.

D. Stuebing/ D. Leung

**CARRIED** 

#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Settimo Vilardi, Chair, Financial and Alumni Services Committee, reported that the Alumni Association's annual budgets are prepared for the period from May 1 – April 30 of each year to coincide with the University of Windsor's financial year-end. He reviewed the Treasurer Report for the fiscal month ending April 30, 2024, the budget for the current fiscal year May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025, and actual budget ending September 30, 2024.

# Fiscal Year End April 30, 2024:

- The opening balance is \$284,250
- The fiscal revenue collected is \$524,610.
- The fiscal expenditure is \$484,339.
- The fiscal cash balance ending April 30, 2024, is \$324,521.
- The fiscal year deficit is \$40,271.

# Budget May 1, 2024 - April 30, 2025:

- The opening balance is \$324,521.
- The estimated revenue is \$470,100.
- The estimated expenditure is \$709,300.
- The estimated cash balance ending April 30, 2025, is \$85,321.
- The estimated fiscal year ending deficit is \$239,200.

# Actual Budget Ending September 30, 2024:

- The opening balance is \$324,521.
- The revenue collected to-date is \$315,339.
- The expenditure to-date is \$351,102.
- The cash balance ending September 30, 2024, is \$288,760.
- The current deficit is \$35,761.
- It was noted that the revenue to-date includes golf revenue, pre- and in-person sales for diploma frames, convocation rose sales, and contributions from our affinity partners. The expenditures are largely due to the capital pledged payments such as the Toldo Lancer Centre, Education Active Learning Centre, Stadium Mondo Track Project and the ARS commitment.

# Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budgeted Revenues:

- Affinity Partners are responsible for 92% of the annual revenue that includes partnership with TD Insurance and Manulife.
- The Board activities represent 8% of the board revenue, derived from things such as diploma framing, rose sales, investment income and golf revenue. The revenue generated from the Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament raised \$20K and donated to the International Student Centre Food Pantry.
- It was noted that the revenue takes pride in our commitment to supporting our community, students, campus initiatives and capital projects.

#### Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budgeted Expenses:

- The FAHSS and Athletic Agreements annual funding agreement represents 4% of the budgeted expenses.
- Capital Projects: Toldo Lancer Centre, Transforming Windsor Law, HK Mondo Track Project and Educations Active Learning Centre represent 40% of the budgeted expenses.
- The standing committee's strategic priorities represent 56% of the budgeted expenses.

In summary, the Board is well-positioned to meet our financial requirement for the remainder of the fiscal year and extended best wishes to T. Roman, who accepted the position of Treasurer for a two-year term.

MOTION: To accept the report of the Treasurer as presented.

T. Roman/D. Leung

**CARRIED** 

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

committee is charged with making recommendations for the position of Director.

The Committee recommended the following Directors for election to the first of three (two-year) terms:

- Michael Chantler, BA '87
- Kevin Hamilton, BSc '15, MBA '17
- Jonathan Leung, JD '12
- Brian Porter, BCS '00, BComm '04, BEd '12

# MOTION: To accept the recommendations of the Nominating Committee of four new directors as presented.

K. Alexander/C. Obeid

CARRIED

The Committee recommends re-election of the following Director to a third (two-year) term:

Geri Salinitri, BSc '77, BEd '78, '92, MEd '98, PhD '04

The Committee recommends re-election of the following Director to a second (two-year) term:

Martha Young, BA '74

MOTION: To accept the recommendations of the Nominating Committee for the re-election of one director to a third (two-year) term and one director to a second (two-year) term as presented.

G. Orr/R. Ponniah-Goulin

**CARRIED** 

K. Alexander expressed sincere gratitude to the following individuals for their leadership, commitment and volunteerism in service to both their alma mater and the Alumni Association. The following retiring board members were presented with a token of appreciation.

- Board of Governors Representative, Sue Williams
- Directors, Sahar Dawi, Julie Fraser, Rukshini Ponniah-Goulin, Carole Obeid, Amin Safaei

K. Alexander presented G. Orr with the Inukshuk crystal (a symbol of guidance and friendship) as a token of appreciation for his leadership, friendship, and dedication as President of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. He will continue to serve the Board as the Alumni Board of Governors Representative.

## **CLOSING WORDS AND ADJOURNMENT**

G. Orr expressed heartfelt thanks to the associates who encouraged him to become involved in the Alumni Association, and the loved ones in his life, namely his parents. I'm proud of being able to work with such committed colleagues who inspired me every day. The dedicated staff of the Alumni Office past and present for always going the extra mile. I could not have done it without all of you. Thank you! Wished D. Leung a bright and successful term as President of the Alumni Association.

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

G. Orr/D. Leung

**CARRIED**