

May 9, 2022

**Board of Governors Meeting Minutes**  
**Simmons Cancer Institute – Robbins-Woerner Conference Room**

**ATTENDANCE**

IN-PERSON	VIRTUAL	ABSENT
Ademola Adeoshun '23	Jesse Hsieh, MD	Mary Jo Davies
Rik Austin, MD	Joey Maiocco '24	Wendi El-Amin, MD
Austin Beason, MD	Elizabeth Montgomery Collins, MD	Sean Hollonbeck, MD
Careyana Brenham, MD	Madison Nelson, Lincoln Scholars	
Erik Constance, MD	Molly Smith, '25	
Nicole Florence, MD	Tabatha Wells, MD	
Jason Gilihan, MD		
Diane Hillard-Sembell, MD		
Breck Jones, MD		
Jerry Kruse, MD		
Cassie Mattson, CMP		
Kate Moore, MS		
Katie Oxby		
Michael Pick, MD		
Steve Raben, MD		
Susan Reeder, MD		
Mark Schmelzel, MD		
David Skillrud, MD		
Steve Soltys, MD		
Christine Todd, MD		
Patricia Wappel		
Elek Wellman '22		
Lisa Wichterman, MD		
Matt Winkleman, MD		

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Dr. Matt Winkleman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Dr. Winkleman introduced Michael Pick, MD, Class of 1976, and Diane Hillard-Sembell, Class of 1986, as the new Alumni Board of Governors members. Dr. Winkleman also introduced Cassie Mattson, Director of Alumni Affairs, to the Board.

**2. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 25, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

Board President Dr. Winkleman discussed the meeting minutes; the minutes were approved.

**3. DEAN'S UPDATE**

Dr. Jerry Kruse thanked everyone for attending the meeting and supporting the medical students. Update on the organization's size: 2023 = FY23 (July 1, 2022).

<b>Learners</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2023</b>
• Medical Students	288	320
• Resident Physicians & Fellows	354	412
• Physician Assistant Students	80	180
• Graduate Students (PhD & Masters)	80	80
• MEDPREP Students	72	72
• Post Baccalaureate Program	0	?
<b>Faculty and Staff</b>		
	<b>Now</b>	
• Full-time Faculty members	425	
• Physicians	290	
• Staff Members	1500	

There will be a new post-Baccalaureate Program in Carbondale in the Fall; not sure about the number just yet. Dr. Kruse discussed the MCAT Scores for various classes over time and USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 scores, respectively. In 2002 SIU switched to a holistic admissions process which was successful. In the last three years, all SIU Medical students passed USMLE Step 1 on the first try. Everyone who has come through medical school has added to the educational value.

Dr. Kruse discussed how SIU School of Medicine has been very active and recognized by the Association of Medical Education in Europe – the largest medical education group in the world. SIU School of Medicine has won five of the six-lifetime achievement awards. Only two medical schools worldwide have won as many as five awards. In 2020 they gave a Stellar Award to two schools: Leeds University, UK & SIU School of Medicine, USA.

Dr. Kruse recognized new leadership at the school:

- Dana Crosby, MD – Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgeon
- Vidhya Prakash, MD – Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs CMO
- Michal Dynda, MD – SIU Medicine CMIO
- Hename Idrizi, MD – Associate Dean for Student Affairs & Admissions (Springfield)
- Amanda Mulch, MD – Assistant Dean of Student Affairs & Admissions (Carbondale)
- Erin Hascup, Ph.D. – Director of Smith Center for Alzheimer Research & Treatment
- Will Robinson, MD – Chief Vascular Surgery
- Christopher Smyre, MD – Director of Research & Innovation Office of Equity Diversity and Inclusion.
- Cassie Mattson, CMP – Director of Alumni Affairs

Dr. Kruse discussed the new SIU System News and how Dr. Dan Mahony, SIU System President, was hired in 2020 and lives in Springfield, Dr. Austin Lane, SIUC Chancellor, was hired in 2021, and Dr. James Minor, SIUE Chancellor, was hired in 2022. Dr. Kruse discussed that this is the best collegiality he has seen in his 38 years at SIU, and the system is in a better financial position.

SIU Strategic Plan for the School of Medicine 2020-2025 document was presented in the slideshow. The last slide Dr. Kruse presented was the Triple Aim + 1; this is everything we do to become more effective, efficient, and successful at SIU School of Medicine.

Dr. Kruse ended his presentation by thanking Dr. Erik Constance for his work for the last 27 years at the School of Medicine.

Dr. Kruse opened up the discussion, and Dr. Erik Constance brought up how the SIU President is now in Springfield. He left Carbondale and gave each chancellor their campuses; this will be great for the future of SIU. Dr. Kruse agrees that having President Mahony close is great and benefits the school. He was very excited

to say that the President attends Alumni Events, and it is great to have him in Springfield close to the legislatures.

#### **4. OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Dr. Erik Constance reported about Match Day (March 18, 2022) – 20 different specialties medical students matched. This shows a lot about the SIU School of Medicine faculty, given the diversity of the specialties chosen among students. This year Anesthesia and Radiology were very competitive as compared to recent years.

He then announced that graduation for the 2022 Medical Students would be on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at UIS Auditorium. They are all very excited since commencement had to change the last couple of years due to Covid-19.

Dr. Constance reflected on his SIU School of Medicine career, saying, “I’ve been fortunate. I love all my students, and I think that continuing the culture here at SIU is important and it is very different from any other medical school. They are friendly to each other; they are not competitive and know and help each other. We need to continue that, and hopefully, my successors will do the same.”

Dr. Kruse thanked him for the many years of service and impact he has had on the school and students, and Dr. Winkleman, on behalf of the board, thanked Dr. Constance for all he has done over the years.

#### **5. OFFICE OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS**

Dr. Winkleman introduced the new Director of Alumni Affairs - Cassie Mattson, to the Board.

Cassie Mattson introduced herself and her staff to the board and discussed how she is very honored to be in this role and how she has big shoes to fill in, replacing Julie Robbs, who was with SIU for over 30 years. She is very excited about the incredible legacy of the Alumni Office, and her goal is to build upon what we have and to keep it going. She said, “Building on the legacy and looking for ways to make things better for our alumni and also to build more relationships with the students since they will soon be our alumni will be our main goals and focus for the future.” She is excited to bring new big ideas to the department and is looking forward to the future for SIUSOM Alumni.

- **HOST Program:** Cassie Mattson discussed the goal of having this in person again, but it was virtual last year. She shared a couple of testimonials on the program and how it was something that many students and Alumni look forward to. She then said that we are trying to bring that back because it is an integral part of what we do in the Alumni Office. Dr. Erik Constance told everyone that “the host program will again be virtual because it is easier for programs to schedule more, and it is unfortunate, but we will see where the future goes with this.”
- **Alumni Reunion – June 24-25, 2022:** Dr. Regina Rabinovich suggested different ways to engage the Alumni and offered a student panel to compare different discussions for attendees and then have the campus tour afterward.
- **Student Alumni Dinners:** Wrapped up in both Springfield and Carbondale, the Lincoln Scholar Students could attend in Carbondale.
- **Spring Alumni Receptions:** Cassie Mattson discussed how they have been planning to meet Alumni through different areas throughout the state. They have had receptions in Bloomington, Carbondale, Springfield, and Peoria. Quincy – canceled due to low attendance. Dr. Constance and Dr. Winkleman have done excellent outreach for attendance at these events. Dr. Constance complimented Cassie on how she has been doing the Spring Receptions and how great it has been for Alumni.

- Memphis June 10<sup>th</sup> Dr. Elizabeth Stewart – celebrate with friends and family very humbled and honored Early Career Achievement Award. Dr. Constance thinks this is a great way to support Alumni, and Dr. Winkleman agreed that this is a great way to recognize Dr. Stewart.
- Student Engagement: Study Snacks, Day of Service, White Coats for Lincoln Scholars and first-year medical students, Match Day photobooth, Yearbook advertisements, Winter Ball funding, Student Council meetings each month. Cassie discussed how we are open to new ideas/suggestions for better communication with students and Alumni, so please reach out if you have any ideas.

## 6. STUDENT RESPONSES

- Madison Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Lincoln Scholar Program (LSP): New programs for students like having LSP along with MS1 students involved in the student dinners. Different things during finals week – stress relief activities. Currently, she is on a surgical rotation.
- Molly Smith, MS1 Carbondale: Thanked the Alumni Society and Board of Governors for the food and snacks given to them for testing. She said it helped the students be less stressed while living on campus during those weeks and hopes this continues for future classes.
- Joey Maiocco, MS2: Discussed the winter networking Brunch with 40 Alumni/faculty in attendance. Thanked the Student Resource Fund for the \$5,000 for Winter Ball.
- Ademola Adeosun, MS3: Requests more outings with Faculty for events or even holidays – Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, holidays. Fun Scholarship ERAS Application data shows that even though students can't pay for hotels so applying to more programs. They allow students to apply to more programs and support online meetings/interviews. I thought that SIU School of Medicine could get a room designated for online student meetings/interviews with ring lights and other equipment already at the school. He stated that 25% of medical students have applied to more than 100 programs, which means more than 50% of students applied for 8+ programs.

Dr. Steven Soltys from the class of 1988 stated that he applied to 10 programs back when he was in medical school, and the programs are more competitive now, and you do have to apply to more programs to get an interview. He stated there is a much different landscape than what they used to apply for.

Dr. Michael Pick asked what the average interview a med student does in the country. Elek Wellman, MS4, answered that the average interviews medical students do are from eight to ten. Dr.

Breck Jones, Neurosurgery – added that his personal experience in this specialty medical student application is between seventy and eighty. Most places interview seventy to eighty spots, and the top people take up the spots for interviews. He added that this forces students to apply anywhere and everywhere.

Dr. Careyana Brenham added that it is very difficult to interview and choose the best applicants from the residency standpoint. The volume of applications has drastically increased over the years.

Dr. Nicole Florence asked if there could be a reimbursement or supplement costs for the students. Dr. Matthew Winkleman answered and stated that the best way to approach this would be a formal proposal to the Student Resource Fund. Because this would benefit all students, the board should consider thinking this through and setting something up for the future.

- Elek Wellman, MS4: This was his final meeting, as he will graduate. Elek stated that there is a lot of different movement and talk with the AAMC interview processes, and he talked with Dr. Erik Constance about how to improve this. Limiting the number of interviews and inviting applicants to receive is called “interview hoarding.” He also discussed how working with Cassie Mattson, Director of Alumni Affairs, has been fantastic, especially since interviews are moving virtual. This causes the

medical students to miss the feel and culture of specific programs. The HOST programs set up a list of Alumni that students can reach out to and communicate with regarding virtual interviews and what the programs are like from the alum standpoint.

There were no further questions for the students from the board; Dr. Matthew Winkleman thanked Elek for his time on the board and wished him luck in his residency.

#### **7. 2022 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI**

Dr. Matthew Winkleman announced the distinguished alumni award winners for 2022.

- Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award: Dr. Steven Goetter
- Distinguished Alumni Award: Dr. Traves Crabtree
- Early Career Achievement Award: Dr. Elizabeth Stewart

#### **8. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Winkleman said there was not much to update regarding this, and they would touch it more in the next meeting.

No further questions.

#### **9. PHYSICIAN WELLNESS COMMITTEE & SRF UPDATE**

Dr. Lisa Wichterman, Board Treasurer, reported on the Wellness Committee and Student Resource Fund.

- Wellness Committee: Everyone loves being back in person and loves Cassie Mattson, Director of Alumni Affairs.
- Ideas and Events for the Wellness Committee:
  - Getting people together in groups has already been happening. St. Louis, Bloomington, Carbondale, Springfield, Peoria.
  - Dr. Cassandra Claman hosted a Coaching and Forest Therapy Telehealth Webinar in September. April 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Wellness committee wine and cheese fun meeting
  - Different types of book clubs
  - Polling students about wellness – yoga, fitness challenges
  - SCOPE reading for poetry or stories event
  - Financial planning for young physicians
  - Traveling – group university events with five different schools/groups, student dinners Springfield/Carbondale successful and always fun.

Molly Smith, MS1, and Dr. Diane Hillard-Sembell want to be on the wellness committee. Dr. Matthew Winkleman stated that anyone interested in the wellness committee could join in. He stated that the goal is to serve the alumni and focus on burnout and fatigue in the rewarding medical career. It does not have to be a grind. He spoke with the Carbondale students and told them to start fighting to not become jaded in the medical field.

- Student Resource Fund (SRF): Dr. Lisa Wichterman said that the SRF balance had gotten extremely low over the last couple of years, and we called alumni for SRF donations.
- Balances:
  - Before the Medical Student Winter (Spring) Ball 2022: \$59,227.01.
  - YMCA Memberships: \$17,400.00 ran numbers on students who use this.

Dr. Steven Soltys suggested that the Alumni Office offer text messages/QR codes for giving to the Student Resource Fund. Dr. Nicole Florence agreed that this would be easier for her to remember to donate if she only

had to use a QR code. She also suggested getting the cause out more so Alumni know what they are donating to or for.

Dr. Matthew Winkleman stated that scholarships, white coats, and QR codes could be entertained this year for medical students and alumni. Dr. Matthew Winkleman said there is a 25% increase over the prior year / expects the same increase next year regarding YMCA student memberships. We could potentially only offer it to the students and not their families. The YMCA has been good to SIU School of Medicine, and he wants to continue the relationship with them.

Dr. Lisa Wichterman stated that the total active people are 178 memberships/check-ins, 124 / 30ish people not using / 20% checking in. Elek Wellman, MS4, stated that he goes five days a week and sees at least four or five other students at the YMCA when he is there.

Dr. Nicole Florence stated that she is on the YMCA Board – and that we could check the swipes and data for medical student usage. She told Cassie Mattson, Director of Alumni Affairs, about offering incentives for most monthly swipes. This could go along with the wellness committee. Dr. Nicole Florence is willing to talk to the YMCA – so we could offer a program possibly like silver sneakers and pay per swipe.

Dr. Richard Austin asked when we last asked about other gyms. Dr. Winkleman stated that it would have been around 2013; Dr. Richard Austin suggested we consider other options if the costs continue to increase. Dr. Nicole Florence responded and said she would be happy to talk to the YMCA board regarding pricing for medical student memberships.

Approved Motion.

## 10. FOUNDATION Q&A TO REPORT

Patsy Wappel, Development Officer for SIU School of Medicine Foundation Office, is presenting in place of Hal Smith, Executive Director of Development SIU Foundation Office.

- Alumni Giving (Pandemic Years):
  - Fiscal Year 20
    - Number of Alumni who gave: 2,869
    - Number of Donors: 208
    - Percentage: 7%
    - Total Giving: \$323,461.15
  - Fiscal Year 21
    - Number of Alumni who gave: 3002
    - Number of Donors: 239
    - Percentage: 8%
    - Total Giving: \$508,228.05
  - Fiscal Year 22 (9.5 Months)
    - Number of Alumni who gave: 2997
    - Number of Donors: 193
    - Percentage: 6%
    - Total Giving: \$478,534.45
- Day of Giving:
  - March 3, 2021, \$392,324.00 from 394 gifts. (2 Trophies)
  - March 2, 2022 - \$681,799.94 from 372 gifts. (1 Trophy)

Dr. Michael Pick wanted to know if the score sheet is sent out to all classes because medical student classes are typically highly competitive. Patsy Wappel said that the traveling trophy is for reunion classes.

- Significant Gifts:
  - \$1.2M - Planned Gift - Named endowed Professor's Chair – Family Medicine
  - \$450K - Nurse-Family Partnership - leverages \$900K more (Funding Finalized – Program Relunched)
  - \$500K - New Cancer Research Gift
  - \$300K - Faculty Support for three faculty/physicians
  - \$275K - Denim and Diamonds 2021
  - \$100K - Pledged - 3 gifts for Scholarships
  - \$100K - Endowed Scholarship
  - \$45K - Women's Power Lunch 2022
  - Fiscal Year End Mailing to Alumni to Close Year
  
- Forever Forward campaign 50% the foundation office expressed how every gift counts and matters and would like to encourage any gift from younger alumni.
  - SIU School of Medicine:
    - Goal: \$40,000,000
    - As of April 29, 2022: \$19,926,40
    - Percentage: 49.8%
  - SIU Carbondale:
    - Goal: \$500,000,000
    - As of April 29, 2022: \$157,434,386
    - Percentage: 31.5%
  
  - Fiscal Year 20: \$2.75M
  - Fiscal Year 21: \$6.4M
  - Fiscal Year 22 (9.5 Months): \$4.4M / Goal: \$5M
  
- Dr. Nicole Florence and Dr. Steven Soltys again suggested a QR Code for giving or a text to give program. Dr. Steven Soltys suggested that instead of giving a large number to be more modest, asking for smaller amounts and making a campaign that every dollar counts.
  
- Patsy Wappel discussed the upcoming Foundation Events:
  - Harbinger Society Dinner: Thursday, May 19, 2022
  - On Par with Pediatrics at SIU Medicine: Friday, June 10, 2022
  - Butterfly Release: Saturday, June 18, 2022
  - Denim & Diamonds: Saturday, October 8, 2022

## 11. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dr. Richard Austin gave the update and stated that there would be a get-together in June to discuss where to go and how to move forward. Something that the alumni of the school can advocate for with their local representatives. Alumni not in Springfield could go a long way with this opportunity. More immediate things are sharing information through the newsletter and other publications.

Ademola Adeoshun, MS3, said that there is an advocacy for dermatology that includes all Illinois colleges. He would love it if we could bring that to SIU School of Medicine.

Dr. Christine Todd said that the Alumni Resource Fund could potentially help with SIU medical students' food insecurity. She brainstormed a couple of ways to address the food insecurity issue.

- Doctor's lounges to be opened to medical students.
- A student wellness room is open 24hrs a day/pantry/different interest groups.

- Where would the funds come from?
  - Possibly applications to SRF/Foundation accounts.

Dr. Christine Todd also asked if we could talk to Ed Curtis, CEO of Memorial Healthcare, about our medical students getting discounts at the Memorial Cafeteria with their badges like the Memorial Employees do.

**12. RECOGNITIONS**

Dr. Matthew Winkleman recognized Elek Wellman, MS4, for his time spent on the board throughout medical school and wished him well in his future.

**13. OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No further or new business.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05p.m