



Corrected 11/2/2020

MINUTES
Alumni Society Board of Governors
July 13, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Ademola Adeosun, Class of 2023
Rik Austin, MD
Austin Beason, MD
Careyana Brenham, MD
Erik Constance, MD
Mary Jo Davies
Wendi El-Amin, MD
Lisa Fowler
Jason Gillihan, MD
Jesse Hsieh, MD
Breck Jones, MD
Robert Juranek, MD
Elizabeth Montgomery Collins, MD
Kate Moore

Absent:

Aaron Hancock, MD
Jacqueline Harris, MD
Sean Hollonbeck, MD
Mike Honan, MD
Jerry Kruse, MD, MSPH

Steve Raben, MD
Susan Reeder, MD
Julie Robbs
Rukmini Roy, Class of 2021
Mark Schmelzel, MD
David Skillrud, MD
Hal Smith
Christine Todd, MD
Elek Wellman, Class of 2022
Tabatha Wells, MD
Lisa Wichterman, MD
Matt Winkleman, MD

Guest:

Jim Daniels, MD
Ron Bowman

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Dr. Winkleman, president, welcomed all to the meeting held via WebEx due to the pandemic. He asked all attending to introduce themselves. He announced that all new members of the Board attended a virtual orientation prior to the start of the meeting.

2. LINCOLN SCHOLARS PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Dr. Jim Daniels, class of '83 and professor of Family & Community Medicine, presented on the new Lincoln Scholars Program in Carbondale, IL. He said that the program's purpose is to identify students early on who have interest in primary care/rural medicine. Eight students were selected for the first class but due to various circumstances, the class is now at six students. These students will remain in Carbondale for their complete four-year training. Dr. Daniels stated the program is

structured well with students assigned to a mentor and they begin studies with the PA Program. The participants in the Lincoln Scholars Program will have the same testing as traditional medical students. He asked if any board members lived within an hour of Carbondale campus and would like to serve as a mentor, to contact him. He provided a LSP Fact Sheet with further information.

Dr. Winkleman asked for more information to be shared with the board regarding residency after year four of the program. Dr. Constance also reported that he and Dr. Albers are working on identifying a director for the program.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes from the November 4, 2019 meeting were approved as submitted.

4. DEAN'S UPDATE

In Dr. Kruse's absence, Dr. Constance provided the following updates:

- Dr. Kruse is flooded with the SOM's response to COVID-19 and he is the number one contributor for COVID-19 information from downstate.
- Level of cooperation across the region is phenomenal.
- Finances will be a challenge. Global budget for SOM is broken down with 52% coming from practice income, 28% from hospitals, 12% from state funding and the balance from tuition and grants. Our total shortfall will be 1-1.5 months of activity. Our total shortfall annualized from budget lines will be \$35 to \$45 million. It is likely that we will need to trim \$10 million permanently from the budget.
- SIU SOM continues to work with other entities around state. Setting up testing sights remains a priority as well as contact tracing.
- SIU announced a new system president, Dr. Daniel Mahoney, as well as a new Carbondale chancellor, Dr. Austin Lane.
- The SIU SOM Strategic Plan has been approved. Ms. Robbs will send a copy of the new SIU SOM strategic plan to members.

5. OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

- SIU SOM early on chose to shut the face-to-face curriculum down with the pandemic and went virtual. The third year students were shut down 2 weeks, with all others, 1 week. The program held everything virtual March through June. Current third year and fourth year students started rotations July 6. Not all parts of curriculum can be virtual, so there is PPE for in person training.
- Residency applications were delayed to third week of October; interviews are virtual. Student Affairs is committed to helping the medical students.
- USMLE testing delayed. Step 1 is scheduled for August.
- Admissions is taking applications for next year – interviews will be virtual and in-person.
- MCAT exams must be done at a testing center.
- Students have been outstanding, taking it all in stride and remain committed to getting an education. Both year one and two tutor groups will be in-person plus live orientation for new students.
- Student Affairs is still trying to figure out virtual graduation as well as a virtual white coat ceremony.
- Dr. Winkleman inquired what alumni might do for medical students. Dr. Constance advised that the HOST program will be most beneficial. There is a lot of stress and students may need help

managing it. Ms. Robbs added that her office will make the HOST Program a virtual connection with alumni and students this year and has already been making those changes.

6. BOARD OBJECTIVES & PRIORITIES 2020-2023

Dr. Winkleman listed the major objectives and priorities for the Alumni Society for 2020-2023.

These include:

- The Alumni Society is the vehicle that reminds alumni why they attended SIU SOM.
- The Wellness Committee, chaired by Dr. Wichterman, has a hard job especially since COVID. This situation is still developing. The pandemic has taken a toll on medical students, residents, physicians/alumni. It has taught us to slow down. We can look for ways to partner with the SOM.
- The Advocacy Committee, chaired by Dr. Austin is relatively new. Where can we help as a board/alumni society? How can we push the agenda of the school and advocate for SOM? Collectively, we (alumni) have a strong voice. We can continue to look for ways to advocate on behalf of alumni.
- Fundraising continues to be important. Students face difficulties. Student Resource Fund helps keep us engaged with the students and assist them. One of the goals has been to have a full board that gives financially and/or gives their time and effort.
- The Distinguished Alumni Awards have historically been awarded for two categories: Service and Achievement. How can the Alumni Society Board use these awards as ambassadors for the school? We can recognize people who have had a major impact early in their career. This is a great way to highlight alumni and ultimately, the SOM.

7. PHYSICIAN WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Dr. Wichterman reported that the committee met February 24, 2020, via conference call. A survey was sent to alumni asking for volunteers to serve as resources for other alumni. Almost 50 responded offering to volunteer. The Wellness page on the Alumni website lists the cities of those responding alumni along with specific interests.

Originally three different wellness dinners were planned but had to be canceled due to COVID-19. Talking points for the agenda are: What brings you joy? Why medicine? Biggest challenges? Most enjoyable? Advice for new physicians. Dr. Daniels offers an elective that focuses on connecting students with inner self while going through medical school. He is willing to work with the committee to offer this event for alumni. The committee will further explore this event as another resource and adapt the schedule for alumni. Dr. Wichterman suggested everyone take a look at the website, and that the dinner hosts hope to get together when situations are better.

Dr. Winkleman commented that there is a significant need for this and the resources provided. He encouraged everyone to connect with each other and be supporters for each other. It was mentioned that telemedicine offers some opportunities that also may benefit alumni. CHOP is willing to partner with and support the Alumni Society where it can.

8. STUDENT RESOURCE FUND

Dr. Wichterman, chair of the student resource fund committee, reported that the purpose of the Fund is to enhance the student experience by funding educational and social needs that cannot be met through other funding sources. She updated the Board on the status of the Fund including current balances and expenditures. One of those programs is the YMCA membership for second through fourth year students. With COVID-19, the facilities were closed for several months. The

Committee inquired as to whether the unused dues could be applied to next year. The Board does not want to place additional financial burden on the YMCA in 2020, so the reduction of fees will be applied for the for the following year's dues. The board recommended funding for the following requests:

YMCA - Membership for 1 year contract including family members in household (1/1/21 – 12/31/21) (YMCA will prorate \$4068.75 to reduce fees for 2022)	\$16,763.00
Subsidy for Student Winter Ball 2021	\$5,000.00
First Aid kit for Y2-Y4 students to keep in Student Affairs office	\$250.00
Y1 Doctoring Director - (8) 512 Hz tuning forks for Y1 students to check out	\$80.56
FMC - Knee model; shoulder model for Fam. Med. 3rd year clerkship	\$1172.83

A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommendations as presented funding a total of \$23,266.39.

9. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Dr. Austin updated the board on the recent activity of the committee. Discussions were held with the U of Illinois System associate director of advocacy, office of government relations and John Charles, SIU System executive director for governmental & public affairs for guidance on notifying alumni about legislation in their area and working with the database for that information. Some newer staff members in Carbondale have backgrounds in working the statehouse. COVID remains a huge challenge with requests for funds from the State of Illinois. Dr. Austin commented that members who have an interest in serving on the committee, please let Ms. Robbs know. Dr. Winkleman added if members have an interest in any alumni committee, let Ms. Robbs know.

10. 2021 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

The Distinguished Alumni Committee will meet via WebEx on September 22, 2020 to select finalists for the (now) three awards: Service, Achievement, and Early Career. Dr. Winkleman discussed the value of awarding the achievement award and service award each year. He also encouraged discussion on what is the best location to give awards that have been historically given at commencement. The Service award could be bestowed in the alum's community or at the Commencement, to be decided each year. The Early Career Achievement Award could also be awarded in the alum's community. Board members approved the changes to the awards.

11. FOUNDATION UPDATE & ACTIVITIES

Mr. Smith updated the board on recent activities of the Foundation office. He provided a packet with further information/data. Highlights include:

- It has been an interesting and challenging year for Foundation. While the Foundation is event oriented, some events could not happen this year.
- The Women's Power Lunch in April had to be cancelled but is rebooked for 2021.
- Camp COCO was cancelled along with the golf outing.
- The Simmons' Cancer Institute Butterfly Release was moved to July and will be a virtual event.
- The Denim and Diamonds event in October is hoping to raise \$250,000 with an online auction event.
- Sadly, the 50th anniversary celebration was cancelled.
- The SOM Scholarship Endowment has been established to help offset the cost of medical school. <https://forwardfunder.siumed.edu/project/18669>
- The Foundation is reaching out to students and residents to introduce them to the Foundation.

- SIU system-wide raised \$1.1 million dollars more than last year with over half pledging through the campaign. We raise a significant amount of dollars for research. Forwardfunder.siumed.edu was especially created for the 50th anniversary to make it easier for donors to give.

12. STUDENT CLASS UPDATES

Ms. Roy reported the Class of 2021 is doing well. The residency application process is in full swing. Most are having virtual interviews. The class is hanging in there and glad to be back in the hospitals. The Minority Student Alliance – marginalized networks came together and were very inspired by Dr. Kruse’s anti-racist commitment to the institution. A few recommendations were presented for review including adding a counselor of color with faculty and the Dean is very open to demands.

Mr. Wellman reported the Class of 2022 has a lot going on. They started clinical rotations mid-June . SOM was a great help in transitioning into rotations and allowing time off in August when USMLE exams were delayed.

Mr. Adeoshun reported the Class of 2023 is managing during the pandemic. Class does have concerns about returning to campus and doing live tutor groups. Asking students to be tested before coming to campus.

Dr. Hancock, Class of 2020, was unable to attend due to residency.

13. ALUMNI AFFAIRS UPDATES

Ms. Robbs highlighted a few of the activities from the Alumni Affairs Office:

- HOST program will be virtual in 2020/21– same program, just no traveling. Ms. Moore will be coordinating that program. This still allows the medical students to connect with alumni for a virtual mentor connection. The HOST program was busy this year with 27 student requests. She thanked all alumni who participate and host each year and she reiterated the benefits of this program to both students and alumni hosts. Feedback and the 12-year summary report were provided to members which reflects a total of 328 submitted requests, 205 matches, 81% of requests have been filled, 231 total hosts, 958 alumni contacts and updates, with students saving over \$26,625 (an average cost savings per student interview of \$135.86).
- Ms. Davies continues to update the alumni website as needed and plan for future activities.
- No in-person events are being planned. Reunion classes for 2020 will be added to Reunion 2021. Additionally, commencement class of 2020 will be added. In case social distancing is a factor in planning for 2021, the Bank of Springfield event venue has been reserved for 2021 to allow spacing.
- Ms. Robbs is reaching out to alumni populated areas where there has been concentration of COVID cases, natural disasters, etc. to check on their wellbeing with wonderful and thankful responses.
- Alumni Affairs is hosting virtual events for alumni classes and recently hosted an all-alumni event with music.
- She reminded members to take a look at the 50 alumni for 50th Anniversary online and in Aspects.
- Alumni Affairs and Foundation are converting to a new database in October. SIU SOM alumni data integrity is high and they will continue work to maintain this. Ms. Moore took over from Cris Milliken upon her retirement and has been doing an excellent job.

- Student Alumni Dinners for Springfield were held just before the pandemic. Carbondale students were not able to participate due to COVID. Dinners for the spring of 2021 will be considered closer to that time.
- The alumni mailing has been sent for DA nominees and Board nominees which produces many alumni updates.
- The alumni e-newsletter will be sent within the next few weeks and the next issue of Aspects will be going out soon as well.

14. OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Constance recognized Dr. El-Amin for her wonderful work with students during the pandemic. SIU SOM is in the top 2% of institutions in graduating African Americans by percentage. Dr. El-Amin commented that SIU SOM students have been great leaders during the pandemic.

Dr. Winkleman expressed gratitude for all of the information shared. He stated it is important for the information to be shared in all regions to highlight what SIU SOM provides in the communities it serves.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.