

**MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
2026-2027 STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

STANDING COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION	COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Nominations and Elections Committee Chair: Ashley Dean Board Office: MUWAA Immediate Past President <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Solicit nominations for all four positions on the Nominations & Elections Committee and present a ballot of no more than 10 candidates for Board selection. 2. Coordinate the nomination and election process for the 2030 class of the MUWAA Board of Directors and the 2027–2028 President-Elect.	This Committee shall be chaired by the Immediate Past President of the Association. The Board of Directors will elect four voting members of the Association to serve on this Committee, with input from the University's Director of Alumni Relations. 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.	1. Ashley Dean (Chair) 2. Troy Lewis 3. LeAnn Alexander 4. Annie Oeth 5. Wilkedria Davis 6. Courtney Murtaugh (Alternate)
Bylaws Committee Chair: Annie Oeth <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Continuing to review the Bylaws and Policies & Procedures to ensure they accurately reflect who we are as an organization and how we operate. 2. Creating easy-to-understand summaries, FAQs, or quick-reference guides that help board members and alumni better understand our governance structure, elections, committee responsibilities, and board operations. 3. Looking for opportunities to improve clarity, accessibility, consistency, and organization within our governing documents.	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.	1. Annie Oeth (Chair) 2. Dana Jackson (Board) 3. Nicole Rensink (Board) 4. Kristopher Sullivan 5. Anghaarad Teague Dees

4. Partnering with Strategy & Support as they evaluate committee structures and board processes to ensure our governing documents continue to support the future needs of the Association.		
Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair: Terri Stewart <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Administer and promote MUWAA scholarships, grants, faculty awards, and alumni awards in accordance with established timelines and procedures while ensuring a positive experience for nominees and recipients. 2. Increase awareness and recognition of award recipients, honorees, and MUWAA-supported programs through collaboration with the Public Relations and Digital Marketing Committees. 3. Evaluate the committee's purpose, structure, responsibilities, and current name, and develop recommendations for how the committee can best support MUWAA's mission moving forward, including proposing a name that more accurately reflects the committee's work and impact.	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 scholarships awarded by the Association.	1. Terri Stewart (Chair) 2. Lynne Lott Schneider (Board) 3. Lamon Stapleton 4. Kristopher Sullivan 5. Angh Teague Dees 6. Kacey Keeton 7. Winnie Clegg
Chapters and Constituency Groups Committee Chair: Nicole Rensink <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Support and strengthen existing chapters and constituency groups by providing resources, communication, and guidance	This Committee shall work to increase active participation in the Association and shall develop chapters and constituent groups in coordination with the University's Director of Alumni Relations.	1. Nicole Rensink (Chair) 2. Anne Foster (Board) 3. Allison Topcik 4. Brynn Morgan 5. Amelia Smith 6. Emma Morrison

Special Events initiatives and launch a post-auction campaign highlighting donor generosity, unique bidding stories, and the impact of alumni support.		
Finance Committee Chair: Dana Jackson Board Office: MUWAA Treasurer <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Provide the Board with quarterly updates regarding Association funds, accounts, investments, and budget performance. 2. In accordance with the Bylaws and Affiliation Agreement, develop, manage, and monitor the Association's budget while ensuring compliance with all financial obligations. 3. Collaborate with the Membership Recruitment Committee to educate alumni about giving opportunities, giving categories, and ways to support the Association.	This Committee develops and manages a budget for the Association and ensures that the Association complies with the provisions in the Affiliation Agreement related to finance.	1. Dana Jackson (Chair) 2. Terri Stewart (Board) 3. Melinda Mabry-Scott 4. Jennifer Thompson 5. Jill Wood
Public Relations Committee Chair: Lynne Lott Schneider <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Promote MUWAA events, programs, award recipients, and initiatives through press releases, print publications, and media outreach. 2. Serve as MUWAA's primary print and press-release communications team while working in tandem with the Digital Marketing Committee to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to alumni communications. 3. Collaborate with the Chapters & Constituencies Committee to spotlight new	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.	1. Lynne Lott Schneider (Chair) 2. Clare Heafner (Board) 3. Madeline Giancola 4. Pooja Shaunak 5. Michelle Wescovich 6. Elizabeth Whittington

chapter launches, constituency group initiatives, alumni engagement opportunities, and membership interest through publications such as Visions and other alumni communications. 4. Develop and maintain a publication directory and annual communications timeline to help future committee leaders plan, organize, and sequence print campaigns, advertising opportunities, and press releases more efficiently.		
Past Presidents Committee Chair: Jermarra Jones-Price <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Continue supporting the refresh and enhancement of the Puckett House while identifying opportunities to preserve and celebrate MUWAA history and traditions. 2. Host a Past Presidents gathering to foster connection, recognition, and continued engagement among MUWAA's past leaders. 3. Plan and coordinate the Gavel Pass of Past Presidents during Convocation as a meaningful celebration of leadership and service.	This Committee serves as a support and advisory group for the current President and Board of Directors.	1. Jermarra Jones-Price (Chair) 2. Ashley Dean (IPP) 3. Heather Fasciocco Stone 4. Anghaarad Teague Dees 5. Susan Rayner Puckett 6. Ricki Rayner Garrett 7. Lynne Curtis 8. Symone Bounds
SPECIAL COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION	COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Membership Recruitment Committee Chair: Carrie Niemet <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Strengthen connections between students, recent graduates, and alumni by welcoming new Long Blue Line members at commencement, distributing the official MUWAA gift, and creating opportunities for	The Committee aims to grow membership and encourage participation in the Association and University activities by educating new graduates about the Association, hosting a membership drive to re-engage current alumni and recruit new members, and supporting University activities and events as needed.	1. Carrie Niemet (Chair) 2. Sydney Pittman (Board) 3. Nicole Rensink (Board) 4. Kristopher Sullivan 5. Monique Jenkins

lifelong engagement with The W and the Association. 2. Continue and expand alumni engagement initiatives such as <i>Each One Reach One</i>, <i>Why Do You W?</i>, and the Alumni vs. Student Line Dancing Competition to encourage alumni participation, foster meaningful relationships, and celebrate the MUW experience with a goal of reaching 3,000 active members during the 2026-2027 fiscal year. 3. Partner with the Finance, Chapters & Constituencies, and Digital Marketing Committees to promote membership benefits, chapter involvement, alumni engagement opportunities, and develop targeted communication highlighting giving categories and ways alumni can support MUWAA.		
Mentoring Committee Chair: Bridget Smith Pieschel <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Plan and execute the 10th Annual B.L.U.E. Networking Event with a focus on student professional development. The event should feature a relevant and engaging theme, a diverse panel of alumni speakers, and a compelling keynote presenter while creating meaningful opportunities for students to connect with alumni. Collaborate with the Digital Marketing and Public Relations Committees to publicize the event through social media, press releases, and a Save the Date campaign with a goal of launching	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.	1. Bridget Smith Pieschel (Chair) 2. Ariel Seawell (Board) 3. Sydney Pittman (Board) 4. Kris Sullivan 5. Brandy Larmon 6. Deanisha Hopson 7. Audra Odom 8. Sonny Lemmons 9. Kacey Keeton 10. Terry Coffey

by October 2026. 2. Collaborate with the Women's College, academic departments, Chapters & Constituencies Committee, and other MUWAA committees to strengthen mentoring opportunities and create meaningful connections between students and alumni. 3. Support and promote Spring Fling mentoring activities while exploring additional opportunities for alumni to share professional experiences, networking advice, and career guidance with current students.		
Strategy and Support Committee Chair: Bridget Ellis Board Office: President-Elect <u>Goals for the 2025-2026 Board Year</u> 1. Distribute the Year-End Board Service Survey to all 2025-2026 Board Members to gather feedback and insights 2. Build on the success of our Whova pilot and identify ways to make the Homecoming experience even better 3. Prepare and distribute the 2026-2027 Committee Interest Survey 4. Take a fresh look at MUWAA's committee structure and processes to identify opportunities to streamline, reduce overlap, and help the organization work even more effectively	The Strategy and Support Committee, led by the President-Elect of the Association and composed of 4-5 MUWAA Board Members appointed by the President of the Association, capitalizes on the University's strategic planning process with goals of maximizing volunteer support for the mission and vision of the University and focuses on collaboration with institutional initiatives if members concur.	1. Bridget Smith Ellis (Chair) 2. Leta Palmiter (Board) 3. Kristen Pate (Board) 4. Lynn Lott Schneider (Board) 5. Ariel Seawell (Board) 6. Mary Beth Thorman (Board)
One MUW Committee	This committee shall work to cultivate stronger	1. Kimberly Griffin (Chair)

Chair: Kimberly Griffin <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Evaluate and refine the mission, purpose, and long-term vision of the One MUW Committee to ensure its work aligns with the evolving needs of the alumni community and the Association. 2. Assess and strengthen the W G.U.I.L.D. program by refining its structure, communication strategy, and recognition process while ensuring it complements existing MUWAA awards and recognition programs. 3. Develop meaningful opportunities for alumni engagement and belonging through professional development, networking, mentorship, leadership experiences, and initiatives that increase participation among younger alumni and underrepresented groups. 4. Create a sustainable recognition and storytelling strategy that highlights alumni achievements through Visions, social media, alumni communications, and other engagement opportunities throughout the year.	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.	2. Elysa MacLellan (Board) 3. Monique Jenkins 4. Kim Jobe 5. Amy Johnson Lewis
Digital Marketing Committee Chair: Clare Haefner <u>Goals for the 2026-2027 Board Year</u> 1. Promote MUWAA annual, special, and committee-led events, programs, awards, and initiatives through digital communications with the overall goal of	The Committee shall, in coordination with the University's Director of Alumni Relations and in alignment with the 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 the University, the Association, and former students. The Committee also will help ensure all information	1. Clare Haefner (chair) 2. Jonathan Cumberland (Board) 3. Lynne Lott Schneider (Board) 4. Bridget Smith Ellis (Board) 5. Annie Oeth 6. Elizabeth Feazel Beaty

increasing alumni awareness, engagement, and participation. 2. Partner with all MUWAA committees, the Public Relations Committee, and the Alumni Affairs Office to develop coordinated communication plans and highlight committee initiatives throughout the year, with a goal of supporting each committee through regular digital promotion opportunities. 3. Continue expanding alumni storytelling and engagement campaigns by highlighting alumni achievements, chapter and constituency activities, student experiences, volunteer opportunities, and the impact of MUWAA programs through social media, video content, alumni spotlights, and other digital storytelling efforts. 4. Evaluate MUWAA's digital presence, platform performance, and communication tools to identify opportunities for improved engagement, content planning, audience growth, and efficient use of emerging technologies and social media platforms.	maintains the brand standards of the University and the Association.	
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NOTES:

- Each board member must serve on at least one committee
- No less than 5 members on each standing committee
- No more than 8 members on each standing committee
- No more than 2 board members on each standing committee
- Except for the Nominations and Finance Committees, Standing Committees can have only 8 members, and all committee members must be active members of the Association.
- New Group Formation Subcommittee has been added to Chapters & Constituency Groups this year to focus solely on formulation of new college-based groups and alumni chapters from interest to execution.
- Magnolia Mingle Subcommittee will be filled before Winter Board Meeting as a new Co-Chair term will be starting.
- These rules do not apply to “special” committees (Membership, Mentoring, Strategy, or One MUW) or subcommittees. They too just need to be active members