

# **Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association**

## **2026 MUWAA Annual Meeting of the Membership**

Friday, April 10 • 4:00 – 5:30 P.M. CST

Hybrid – Poindexter Hall, Kossen Auditorium & Zoom

Agenda Website: <https://longblueline.muw.edu/alumni/alumni-association-agendas>

### **Meeting Agenda**

Call to Order

Association President's Welcome

University President's Remarks

Reading and Approval of the Minutes

Recognition of 2025–2026 MUWAA Officers & Board Members

### **MUWAA Annual Reports**

Officer Reports

Standing Committee Reports

Special Committee Reports

President's Report

### **Presidential Commendations**

### **Recognition of 2026 Alumni Award Winners**

#### **Alumni Awards**

Alumni Achievement Award: Kimberly Griffin, 1993

Alumni Service Award: Symone Bounds, 2012

Distinguished Achievement Award: Brandy Houlk Larmon, 2005

Outstanding Recent Graduate Award: Ariel Keon Seawell, 2013 and 2023

#### **Student Scholarships**

Megan Gamble: Southern Grace

Ahkyera Green: Culinary Arts Advisory Board

Allie Robertson: First Generation

Merry Maclellan: Legacy

Caitlyn Craft: Office of Undergraduate Research

### **Faculty Awards**

Dr. Nora Corrigan: 2026 Faculty Enhancement Grant

Dr. Jill Drouillard: 2026 Faculty Enhancement Grant

Dr. Kristen Figgin: 2026 New Faculty Award

### **Recognition of Departing Board Members**

Jermarra Jones-Price, 2008

JMarkus DuBose, 2014

Andrea Germany, 2000

Trey Harper, 1998

Annie Oeth, 1987

Debra Sturgis-Stamps, 1982

### **Installation of 2026–2027 MUWAA Officers and Board Members**

#### **MUWAA Board of Directors – 2026–2029 Term**

Leta DiGiuseppe Palmiter, 1997

Kristen Pate, 2006

Lynne Lott Schneider, 1991

Ariel Keon Seawell, 2013 and 2023

Mary Beth Thorman, 2019

#### **President-Elect for 2026–2027**

Bridget Smith Ellis, 2004

#### **President for 2026–2027**

Bayleigh Herron Vick, 2016 and 2020

## **Open Forum**

## **Passing of the Gavel & Incoming President's Remarks**

## **President's Closing & Adjournment**

## **Contact Information**

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## **MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

### **2025 MUW Annual Meeting of the Membership**

April 4, 2025 | 4:00 – 5:30 P.M. CST

Hybrid | Poindexter Hall, Kossen Auditorium and Zoom

### **DRAFT**

#### **I. Call to Order**

President Jermarra Jones-Price called the Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association (MUWAA) Annual meeting to order at 4:05 pm CST.

#### **II. Association President's Welcome**

President Jones-Price opened with a sincere thank you for all that have supported the vision of this board year and have become vision runners for the change they've wanted to see through our programming, new projects and their donor support of annual initiatives. It is her hope that alumni leave the meeting not only feeling inspired by the work we're doing but also confident that we are truly deserving of the ongoing efforts we're putting in. MUWAA represents each alumnus as a direct reflection of our time, talent, and financial support.

#### **III. University President's Remarks**

President Miller was invited to the stage to speak but she waived the opportunity instead to share her remarks during Convocation on Saturday.

#### **IV. Reading and Approval of the Minutes**

President Jones-Price asked Board Secretary Elysa MacLellan to read the minutes from the 2024 Annual meeting. There was a motion from the floor presented by Heather Fasciocco Stone to dispense the reading of the minutes and seconded by B.R. Hawkins. The motion carried.

#### **V. Recognition of 2024-2025 MUWAA Officers & Board Members**

President Jones-Price recognized all currently serving MUWAA Officers and Board Members by standing acknowledgement with applause. She thanked them for their service to The W and shared her gratitude for working alongside them over this year.

#### **VI. MUWAA Annual Reports**

##### **A. Officer Reports**

1. Board Secretary Elysa MacLellan had nothing to report.
2. Board Parliamentarian Wesley Garrett had nothing to report.

3. Board Treasurer Anne Swearingen shared the following report of recent Spring transactions:

Fund Number-Name	Date	Description	Amount
28119- Blue Event Fund	1-13	Prographics	394.56
28119- Blue Event Fund	2-6	Hotel Room for BLUE Event Speaker	128.78
28238- Magnolia Mingle Fund	2/20	Transfer for Shattuck Commitment	10,000.00
28119- Blue Event Fund	2/20	Booklets for BLUE Event	171.14
28119- Blue Event Fund	2/20	Vinyl Display Boards for BLUE Event	285.69
28119- Blue Event Fund	2/20	Catering for BLUE Event	1487.28
26062- MUWAA Activities Fund	2/26	Gifts for Alumni Awards	507.88
26062- MUWAA Activities Fund	3/14	Gifts for outgoing MUWAA Board Members	545.77
26062- MUWAA Activities Fund	3/17	Alumni lapel pins	1,544.89
26062- MUWAA Activities Fund	3/18	½ page ad in The Spectator	135.00
Total			15,201.59

## **B. Standing Committee Reports**

### **1. Nominations & Elections | Chair Heather Fasciocco Stone**

The Nominations and Elections Committee has completed the first of two goals for this fiscal year which was to secure nominations for all Board open positions. She explained that this year, with President JJ's approval, a new timeline was piloted to fast track in advance of the Homecoming festivities to allow new members the availability to better prepare for attendance of the weekend for being sworn in. The committee's second goal to vote in the next N&E committee will happen during the Summer 2025 Board meeting.

### **2. Bylaws | Chair Terry Gargano Coffey**

The Bylaws Committee has been hard at work reviewing the governing documents for grammatical errors and creating a new appendix to add in the three currently used Board templates- the quarterly board meeting report, annual meeting report and motion card templates used frequently throughout the year by committee chairs. As of right now, the new appendix has been added and the committee is waiting on new revisions from the affiliation agreement and new scholarship deadlines so that all new, updated versions of both documents can be uploaded to the alumni website by June 30th.

### **3. Recruitment and Retention | Chair LeAnn Alexander**

The Recruitment and Retention Committee successfully completed the timeline cycle for annual alumni awards with great response from the association in addition to stellar committee assistance. In the last quarter, LeAnn has worked with the University Provost as well as the Public Relations and Digital Marketing Committee to finalize the faculty awards and get social media marketing and news releases compiled to highlight all. She has also worked closely with Cathryn and the Alumni Office to get the student scholarship committee selected. She lastly spoke to the collaboration with the One MUW Committee to create a new recognition that will join the lineup with our current awards.

### **4. Chapters and Constituency Groups | Chair Cynthia Kittrell**

The Chapters and Constituency Groups Committee have been working to improve the process of how groups notify the committee that they are interested in forming a new alumni chapter or constituency group which has led to a new interest form, building of a quick reference guide to assist new and existing groups as they get started. Currently, there are nine new constituency groups and alumni chapters interested in forming. Cynthia highlighted that their new workshop, scheduled for April 26th and completely virtual, will have speakers from current groups to speak in addition to the MUWAA Digital Marketing Committee Chair who will speak on social media and the use of the new branding guidelines. She ended by saying that there are a lot of Facebook groups out there and the committee are working hard to update those constituency groups that are on Facebook as well as the guidelines so that the groups have the latest information. She encouraged everyone to spread the word and register for the workshop.

### 5. Special Events | Chair J’Markus Dubose

The Special Events Committee Chair J’Markus was unable to attend due to Magnolia Mingle setup. President Jones-Price encouraged all in attendance to read into the presented packet for his report and to meet him and his committee following the meeting on Shattuck Lawn for a great evening of fun and fellowship.

### 6. Finance | Chair Anne Swearingen

Chair Anne shared that the committee has seen updated movement as notated in the diagrams below.

### Restricted Accounts – Activity through Feb. 28, 2025

Fund Name (Fund Number)	Beginning Balance	Revenue/ (Expense)	Balance (as of 02/28/25)
Alumni Association Activities Fund (26062)	\$16,105.12	\$210.00 (\$7,864.91) Net deficit: (\$7,654.91)	\$8,450.21
Long Blue Line Auction Fund (26108)	\$26,089.72	\$26,614.64 (\$27,980.83) Net deficit: (\$1,366.19)	\$24,723.53
Mortar Board Faculty of the Year Award Fund (28107)	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00
MUW Faculty Enhancements Grants Fund (28108)	\$893.34	\$1,000.00	\$1,893.34
MUW New Faculty of the Year Award Fund (28109)	\$2,685.28	\$1,000.00	\$3,685.28
BLUE Event Fund (28119)	\$7,558.59	\$1,816.94 (\$851.99) Net: \$964.95	\$8,523.54
LBL Undergraduate Research Scholarship Fund (28224)	\$431.21	\$1,000.00 (\$50.00) Net: \$950.00	\$1,381.21
Magnolia Mingle Event Fund (28238)	\$17,975.18	\$1,134.18 (\$10,239.94) Net deficit: (\$9,105.76)	\$8,869.42

MUWAA First Generation College Student Scholarship (28253)	\$2,265.00	\$2,100.00 (\$500.00) Net: \$1,600.00	\$3,865.00
<i>Total MUWAA Restricted Funds held at MUW Foundation:</i>	\$76,003.44	\$35,875.76 (\$47,487.67)	\$64,391.53

### Endowed Accounts

<b>Account Name (Account Number)</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Culinary Arts Advisory Board Scholarship (35287)	\$21,022.11
Southern Grace Scholarship (36062)	\$46,311.87
MUWAA Faculty Enhancement Grants (36109)	\$25,000.00
MUWAA Mortar Board Faculty of the Year Award (36110)	\$25,000.00
MUWAA New Faculty of the Year Award	\$25,000.00
MUW Legacy Scholarship Endowed	\$60,115.79
LBL Undergraduate Research Scholarship Endowment	\$25,000.00
<b>Total MUWAA Endowed Funds held at MUW Foundation</b>	<b>\$227,449.77</b>

### 7. Public Relations | Chair Annie Oeth

The Public Relations Committee has been heavy in their busy work covering Scholarships and the nominations process in the Fall and now Spring semester starting with the promotion of BLUE by news release and then Homecoming. The committee are currently wrapping news releases for alumni awards and faculty awards. Annie shared that the committee are also collaborating with digital marketing to create ad graphics to be advertised in the Spectator for Homecoming and a special congratulatory message to graduates for Spring Commencement in May.

## **8. Past Presidents | Chair Symone Bounds**

The Past Presidents Committee have been moving and grooving sponsoring BLUE at the \$250 level, busy working on the Puckett House refresh and collaborating with the Office of Development and Alumni to schedule a Pucket House refresh weekend where they will go in remove items and then begin to polish items as they build on direct needs for their upcoming campaign. A Puckett House article has been submitted that Symone urged all attendees to be on the lookout for in future publications. Currently, the Past Presidents are working on some items to contribute on behalf of their committee but also highlight items alums can contribute directly to the refresh. Chair Symone noted that the committee are excited and thanked the attendees for their support.

## **C. Special Committee Reports**

### **1. Membership Recruitment | Chair Monique Jenkins**

Chair Monique Jenkins was unable to attend this Homecoming weekend, but President Jones-Price shared that the committee has done great work supplying volunteers for commencement services to distribute graduate gifts, launching a new workshop- the Winter Blues Party to target new attendees to Homecoming and to share knowledge of how and why to donate. President Jones-Price also shared that committee members would be present throughout the entire weekend to capture responses from alumni who wish to participate in the upcoming Why Do You W campaign.

### **2. Mentoring | Chair Kristie Metcalfe**

Chair Kristie shared that the committee hosted a successful B.L.U.E. event on Thursday, February 20, 2025, in the Pope Banquet Room which featured two keynote speakers and an online breakout room session. The committee also hosted the annual Spring Fling this weekend in which 40 students participated in receiving professional headshots, gift cards, and resume writing information from the partnership with the Career Services and Professional Development Center. The committee was also able to partner with the Women's College for a first ever speed networking opportunity between students and alums.

### **3. Strategy and Support | Chair Ashley Dean**

Chair Ashley shared that the committee completed most of their work in the Fall but have still been working on the Homecoming app and though it couldn't be launched this year, the committee has leads to prepare for Homecoming 2026. They were able to, however, update committee infographics that will hit social media next week following Homecoming and new buttons were recreated with the committee interest survey QR code to make for great conversational advertising this weekend. Ashley encourages all alums to .

### **4. One MUW | Chair Tekita Bankhead**

Chair Tekita shared that the committee has been doing steady but intentional work this year first securing an approved name change from Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to now be the One MUW Committee. The committee has also been working collaboratively on the new proposed W.G.U.I.L.D. recognition which stands for Graduates Upholding Innovation,

Leadership and Distinction. The idea for this award as it is built through this committee is to provide recognition for alumni that may fall in the middle of those award distinctions that are so specific, but this one is meant to reach a broader audience. Additionally, the committee are gearing up to launch their upcoming Regroup and Recharge Series to start on April 24th with its first topic as 'Taking the Next Steps after Graduation' and then in May and June the series will cover different generations in the workplace and the importance of Juneteenth respectively.

#### **5. Digital Marketing | Chair Clare Haefner**

Chair Clare shared that the committee has been busy promoting MUWAA initiatives across the different Board committees to include but not limit the introduction of the new board class, student scholarship recipients, the nominations and elections process, BLUE in addition to now Homecoming, Alumni Awards and Faculty Awards. All the promotions have paid off as analytics show our engagement and reach on Facebook significantly increased by 250% this last quarter ahead of the current one and projections show that it may be even higher in the next quarter due to Homecoming advertising. Instagram did experience an uptick as well though not as high as Facebook, but we are reaching more people with new accounts that were not following us previously. X remains hard to track analytics but across the platform usage is declining and that is reflected in our accounts as well. Lastly, Clare thanked committee member Jonathan Cumberland for all his help with the branding guidelines that were approved during yesterday's meeting.

#### **D. President's Report**

President Jones-Price thanked committee chairs and members for their collaboration in celebrating and enhancing the important work of our Association. While much of the progress of the Alumni Association happens within the board committees, it's essential to acknowledge the invaluable support they offer to our organization. Keeping up with the fast-paced agenda of the Association requires a high level of attention, responsiveness, and drive, and the Development & Alumni team handled this with excellence every year. President Jones-Price deeply appreciates the partnership, which only grows stronger with time. Thank you for ensuring the Association remains at the forefront.

President Jones-Price ended her report by reminding the association of her goals for the year to charge alumni with reassessing our individual alumni networks, assisting us to redesign alumni programming for all and discover collaborative approaches to early student engagement.

#### **VII. Presidential Commendations**

Each year, the MUWAA President may extend spirit awards recognizing individual contributors as a board member or committee chair that have gone above and beyond during their service year. Distinctive to this year are the Change Champion Awards.

##### **Change Champion in Board Vision Award**

- Clare Haefner, Digital Marketing Chair

- LeAnn Alexander, Recruitment and Retention Chair
- Tekita Bankhead, One MUW Chair

#### **Change Champion in Committee Drive**

- Cynthia Kittrell, Chapters and Constituency Groups Chair

#### **Change Champion in Community Spirit**

- Elysa MacLellan, Board Secretary

### **VIII. Recognition of 2025 Alumni Award Winners**

#### **Alumni Awards**

- Alumni Achievement Award: Kimberly Jobe, '85
- Alumni Service Award: Bridget Smith Ellis, '04
- Distinguished Achievement Award: Penny Mansell, '02
- Outstanding Recent Graduate Award: Tekita Bankhead, '12

#### **Student Scholarships**

- Isabela Commodore: Southern Grace
- Alexander Hall: Culinary Arts Advisory Board
- Precious Davis: First Generation
- Cain Petty: Office of Undergraduate Research
- Alicia Jefferson: Office of Undergraduate Research
- Jakaia Crockett: Office of Undergraduate Research

#### **Faculty Awards**

- Jared B. Quist: 2025 Faculty Enhancement Grant
- Stephanie Salvaterra: 2025 Faculty Enhancement Grant
- Dr. Sarah J. Poiani: 2025 New Faculty Award

### **IX. Recognition of Departing Board Members**

#### **Class of 2024 Departing Board Members**

- Heather Fasciocco Stone, '02 | Immediate Past President
- Anne Swearingen, '73
- Bayleigh Herron Vick, '16 & '20

- Phillip 'Flapp' Cockrell, '03
- Terry Gargano Coffey, '85
- Cynthia Williams Kittrell, '78

## **X. Installation of 2025-2026 MUWAA Officers and Board Members**

MUWAA Board of Directors to Serve the 2025-2028 Term:

- Carrie De Leon Niemet, '06
- Dr. Bridget Smith Pieschel, '79 & '81
- Sydney I. Pittman, '16
- Nicole C. Rensink, '22
- Terri S. Stewart, '86

President-Elect for the 2025-2026 Term:

- Bayleigh Herron Vick, '16 & 20

President for the 2025-2026 Term:

- Ashley Dean, '06

## **XI. Open Forum**

There were no discussion for Open Forum.

## **XII. Passing of the Gavel & Incoming President's Remarks**

President Jones-Price ceremoniously passed the gavel to incoming MUWAA President Ashley Dean. In return, Incoming President Ashley Dean presented Immediate Past-President Jermarra Jones-Price with her MUWAA Past President lapel pin. Immediate Past President Jermarra Jones-Price then yielded the floor for President Ashley Dean to address the association with her vision for the 2025-2026 Board Year.

## **XIII. President's Closing & Adjournment**

President Jones-Price began her closing remarks by addressing incoming President Ashley Dean with words of encouragement sharing that she looks forward to her headship as we continue honoring our W legacy through passion, pride and presence. She also shared four tips of success for her as she prepares to take office on July 1st. Finally, President Jones-Price presented a call to action for all attendees following adjournment to head over to the 4th Annual Magnolia Mingle to enjoy new food stations, a great DJ and a great evening of fun with fellow W friends and community.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

**Restricted Accounts – Activity through December 31, 2025**

<b>Fund Name (Fund Number)</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Revenue/ (Expense)</b>	<b>Balance (as of 12/31/25)</b>
Alumni Association Activities Fund (26062)	\$933.83	\$105.00 (-\$9,814.41) Net: \$9,919.41	\$10,853.24
Long Blue Line Auction Fund (26108)	\$25,018.53	\$37,723.30 (\$44,857.08) Net deficit: (\$7,133.78)	\$17,884.75
Mortar Board Faculty of the Year Award Fund (28107)	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
MUW Faculty Enhancements Grants Fund (28108)	\$893.34	\$0.00	\$893.34
MUW New Faculty of the Year Award Fund (28109)	\$2,685.28	\$0.00	\$2,685.28
BLUE Event Fund (28119)	\$7,677.91	\$0.00	\$7,677.91
LBL Undergraduate Research Scholarship Fund (28224)	\$1,064.24	\$1,000.00 (\$0.00) Net: \$1,000.00	\$2,064.24
Magnolia Mingle Event Fund (28238)	\$ 33,225.04	\$0.00 (\$10,000.00) Net deficit: (\$10,000.00)	\$23,225.04
MUWAA First Generation College Student Scholarship (28253)	\$3,615.00	\$1,625.00 (\$500.00) Net: \$1,125.00	\$4,740.00
The W Guild Fund (28304)	\$1,500.00	\$300.00 (\$0.00) Net \$300.00	\$1,800.00
<i>Total MUWAA Restricted Funds held at MUW Foundation:</i>	\$78,613.17	\$40,753.30 (\$45,542.67)	\$72,823.80

**Endowed Accounts**

<b>Account Name (Account Number)</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Culinary Arts Advisory Board Scholarship (35287)	\$21,022.11
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MUWAA New Faculty of the Year Award (36111)	\$25,000.00
MUW Legacy Scholarship Endowed (38051)	\$60,115.79
LBL Undergraduate Research Scholarship Endowment (38116)	\$25,000.00
<b>Total MUWAA Endowed Funds held at MUW Foundation</b>	<b>\$227,449.77</b>

\*Totals are as of 12/31/2025.

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Nominations and Elections

### Submitted by

Jermarra Jones-Price, Chair

### Committee Members

- Tina Morgan
- Kim Jobe
- Anghaarad Teague Dees
- Terry Gargano Coffey
- Ryan Ahrens (Alternate)

### Function of the Committee

This Committee shall be chaired by the Immediate Past President of the Association. This Committee shall be responsible for identifying, contacting, and nominating at least one candidate for the position of President-elect and every vacant Board directorship from among voting members of the Association. This Committee will also carry out the process for the nominations for the following year's Nominations & Elections Committee to be elected by the MUWAA Board of Directors.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Coordinated the nomination and election process for the 2029 Class for the MUWAA Board of Directors and the 2026-2027 President-Elect.
- Solicited no more than 10 candidate nominations to fill the four members and one alternate for the 2026-2027 Nominations & Elections Committee.
- Implemented the newly approved advanced timeline for the Nominations & Elections Committee.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- Created an extensive timeline to cover the year's goals in coordination with the alumni office.
- Created eye-catching save date and educational graphics for planned social media schedule of the separate nominations and elections seasons.
- Received 17 total recommendations for board service:
  1. 6 were not eligible to serve
  2. 4 received multiple nominations
  3. 11 were determined eligible to serve

4. 8 accepted their nomination to serve

- The committee selected a contested election style with 7 candidates for Board Director and 1 for President-elect.
- 160 eligible members voted for (1) President-elect and (5) Board Directors who will be sworn in during today's agenda.
- The certified results were shared with the MUWAA President, MUWAA Board of Directors and later with the association body.
- The new board to serve for the 2026-2027 Board year are:

### **President-Elect**

Bridget Smith Ellis, Class of 2004

### **Board of Directors**

Lynne Lott Schneider, Class of 1991

Leta DiGiuseppe Palmiter, Class of 1997

Ariel Seawell, Class of 2013 and 2023

Mary Beth Thorman, Class of 2019

Kristen Pate, Class of 2006

### **Acknowledgement of Committee Members**

- The entire committee has done an outstanding job this year lending their various leadership experience and years of service to make sure this committee created a ballot of well-rounded candidates. Their trusted opinions, visual collaborations, and valuable time are greatly appreciated.

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

- Be sure to take advantage of the designated email address created for this committee to keep archived records of correspondence for annual reference throughout both the nominations and elections seasons.

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Bylaws

### Submitted by

Debra Sturgis-Stamps, Chair

### Committee Members

- Terry Gargano Coffey
- Spence Andrews
- Jmarkus Dubose
- Del Ohms
- Vanita Phinisey

### Function of the Committee

This Committee is responsible for reviewing the Bylaws and recommending changes when necessary to the Board of Directors and ensuring Policies & Procedures are in keeping with Bylaws.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Review the bylaws to ensure they reflect the current mission, structure, and operational needs of the Alumni Association, and propose updates as needed.
- Develop and distribute simplified summaries or FAQs to help board members and alumni better understand key bylaws, especially those related to governance, elections, and committee functions.
- Examine the Bylaws and Policies & Procedures documents for grammatical accuracy, clear language, and potential improvements to ensure consistency and clarity across all governing documents.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- Updated Bylaws and Policies and Procedures to be ADA compliant.
- Worked with the One MUW and Recruitment and Retention Committee on Policies and Procedure updates for W.G.U.I.L.D. and MUWAA Alumni Awards to propose changes and updates.
- Proposed changes to Appendix F to rename the appendix “MUWAA Fundraisers and Events” to include the Long Blue Line Auction, B.L.U.E. (Building Leadership Understanding, and Education), and Magnolia Mingle.

**Acknowledgement of Committee Members**

**Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2026-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Recruitment and Retention

### Submitted by

LeAnn Alexander, Chair

### Committee Members

- Turquoise Holmes
- Lamon Stapleton
- Cydney Archie
- Nicole Rensink
- TaNaya Cooks
- Deja Townsend
- Kristopher Sullivan

### Function of the Committee

This Committee shall support the University in coordination with the Vice President for Student Services in the University's recruitment and retention of students and faculty. This Committee will be responsible for identifying and recognizing the various faculty awards and grants, as well as the student scholarships awarded by the Association.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Adhere to the Policies & Procedures to present and promote a slate of alumni award nominees, meeting the timeline of the first week of November.
- Partner with the Public Relations and Digital Marketing Committees to elevate digital visibility for Faculty Grant recipients, Student Scholarship winners, and Alumni Award honorees.
- Research and propose a name change to the MUWAA Board that more accurately reflects the committee's purpose and mission.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- Oversaw the Alumni Awards Process by following the timeline set forth.
- Created spreadsheet of all nominees and divided out names to each committee member to contact and request appropriate information. Additionally, each committee member was responsible for notifying winners and non-winners
- Coordinated with MUW Provost to ensure select of Faculty Awards and Grants was completed.
- Coordinated with MUW Alumni Relations to select Student Scholarship Committee.

- Coordinated with PR Committee and Digital Media committee to ensure proper marketing and promotion was executed for all tasks and recognitions.

### **Acknowledgement of Committee Members**

- The committee members did a phenomenal job sticking to deadlines and completing tasks assigned to them.

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

- Recommendation for updated contact method for award nominees.

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Chapters and Constituency Groups

### Submitted by

Ariel Keon Seawell, Chair

### Committee Members

- Anne Foster
- Terry Coffey
- Brandi Pillow
- Brynn Morgan

New Group Formation Sub Committee

- Mary Beth Thorman
- Lyndsey Cumberland
- Del Hamilton
- Clare Haefner

### Function of the Committee

To increase active participation in the Association and develop chapters and constituency groups in coordination with the University's Director of Alumni Relations.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Continue to maintain contact and up-to-date information on existing groups.
- Increase traffic to the Google Form to establish new groups.
- Encourage alumni participation in localized/digital group settings.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- Several alumni events have been held across several states. Will be using some photos to showcase the fun in social posts.
- Central Florida is working on a second meeting for the fiscal year.
- Sarah Kackley has reached out with more interest in a Blues/Owls CG, Ariel has been in contact on best ways to get started with outreach.
- Continued work on a Charlotte, NC group.

### **Acknowledgement of Committee Members**

- Everyone on the team has participated in all activities, especially with updating the list of current groups. We have maintained contact with these groups and are available to help them in any way they request. This has been an amazing team of alums!

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: Year Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Special Events

### Submitted by

Kristen Pate, Chair

### Committee Members

LBL Auction Sub Committee (Fall 2025):

- Kristen Pate (Chair)
- Elysa Harvey Maclellan
- Bridgett Smith Ellis
- Pooja Shaunak
- Dustin Nolan
- Mandy Patrick Brownlee
- April Sylvia
- Meagan Backes

Magnolia Mingle Sub Committee (Spring 2026)

- Kristen Pate (Chair)
- Pooja Shaunak (Co-Chair)
- Elysa Harvey Maclellan
- Bridgett Smith Ellis
- Dustin Nolan
- Mandy Patrick Brownlee
- April Sylvia
- Meagan Backes

### Function of the Committee

This Committee shall assist in coordinating the participation of Association members in support of formal programs and special activities planned by the Association President or the University. The committee will consult with the University's Director of Alumni Relations regarding these events.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Host Signature Fundraising Events: Plan and execute the 13th Annual Long Blue Line Auction in Fall 2025 and the 5th Annual Magnolia Mingle during Spring 2026 Homecoming.
- Onboard and utilize a new Long Blue Line Auction Fundraising Intern to assist with planning, inventory management, and coordination of auction items and logistics.

- Collaborate with the Digital Marketing and Public Relations Committees to launch a post-auction online campaign that highlights unique bidding stories and donor engagement.

### **Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year**

- Successfully raised over \$26,000 during the Long Blue Line Auction
- Plan, coordinated, and will execute Magnolia Mingle during Homecoming 2026
- Integrated a digital drawdown platform for this years Magnolia Mingle

### **Acknowledgement of Committee Members**

- Bridget Smith Ellis has been very instrumental in supporting both the Long Blue Line Auction and Magnolia Mingle with social media and coordinating a multitude of things behind the scenes.

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

- It is never too early to start planning the Long Blue Line Auction and Magnolia Mingle.

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Finance

### Submitted by

Dana Jackson, Chair

### Committee Members

- Sunshine Bradshaw Burgess
- Sheila Vickery
- Terri Stewart
- Madeline Gardner

### Function of the Committee

This Committee develops and manages a budget for the Association and ensures the Association complies with the provisions in the Affiliation Agreement related to finance.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Provide the Board with quarterly updates regarding Association funds and accounts.
- In accordance with the Bylaws, develop and manage the Association's budget and ensure that the Association complies.
- Collaborate with the Membership Recruitment Committee to email the general membership with information about giving categories and how to support the Association.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- Dana Jackson, Ashley Dean, Cathryn Borer and Bailey Vick met virtually on January 24, 2026, after the Winter Board Meeting to discuss the budget process and funds.
- The Finance Committee met on February 9, 2026, via Teams to discuss the current budget process and review the financial reports.
- From the Committee meeting, several questions and action items were created.
- We are in the process of going through the answers that we've received and following up on outstanding questions.
- We will continue to work through email and meetings to provide our recommendations on a budget for 2026/2027 and implement a process for the budget going forward.

### Acknowledgement of Committee Members

- The depth of knowledge and experience of accounting and budgeting held within this committee is outstanding. Most of the members have been involved in budgeting for universities or government agencies.

### Recommendations for Next Year's Committee

None at this time.

### Check Requests

Check requests approved for payment to date from July 1, 2025 to March 24, 2026:

<b>Fund Number - Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
28119 – BLUE Event Fund	8/1/25	Sodexo for Spring Fling Snacks	\$249.25
26062 – MUWAA Activities Fund	8/7/25	Student Graduation Gifts	\$2,000.00
26108 – LBLA Fund	8/14/25	28253 MUWAA First Generation College Student Scholarship (Restricted)	\$1,000.00
26108 – LBLA Fund	8/14/25	28224 LBL Undergraduate Research Fund Restricted	\$1,000.00
26108 – LBLA Fund	8/14/25	MUW Foundation Shattuck Fund	\$10,000.00
28238 – Magnolia Mingle Fund	8/14/25	MUW Foundation Shattuck Fund	\$10,000.00
26108 – Long Blue Line Auction Fund	10/9/25	Reimbursed LBLA Expenses to Ashley Dean (Advertising, Signage, & Shipping Fees Line in Budget)	\$226.60
26062 – Alumni Association Activities Fund	10/9/25	July – September Travel Expenses for Ashley Dean (Travel Line in Budget)	\$249.50

<b>Fund Number - Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
26108 – Long Blue Line Auction Fund	12/1/25	26062 Alumni Association Activities Fund (Restricted Account)	\$16,500.00
28238 – Magnolia Mingle Event Fund	3/11/26	Cups and Koozies for Magnolia Mingle Event (Magnolia Mingle Cups and Koozies Line item)	\$701.47
26062 – Alumni Association Activities Fund	3/12/26	Lanyards for Homecoming (Professional Development Line Item)	\$264.81
28119 – BLUE Event Fund	3/18/26	Flowers for BLUE Event	\$321.00
36109 – MUWAA Faculty Enhancement Grant	3/19/26	Jill Drouillard	\$500.00
36109 – MUWAA Faculty Enhancement Grant	3/19/26	Nora Corrigan	\$500.00
26062 – Alumni Association Activities Fund	3/23/26	MUWAA Ad in Spectator (Advertising Line Item)	\$135.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$51,426.78</b>

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Public Relations

### Submitted by

Troy Lewis, Chair

### Committee Members

- Mandy Bowers
- Cordie Forrester
- Madeline Giancola
- Clare Haefner
- Lynne Lott Schneider
- Pooja Shaunak
- Elizabeth Yoste Whittington

### Function of the Committee

This Committee shall, in coordination with the University's Director of Alumni Relations, create, produce and disseminate information on behalf of the Association and work to project a positive image of MUW, the Association, and former students. Key Goal: To focus on print and press release aspects of marketing and public relations for the MUWAA and work in tandem with the Digital Marketing Committee.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Promote MUWAA annual, special, and committee-led events, as well as award recipients, through press releases and print advertising, with a focus on outlets like The Long Blue Line Magazine.
- Continue utilizing print advertisements and guest authorship opportunities in The Spectator, especially to highlight the Board year kickoff and Homecoming activities.
- Collaborate with the Chapters and Constituency Group Committee to spotlight new chapter launches, ongoing chapter events, and membership interest through quarterly publications such as Visions.
- Explore the development of a publication directory and annual timeline to guide future PR leaders in planning and sequencing print campaigns and press releases.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- Held a kick-off meeting in September 2025 to introduce the committee members, then discuss orientation, functions, and goals.
- Further activities were conducted via email between committee members, representatives of the MUWAA board and committees, and *The Spectator* staff.

- Completed a News Release for the Long Blue Line Auction in coordination with the Special Events Committee.
- Completed a News Release announcing the new MUWAA President and Board members for the 2025-2026 Board Year.
- Completed a News Release recognizing the annual MUWAA Scholarship Award winners.
- Completed a News Release for the BLUE event in coordination with the Mentoring Committee.
- Coordinated for an ad in the November 2025 edition of *The Spectator* recognizing December graduates.
- Completed a News Release announcing the results of elections for the new MUWAA President and Board members for the 2026-2027 Board Year.
- Coordinated for ads in the March and April 2026 editions of *The Spectator* for Homecoming, MUWAA Scholarships, and celebrating Spring graduates.
- Completed a News Release for the 2026 MUWAA Faculty Awards in coordination with the Recruitment and Retention Committee.

### **Acknowledgement of Committee Members**

- Accolades to Clare Haefner for her readiness with Digital Marketing Committee support to ads for *The Spectator*.
- Accolades to Elizabeth Yoste Whittington for a quick turnaround on multiple draft news releases throughout the year.

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

- Our committee did not explore print outlets outside of *The Spectator* this year as proposed in the goals. Recommend that be pursued further next year.
- Our committee did not actively coordinate with the Chapters and Constituency Committee on chapter events that could be highlighted through additional news releases. Recommend that be pursued further next year.
- Lessons learned for next year: hold the initial committee meeting earlier than we did (September) to have plenty of time to evaluate goals and make progress.

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Past Presidents

### Submitted by

Heather Fasciocco Stone, Chair

### Committee Members

- Lynne Bryson Curtis
- Kristi Hipp Mosley
- Cheryl Jackson Cooper
- Emily Myers Garner
- Rebecca Rogers
- Jermarra Jones-Price, IPP

### Function of the Committee

This committee serves as a support and advisory group for the current President and Board of Directors.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Committee goals included hosting a Past Presidents Brunch, restocking Homecoming Ribbons, coordinating the inaugural Past Presidents Gavel Pass at HC Convocation and continuing the refresh of Puckett House.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- In addition to hosting the Past Presidents Brunch during Welty Weekend (see attached photo), the committee hosted a private tour of the Nursing Department and participated in the 2025 Long Blue Line Auction as a Champion Sponsor.
- Committee digitized Homecoming ribbon inventory for future vendor requests, and supported MUWAA President Ashley Dean's vision of introducing a new Past President tradition of Passing the Gavel during Homecoming Convocation.

### Acknowledgement of Committee Members

- Special thanks to the MUW Alumni Office, Director Cathryn Borer, student staff and committee. New initiatives and processes required prompt responses and detailed coordination – all were met with smiles and an enthusiastic “Yes”!

### Recommendations for Next Year's Committee

- Recommend to MUWAA President to consider allocating funds in the MUWAA budget or within Foundation to cover the cost of Homecoming Ribbons or coordinate with new Committee Chair to host a ribbon sponsor drive.
- NOTE: The Past President Committee fund is based on Past President donations, is not governed by MUWAA and historically sponsors MUWAA events like the Auction or B.L.U.E. Therefore, larger expenditures like the HC ribbons reorder create barriers to the mission and purpose of MUWAA Past Presidents Fund and limits the fund's sustainability.



# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Membership Recruitment

### Submitted by

Annie Oeth, Chair

### Committee Members

- Marilyn Young Ford
- Brandy Larmon
- Torialyn Draper-Cook
- Leta Palmiter
- Audra Odom
- Andrea Germany
- Brynn Morgan
- Monique Jenkins (past chair)

### Function of the Committee

This committee will focus on growing our membership and its participation in Association and University activities. This committee will also seek to actively engage our most recent graduates in Association and University activities.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Each One Reach One membership recruitment campaign
- Ordered MUWAA travel mugs for graduates.
- Students vs. Alumni Line-Dancing Competition during Homecoming 2026
- Why Do You W? social media campaign launching April 13, 2026

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- Each One Reach One campaign successfully launched during the first week of September 2025
- Graduate gifts from MUWAA ordered and distributed
- Students vs. Alumni Line-Dancing Competition enjoyed by students and MUWAA members/alumni
- Why Do You W? posts are being designed by our Digital Marketing Committee. Please send in your comments and photo or phone video to join in. A flyer about this is in your Homecoming bag.

### **Acknowledgement of Committee Members**

- Monique Jenkins, past chair, has been a great guide and mentor to keep the membership going and growing.
- Brynn Morgan was the first to share Why Do You W? info and continues to show MUW energy in working toward our goals.

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

- MUWAA Membership Recruitment is vitally important to the future of MUW. Despite Membership Recruitment efforts over the past two years, membership in MUWAA has declined 17% from FY 2023 (2,018) to FY 2025 (1,667). FY 2024 membership was 1,795.
- MUWAA members are essential to membership growth. It can't be accomplished only by the Membership Recruitment Committee.
- Each One Reach One and Why Do You W? should be continued as social media campaigns – Each One Reach One in the fall and Why Do You W? in the spring, following Homecoming.
- The Students vs. Alumni Line-Dancing Competition brought the current and future Long Blue Line members together for an hour of fun and should be continued.
- Collaboration with Digital Marketing and Chapters & Constituency Groups committees helps keep members and future members engaged.

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2026-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Mentoring

### Submitted by

Bridget Smith Pieschel, Chair

### Committee Members

- Sonny Lemmons
- Lynn Lott Schneider
- Audra Odom
- Trey Harper
- Brandy Larmon
- Terry Coffey

### Function of the Committee

The Committee will work to strengthen the relationship with current students, cultivating them for active membership in the Association upon their graduation. The committee will be tasked with planning and executing events or programs directly related to this mission.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Plan and execute the 9th Annual B.L.U.E. Networking Event with a focus on student professional development. The event will feature a relevant, engaging theme, a diverse panel of alumni speakers, and a compelling keynote presenter.
- Partner with the Digital Marketing and Public Relations Committees to build anticipation for B.L.U.E. by developing a social media campaign, including a “Save the Date” announcement by October of the fall semester
- Collaborate with the Women’s College to establish an alumni mentoring network and actively promote the Spring Fling mentoring event held during Homecoming.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- We achieved a successful B.L.U.E. Event February 19th. There were over 60 alumni and students registered.
- We have planned Spring Fling at Homecoming.

### Acknowledgement of Committee Members

- Committee members brainstormed to create the theme for this year.

- The panelists said they were particularly interested in telling their stories related to the team.
- Committee members shared with me ideas about who to invite as panelists. Thanks to them, I have several names of people who told me, "Ask me again."

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

- Call a ZOOM meeting within Two months of Homecoming. Don't wait until October, as I did.
- Meet with the MUW president and Cathryn Borer in July. The beginning of the fall semester is too busy for MUW staff members.

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Strategy and Support

### Submitted by

Bayleigh Herron Vick, Chair

### Committee Members

- Bayleigh Vick
- Carrie De Leon Niemet
- Bridget Smith Pieschel
- Sydney Pittman
- Nicole Rensink
- Terri Stewart

### Function of the Committee

The Strategy and Support Committee, led by the President-Elect and composed of 4–5 MUWAA Board Members appointed by the President, supports the University’s strategic initiatives by maximizing volunteer engagement and aligning board efforts with institutional priorities.

### Initiatives Executed This Year

- Board Engagement & Feedback Initiative: Distributed and analyzed the Year-End Board Service Survey to gather insights and improve board experience.
- Whova Platform Implementation: Researched, selected, and launched Whova as the Homecoming 2026 app, including onboarding, setup, and communication strategy.
- Homecoming Communication & Engagement Strategy: Partnered with DMC to promote Homecoming and Whova across social, email, and in-app messaging.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments

- Achieved all committee goals for the year.
- Launched Whova as a centralized communication and engagement platform.
- Increased board and alumni engagement through communication strategies and digital tools.
- Enhanced collaboration with campus partners and DMC.
- Established a scalable model for future event communication and engagement efforts.

### Acknowledgement of Committee Members

- Committee members demonstrated exceptional leadership and collaboration.

- Their efforts were instrumental in achieving the committee's goals and elevating the Homecoming experience.
- Special recognition to DMC for their creativity and execution of a strong social media campaign.

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

- Continue leveraging Whova or similar platforms for future events.
- Begin platform setup and communication campaigns earlier to maximize adoption.
- Use data and feedback to refine communication strategies and improve user experience.
- Maintain consistent board engagement initiatives.
- Explore additional ways to integrate digital tools with alumni programming.

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

One MUW

### Submitted by

Sonny Lemmons, Chair

### Committee Members

- Sydney Pittman (board)
- Jermarra Jones-Price (PP)
- Natalie Hoyt
- Katie Nelson
- Torialyn Draper-Cook
- Jianwen Jackson
- Ariel Sewell
- Grace Gibbons
- Janet Watson
- Kris Sullivan
- Elois Smith

### Function of the Committee

This committee shall work to cultivate stronger relationships with alumni of all lived experiences to enjoy a collective environment of representation, support, and engagement while cultivating intentional opportunities for personal and professional growth.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Continue to develop and host the One MUW Speaker Series, providing meaningful engagement opportunities for the MUWAA Board of Directors, alumni, and students.
- Present and promote a slate of alumni award nominees for the inaugural cohort of The W G.U.I.L.D., adhering to the early August nominations submission timeline.
- Collaborate with the MUWAA Public Relations and Digital Marketing Committees to enhance digital recognition and visibility of The W G.U.I.L.D. Alumni Program.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- Successfully launched the inaugural W Guild alumni program in August 2025.
- The award's first cycle yielded 30 total nominations with 13 honorees being confirmed as the inaugural cohort.
- Curated graphics were created and distributed to the Digital Marketing Committee for promotion across all MUWAA social media platforms.

- Formal invitations have been sent to all inaugural W Guild honorees for the private reception.
- All speakers, catering and physical awards have been confirmed and received.
- Formal programs for the private reception have been created and shared with the Alumni Office for print.
- Detailed graphics have been created and shared with the Digital Marketing Committee for social media advertisement leading up to Homecoming.
- Created and shared the Save Date graphic for the upcoming Spring Visions release.

### **Acknowledgement of Committee Members**

- Thank you to Immediate Past President and committee member Jermarra Jones-Price for her assistance in launching the inaugural W Guild cycle which originated under her presidential term.

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

- Launching the W Guild award program in July will solidify stationary placement of all alumni awards in the Fall semester.
- Finding a spot towards the end of the fiscal year will better assist in promoting the W Guild fund for future donations.

# MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Year-End Committee Report: 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

### Committee Name

Digital Marketing

### Submitted by

Clare Haefner, Chair

### Committee Members

- Jonathan Cumberland, Board member
- Troy Lewis
- Bridget Smith Ellis
- Kelsey Cockrell
- Kris Sullivan
- Monica Vandenbranden Abner

### Function of the Committee

This Committee shall, in coordination with the University's Director of Alumni Relations and alignment with MUWAA Public Relations Committee, create, produce and disseminate digital and social media information on behalf of the Association and work to project a positive image of MUW, the Association, and former students.

### Initiatives Executed by the Committee This Year

- Promoting MUWAA events and activities, sharing the story of alumni, chapter and constituency groups, the Board and its Committees on Facebook, Instagram and X.
- Working with other committees to promote key campaigns and initiatives, including Alumni Awards, Board Elections & Nominations, the Long Blue Line Auction, Magnolia Mingle and Homecoming, B.L.U.E., Why Do You W?, and the W Guild Awards.

### Summary of Committee Accomplishments This Year

- We continue to expand MUWAA's reach on social media, seeing gains in impressions and engagement, especially on Facebook and Instagram.
- We increased the number of reels and stories used on Facebook and Instagram to reach alumni in as many ways as we can.
- We are working to make all social media content ADA compliant.

### Acknowledgement of Committee Members

- Bridget Smith Ellis took on the task of creating posts for Magnolia Mingle and Long Blue Line Auction, ensuring they follow our new branding guidelines and expanded our use of stories and reels to create more video content.

### **Recommendations for Next Year's Committee**

- Continue working to increase engagement on our social media channels, growing our followers, post likes and creating a vibrant online community for alumni to connect.
- Survey alumni to see whether we should begin using other platforms, such as Bluesky or TikTok, to reach more alumni, and whether X remains a useful platform. We also will look at whether our event-specific social media accounts, for Long Blue Line Auction, Magnolia Mingle and BLUE are beneficial or if they should be absorbed into the main MUWAA channels.