

Erskine Alumni Association Board Meeting & Summer Retreat

Bonclarken Conference Center | July 21- July 22, 2023

Those Present: Sanita Savage Cousar, president; Walker Riley, president- elect; Michael Noble, John Wingate, Mary Elizabeth Land; Lloyd Kelso; Tripp Boykin; Wendy Childress; Sherry McAdams; Mary Pratt Horne; John "Jack" Williams; David Danehower; Jim Rambo; Jim Moore; Gehrig DeFronzo; Paul Bell (VP for Advancement); Jeanne Bell (Alumni Relations Coordinator); Andy Anderson (Alumni Development Officer)

Those Absent: Ralph Bowling; Peggy Harrill; Ed Poore; Ken Robinson

July 21, 2023 |

- **Call to Order**, Sanita Savage Cousar, 4:32 p.m.
- **Invocation**, Walker Riley
- **Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum**
- **Welcome**
- **Introductions of Members Present**
- **Trivia Game of Buildings on Erskine's Campus**
- **Agenda approved**
 - With addition of new business
 - Renaming of Committees
 - Election of New Board Member
 - Motion to approve agenda (Michael Noble, John Wingate 2nd) – **Passed**
- **Minutes from January 21, 2023**
 - Motion to approve minutes (Tripp Boykin, Walker Riley 2nd) – **Passed**
- **Election of New Board Member**
 - Andy Anderson accepted a position at Erskine college and rolled off the board.
 - Motion to add Jim Moore '77 to the board of directors – (John Wingate, Mary Elizabeth Land 2nd) - **Passed**
- **Renaming of Committees**
 - Discussion on the names of committees
 - Alumni Engagement Committee to Student Engagement committee
 - Alumni Relations Committee to Alumni Engagement Committee
 - Sanita read Constitution Article 5, Section 3
 - She stated that we need a clear understanding of what the committees are doing
 - **No objections, unanimous consent on the Amendment**
- **Introduction of Dr. Adamson**, Sanita Savage Cousar
- **News from the President's Office**
 - Updates to the College
 - Accomplishments:
 - Hired a new VP of Finance: Darrell Profit

- Hired a VP of Planning and Operations: Bobby Clarke
 - Hired a VP of Athletics: Ralph Patterson
- In the fall we will launch 6 new degrees
 - Accounting
 - Interdisciplinary Studies
 - International Studies
 - Supply Chain Management
 - Digital Marketing
 - Information Technology
- The Honors Institute is beginning this fall
- Behind the Scenes
 - Audits are on schedule for the first time in a number of years.
 - Financial Controls are now in place, every department has budgets.
 - Summer has been busy, monetizing the campus. i.e., having camps, use the school as a venue.
- The Seminary began a "Global Theological Diploma" in partnership with World Witness which launched last spring in Pakistan and Rwanda. Erskine has the potential to be the only evangelical theological education presence in those countries, impacting perhaps millions of lives.
- Exploring the idea of changing from "Erskine College" to "Erskine University"
 - What are the pros and cons of changing the name?
 - Could take 3-4 years to fully implement.
 - We would have schools such as the "School of Business" & "School of Education"
- Approved Strategic Plan (4 Pillars)
 - Missional Fidelity
 - Financial Stewardship
 - Educational Excellence
 - Expanding Reach
- Charter Institute:
 - Focusing on schools that believe in traditional educational values
 - 4 schools are coming online
- Now is the time to broaden the Vision
 - Challenge match Alumni 75K?
- **Recess @ 5:52 p.m.**

July 22, 2023 |

- **Call to Order**, Sanita Savage Cousar, 8:30 a.m.
 - Opening devotion
- **Alumni Office updates** – Alumni Office Staff
 - **Paul Bell:** The office is functioning in a new way
 - Alumni Development officer: Andy Anderson

- Get people to focus on the Annual Fund, Young Alumni and Managing the Linked In page
 - Alumni Relations Coordinator Jeanne Bell
 - * Homecoming, Alumni Day, Legacy program, develop relationships with current students, liaison with Alumni Board
 - Data base Management: Lisa Madden
 - Senior Gifts Officer: Beth Boyd
 - VP of Athletics: Ralph Patterson, major gifts for athletic facilities
- Day of Giving Challenge:
 - \$10,600 and 100% participation on the Day of Giving for the Annual Fund.
- Annual Fund
 - Asked the board to become more involved with the Annual Fund this year. It will help with getting more people involved.
- Alumni Scholarship Fund:
 - Now up to \$2,000 per year for Alumni Children
- **Jeanne Bell:**
 - Update on Alumni Association Website
 - Erskine Alumni Connection Board
 - Legacy Program: Students who have family members who attended Erskine
 - If you are an Erskine Alumnus and have kids, then you can add them to this program.
 - Homecoming
 - October 13 – 14, 2023
 - Alumni Weekend
 - April 12-13, 2024
 - David Livingston Play, starring David Payne on April 12th
 - Signing of the Tablecloth
 - August 19, 2023, at Freshmen Dinner
- **Andy Anderson:**
 - Getting the Chapters going again, picking up where Hope left off.
 - Looking for something tangible, open your home to be in touch with other Erskine Alumni.
 - Andy is getting out to meet people and finding their information. Online updates take only 2-3 minutes to complete.
 - If we can get young alumni, it will help with the future of giving.
- **Committee Breakout sessions, 9:28 a.m.**
- **Committee Reports:**
 - Alumni Engagement Committee (previously Alumni Relations):
 - Chapters update: getting events set up so that we can start the process of finding Alumni in the regions to get them together for fellowship rather than just asking for money.
 - Want to find some Chapter Presidents in the area. Goal: host an event once a month with the chapters.

- Andy will be working heavily on that
- Annual Fund
 - Gained 100 givers over the previous year.
 - Can we do a video of Dr. A to send out to people
 - We no longer want to have a "wait and see" mentality but want "a look at what is happening, and people will want to give".
 - Erskine has its Identity back.
- **Student Engagement Committee** (previously Alumni Engagement):
 - Speaker for Convo confirmed from Sullivan Foundation
 - Add educational panel/session
 - Add something about what students can do NOW
 - Add legal professional
 - Add medical professional
 - Scratch all of it and just have two panels on career exploration
 - "What can you do with a degree from Erskine?"
- **Motion to Adjourn** (John Wingate, Tripp Boykin 2nd) - **Passed**
- **Adjourned @ 11:18 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

By Walker Riley '18, Acting Secretary