

MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cochran Hall, Third Floor  
Saturday, October 25, 2014

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Jenny Katool called the meeting to order at 2:16.

II. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

III. ROLL CALL

The roll was called. MUW Alumni Association Board Members present:

Jenny Katool, President	Stephen Taylor
Amy Strickland Tate, President-Elect	Elizabeth Whittington (by teleconference and present)
Malinda Mabry-Scott, Treasurer	Brandy Burnette
Katy Canion Pacelli, Secretary	Carrie Pate
Cheryl Jackson Cooper, Immediate Past President	Chris Halbrooks (by teleconference)
Ruth Pettey Jones, MUW Foundation Chairman	Troy Lewis
Gus Argrett	Wanda Ray
David Ivey (by teleconference)	Wesley House Garrett, Parliamentarian
Katherine Shell Benson	
Barbara Austin	

MUW Alumni Association Board Members absent:

Donna Marrero  
Mary Libby Payne

Ex-officio Members of the MUW Alumni Association Board present:

Andrea Nester Stevens, Executive Director of the Development and Alumni, in the absence of Lyndsay Cumberland, Director of Alumni Relations

Guests present:

Erin Gioia  
Deborah Hodges  
Amy J. Johnson  
Beverly Koch Jones  
Courtney Murtaugh

Amy Strickland Tate moved to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ruth Jones moved that the minutes of the Board meeting on 7/19/2014 be approved with changes. The motion carried.

## V. ALUMNI OFFICE REPORT

Andrea Stevens gave the report in the absence of Lyndsay Cumberland. For the fiscal year 2014, ending June 30, there were 1,904 total donors to the Foundation. Of those donors, 1,653 were alumni, and of that number 1,217 gave \$40 or more, making them active members of the Alumni Association. Our alumni participation rate is 8%, which is an increase but below the national average. Andrea reviewed the fall chapter events with the MUW Chamber Singers, encouraged the board to join the online community and announced that there would be an alumni trip to Scotland and England in June of 2015.

## VI. MUWAA OFFICERS' REPORTS

Malinda Mabry-Scott, Treasurer reviewed the account balances.

## VII. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominations Committee – Moved to unfinished business.

Recruitment & Retention Committee – Courtney Ballard Murtaugh, Chair, presented proposed changes to the Policies and Procedures, Appendix C: Alumni Awards and Appendix D: Scholarships/Grants.

Jenny moved to insert into Appendix C: An alumna can only receive the Distinguished Achievement Award and Alumni Service Award once in their lifetime. Motion carried.

Jenny moved to insert into Appendix C: Board members are not eligible for an Alumni Award while serving on the MUWAA Board. However, the MUWAA President may award a board member an Outstanding Achievement Award if that board member has achieved professional distinction and/or made significant community service contributions at the local, national and/or international level, bringing distinction and honor to the university. Motion carried.

Jenny moved to insert in Appendix C the word active in the following sentence: All active members of the MUW Alumni Association, the University Cabinet, and the University Deans may make nominations using the standard nomination form provided. Motion carried.

Jenny moved to insert in Appendix D the following statement in each scholarship (Legacy, Southern Grace, and Culinary Arts Advisory Board): The MUW Alumni Association President will send a letter to the applicants who did not receive the scholarship. Motion carried.

Chapters & Constituency Groups Committee - Katy Canion Pacelli, Chair, reminded the Board members that The Chapter Development Workshop will be held in conjunction with our winter board meeting on January 24. A draft schedule is included in the packet. Katy encouraged all Board members to invite everyone in their chapter to attend.

Katy also shared that a contact has been established for most of the alumni Facebook groups that are connected to the W. We have created a calendar of information to be pushed out through the groups to potentially reach alumni we are not currently reaching.

Special Events Committee – Katherine Shell Benson, Chair, reminded Board members that we are being asked to donate at least one item to the silent auction. The committee has also reached out to each alumni chapter asking them to donate a basket showcasing their city/area.

Finance Committee – Malinda Mabry-Scott, Chair, moved that we take \$15,000 from the Alumni Restricted Account and \$4,000 from the Legacy Scholarship Fund to start the Legacy Scholarship endowment with \$19,000. Motion carried.

Public Relations Committee – Elizabeth Whittington, Chair, reported that we have purchased advertising in The Spectator for Welty Weekend and December Graduation. Additionally, the Meet the Board series will begin soon and will continue through March 2015.

#### VIII. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Southern Grace Committee – Gus Argrett, Chair, reported that Andrea Stevens has been selling Southern Grace at the events where the Choir has been featured. Additionally, Gus reported that reporting of scholarship amounts is going to be transferred to the Treasurer. Lastly, a series of ads have been created to promote Southern Grace on social media, and an ad will be in Visions.

#### IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Immediate Past President Sherrie Cooper presented a draft timeline, policies and procedure, call for candidates, candidate recommendation form, and candidate information form for the nominations and elections process. Sherrie asked that we share any suggestions for ensuring that we have diversity in our selections.

#### X. NEW BUSINESS

Ratification of Email Votes:

Jenny moved to change the application priority deadline for the Southern Grace Scholarship from August 31 to April 1. Motion carried.

Jenny moved to approve an additional \$122 in order to pay Board Insurance of \$872. Motion carried.

#### XI. OPEN FORUM

Jenny welcomed guests to the meeting and asked for comments.

There was a discussion on committee appointments, alumni awards, notification of board meetings, and inviting chapter presidents to attend board meetings.

#### XII. PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS

Jenny encouraged the Board Members who are Mississippi residents to buy the new W car tag and promote them to fellow alumni.

Jenny also encouraged Board members to attend the Chapter Development Workshop in January.

Jenny declared the meeting adjourned at 3:37.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katy Canion Pacelli, Secretary