

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETING**  
**Sunday, January 18, 2015**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Salus University Board Room**

**Minutes**

*Members in attendance:* Shereen Hakki, Harry Kaplan, Michael D. Katz, Ken Savitski, Amanda Marchegiani, Merle Silverbook, Robert Spivack,

*Members via phone:* Caitlin Clompus Anderson, Kinshasa A. Coghill, Marianne Denning, Robert S. Duszak, John A. Dziadul, Victoria L. Dzurinko, Jason Hales, Elizabeth S. McMunn, Kurt J. Moody, Althea L.E. Rhoden-Grey, Robert Rosenberg, Edward W. Zikoski

*Faculty/Staff in attendance:* Victor Bray, Lynne Corboy, Lori Grover, Jamie Lemisch, Michael H. Mittelman

**Item 1:** Welcome and Introductions-Ken Savitski, OD

**Item 2:** Approval of Minutes (09/14/14)- Ken Savitski, OD

*Motion taken:* The minutes were approved.

**Item 3:** Treasurer's Report - Merle Silverbrook

*Motion taken:* The Treasurer's Report was approved. The approved report is an Appendix to this document on page 3.

**Item 4:** University President's Update - Michael H Mittelman, OD

*Conversation:* Dr. Mittelman updated the board on the physician assistant program and their accreditation probation indicating that the University will be working with a consultant from Duke. He indicated that the issues that resulted in the probation are primarily administrative. The program's board pass rate remains in the high nineties. The University recently renovated the Pennsylvania Ear Institute and built a Speech Language Pathology (SLP) clinic. The SLP program is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2015 with the accreditation site visit this March. Strategic Planning is near completed and three year plans specific for each college have been developed. The Board of Trustees will review these plans next week.

**Item 5:** Commencement Awards and Funding Priorities - Jamie Lemisch

*Conversation:* The cost of presenting commencement awards to the top students in all programs was discussed. In the past, each commencement award included a monetary award. (See Appendix, pages 4 and 5 of this document, for exact figures and recommendations put forth by the Alumni Office). In short the recommendation from the Alumni Office was to discontinue the monetary gift associated with the award thus freeing up Association Funds to support other funding initiatives. In lieu of the monetary award a suggestion was made to provide a medallion to awardees that could be worn at commencement. Much interest was expressed in this option.

Motion Taken: 1) To continue to offer Alumni Association awards to the top student(s), expanding it to all degree programs, but not include a monetary contribution. The motion to approve was made by Shereen Hakki and Edward W. Zikoski. 2) To use Alumni Funding towards our 3 funding priorities (1. Capital Campaign; 2. Student Travel Stipends; 3. Student community outreach. The motion to approve was made by Edward W. Zikoski and Robert Rosenberg.

Action: The finance committee will work towards developing a process by which proposals would be submitted, evaluated, and awarded. The goal would be to present a draft at the next board meeting (May 2015). Jamie will follow-up with those individuals. Additionally, Mike Katz volunteered to research medallion options for the commencement award.

**Item 6: Alumni Weekend - Ken Savitski, OD**

Conversation: Alumni Weekend is May 2-3, 2015. The host hotel is Sheraton Philadelphia Society Hill. New this year, there will be a retired professional's reception which will be held at the Hafter Center on May 2, 2015 from 12:30-2:30p. Also, there will be continuing education offering focusing on diabetes. See Appendix page 6 of this document for the draft schedule.

**7. Salus University Brand Refresh-Lynne Corboy**

Conversation: Lynne presented the new logo and brand platform with the board. She indicated that the University would begin using the new logo in March and that a new website would be implemented in May.

**8. Adjournment**

Next meeting is our annual meeting which will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2015

## Appendix

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Treasurer's Report January 18, 2015

FY 2015  
July 1, 2014 – November 30, 2014

<b>Balance as of July 1, 2014</b>	<b>\$79,328.43</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Revenue	\$ 240.97
Interest & Dividend	\$ 296.41
Gains (losses)	(\$1,635.66)
Expenditure	(\$ 6,000)
<b>Balance as of November 30, 2014</b>	<b>\$72,230.15</b>

#### *Report Detail:*

FY 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)

Revenue	
November 2014	
Alumni Insurance Program -	\$296.41
Expenditures	
September 2014	
Physician Assistant Commencement Awards -	\$1,000
TEI Pledge Payment -	\$5,000

## Salus University Commencement Awards

**Question:** What would it look like if the Salus University Alumni Association expanded its commencement awards to top graduating students from all of Salus University's programs?

The Alumni Association has traditionally presented commencement awards (including a monetary prize) to the top graduating student(s) in the optometry, audiology, and physician assistant programs. The monetary contribution for each award has ranged from \$500 to \$1,000 depending on whether there is a tie for the graduating program.

The number of awards and their dollar amounts for the past three years has been:

<u>Class of 2012</u>	<u># of Awards</u>	<u>Total \$ Awarded</u>
Physician Assistants	4	\$2,000
Audiology	2	\$2,000
<u>Optometry</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>\$2,000</u>
Total:	8	\$6,000

<u>Class of 2013</u>	<u># of Awards</u>	<u>Total \$ Awarded</u>
Physician Assistants	1	\$1,000
Audiology	1	\$1,000
<u>Optometry</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
Total:	3	\$3,000

<u>Class of 2014</u>	<u># of Awards</u>	<u>Total \$ Awarded</u>
Physician Assistants	2	\$1,000
Audiology	1	\$1,000
<u>Optometry</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
Total:	4	\$3,000

The following is a list of Salus University Programs and information pertaining to how many graduates could potentially tie for first in their class.

- *Doctor of Optometry* – 1 or 2 per year
- *Scholars Doctor of Optometry* – The first graduating class is anticipated in 2017.
- *Doctor of Audiology* – 1 or 2 per year for the residential program. The first graduating class in the distance Doctor of Audiology program are anticipated in Spring 2015.
- *Physician Assistant* – 2 or 3 per year
- *Occupational Therapy* – In the first graduating class there were 10 students with a 4.0 GPA.
- *Blindness and Low Vision Programs* – Varies but normally between 4 and 6 students with a 4.0 GPA.

- *Public Health* – In the first two graduating classes there was only 1 each year.
- *Graduate Biomedicine* – The first graduating class in this program is anticipated in Spring 2015.
- *International Studies* – Anywhere from 1 to 10 per cohort.

In summary, if the Alumni Association's current commencement award criteria of highest GPA is extended to all of Salus's programs there could be anywhere from eight to twenty-seven awards annually.

**Recommendation from the Alumni Office:** Because it would be financially impractical for the Alumni Association to maintain the monetary contribution while expanding the commencement award to all of Salus's programs we recommend discontinuing the monetary contribution associated with the award. This would free up several thousands of dollars annual which could be used to meet other funding priorities (see document titled Funding Priorities) and potentially help significantly more students with their professional endeavors.

#### **Next steps**

1. Finalize funding priorities
2. Task a committee with researching and developing a process by which proposals would be submitted, evaluated, and awarded.
3. Present this information as a proposal at the next Annual Meeting.

## Alumni Weekend Schedule - DRAFT

### Saturday, May 2, 2015

- 9:30 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. Continuing Education (Elkins Park campus)  
*Child abuse recognition and reporting*
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Brunch and campus tours (Elkins Park campus)
- 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Continuing education (Elkins Park campus)  
*IPE focusing on diabetes*
- 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Retired Professionals Reception (Hafter Center)
- 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Celebration Dinner at the Chart House on Delaware Avenue, Philadelphia  
Festivities will include:
- Celebration of Reunion Classes
  - Presentation of Alumni Association Awards
  - “I” Care Raffle Drawing

### Sunday, May 3, 2015

7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Elkins Park Campus)

The Dr. Joseph C. Toland 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Excellence in Education Conference

#### Activities yet to be scheduled:

- Annual Meeting – proposed for Sunday morning at the hotel

#### Suggested Accommodations:

Sheraton Philadelphia Society Hill

One Dock Street

Philadelphia, PA 19106

1.800.325.3535\*

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/SALUSUNIVERSITYREUNION2015>

*\*Ask for the Salus University or Pennsylvania College of Optometry rate!*