



UNIVERSITY OF
KING'S
COLLEGE • HALIFAX

A L U M N I A S S O C I A T I O N

University of King's College Alumni Association

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, September 20, 2018

5:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Second Floor A&A Building

University of King's College

6350 Coburg Road

Present: Jen Laurette, Paul Thomson, Stuart Pattillo, Alyssa Feir, Lindsay Cameron Wilson, Victor Bomers, Ben Kates, Stephanie McGrath, Beth McNeil, Jennifer MacLeod, Mary Barker, Elizabeth Ryan, Bill Lahey, Adriane Abbott, Andrew McDonald, Jonna Brewer, Kathy Miller

Regrets: Chere Chapman, Cynthia Pilichos, Laura Sears, Katie Merwin, Lois Miller

1. College Prayer read by Stephanie McGrath

2. Necrology list read by Mary Barker

Amanda (Eagles) Allaby (1990)
Dennis Andrews (DD '88)
Edith (Moore) Anthony (BA '42)
Weldon Boone (BA'81)
Launcelot Burdock (BSc '52)
Judith Campbell (Friend of the College)
Michael Cobden (Inglis Professor, former Director, School of Journalism)
Michael Covert (Friend of the College)
William Emery
Anne (Thexton) Esslinger (1949)
John Farmer (LTh'55)
Stanley Fitzner (1948)
Robert Hamilton (2000)
W. Eric Ingraham (BA '51, LTh '52, BDiv '64)
Meech Kean (BJ'16)
Roy Kimball (BA '59)
Margaret (Bailey) Laidlaw (BA'68)
Mary Ellen MacEachern (BA '78)
Helen (Grant) MacKenzie (1941)

William Matheson (BA '53)
Caldwell McMillan (BA'65, BST'67, MDiv'75)
Shirley Moir (Friend of the College)
Robert Morris (1954)
Deirdre Murphy (1995)
William Naftel (BA'61)
Judith (Bryson) Nicholson (BA '56)
Gordon Read (BA '50)
Heinz Rieger (Friend of the College)
George Robert Sircom (1950)
Terrance Smith (BA '70)
Lloyd Tucker (1958)
Nora (Arnold) Vincent (BA'63)
Phyllis (Scott) Wood (BA '49)
Susan Wood (1972)
Judith Wright (BA '64)

3. Alumni President's welcome and introductions

Jen Laurette, President of the University of King's College Alumni Association welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting and thanked them for attending.

4. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting, 21 September 2017

Motion: (Mary Barker/Stephanie McGrath) approved the minutes of September 21, 2017 AGM as circulated. Carried.

5. University President's Remarks

Bill Lahey reported that King's is enjoying the optimism that comes with the new school year and new students. On Monday night, King's had the first of a series of open mics in the Chapel. There were about 100 students, primarily first year students, in attendance and about nine or ten performed. This was just one example of a very unique King's experience.

It is the second year in row that we have had an increase in the Foundation Year Program enrollment. We are still not as diverse a community as we would like to be, but we are experiencing an increase in diversity. Thirteen to 14% of the first-year class are self-identifying as coming from different communities.

We have noticed a drop in the number of students from Ontario. But we have also noticed an increase in the number of students from Nova Scotia. We have been very deliberate in our recruitment efforts in Nova Scotia and diverse communities, so it is encouraging to see return on these recruitment efforts.

For three summers now, thanks to Drs Laura Penny and Sarah Clift, we have hosted the Humanities for Young People Program at King's. An opportunity to introduce young people to humanities and university life before they begin thinking about university. There are 10 HYP alumni in the FYP class.

There are 20 FYP students who are varsity athletes. We made available some athletic scholarships, and this is paying off. The coaches and Neil Hooper are excellent recruiters and advocates for the program. President Lahey noted that the alumni association golf tournament this year was a success and will go to support athletics.

Last year we significantly improved our retention between first and second year. This year there was an improvement in retention between all upper years.

The residences are operationally full this year, after several years of empty rooms. This is due to an increase in the number of upper year students deciding to stay in residence beyond first year, as well as twenty Dalhousie students and a number of NSCAD students living in King's residence.

The difficult financial situation is because of the drop in enrollment over a number of years. The deficit projected is more than \$2 million. But because of the positive enrollment outcomes this year, the deficit is expected to be lower. The board has approved a draw on reserve funds to use for several areas including, student employment, scholarships and bursaries, and staff development. These are all areas that will help with recruitment and retention.

We have an agreement throughout the college community to restore the tri-bays. They will be the priority for a major gifts campaign. Alex Hall will be renovated and restored as a fully accessible residence.

Finally, the President reported on an initiative in the public humanities program, where students couple experience out in the community with their studies at King's. Fellowships, and student employment is funded. The ultimate goal is the development of a certificate program in partnership with Dalhousie. Governments are very excited about applied and experiential learning, launching something like this is good for our students but also good for our relationship with the province of Nova Scotia. The President has been spending a lot of time talking to the province about the value King's brings to Nova Scotia.

King's has been invited to the Black Student Scholarship Reception in partnership with Dalhousie's Black Student Advising Community. We are going to once again offer the Prince Scholarship beginning in the next academic year. It will available to African Nova Scotian students.

Doug Ruck is our new Board Chair. The university has begun its inquiry into the history of the college and its association with slavery. Thought leaders in the African Nova Scotian community

are receptive to this scholarly inquiry.

6. Alumni Association President's Remarks

Jen reported that it was a busy year for the association. We are currently seeking a chair for the branch committee, but branches have been active in organizing and supporting events through the year. WAC 2017 on October 20 had 21 events around the world. There are more events planned for WAC 2018 on October 18 this year. Jen thanked the president for hosting an event in the Lodge in December – it's always an event that people look forward to.

Jen and Allen McAvoy were in Halifax for Encaenia. The ceremony was held in the Rebecca Cohn, but it maintained the special King's vibe. They presented alumni pins to the graduates. We also had a brainstorming session with the executive committee about how we can be supporting the university, especially on the recruitment side. We are still fleshing out the ideas and a plan to circulate to the alumni membership. The plan is not onerous, we want it to be accessible for all alumni.

The Annual Dinner was a great success. Kathleen Pratt LeGrow received the Judge J. Elliott Hudson award. Dale Godsoe was inducted into the Order of the Ancient Commoner along with Elizabeth and Owen Parkhouse. Commemorative pins were given out for 10, 25 and 50-year anniversaries.

The 25th Anniversary golf tournament was held on August 16th at Granite Springs Golf Club and was a great success. There were more than 80 golfers in attendance. Over \$20,000 was raised for athletics programming and scholarships.

President Lahey has been hosting Lunches in the Lodge with guest alumni and students. It is very inspiring for our students to see the variety of paths alumni have taken since leaving King's.

Jen express her sincere thanks to everyone that volunteered and to the Advancement Office for their support.

7. Advancement Director's Remarks

Adriane noted that they are extremely grateful for the activity and engagement of the alumni association. She looks forward to strengthening the collaboration and partnership. The Advancement Office is revamping the e-newsletter, looking for it to be a greater celebration and platform for alumni achievements. The goal is to do more story-telling about the generosity of our alumni. We are also revamping the Alumni & Friends section of the website to better serve the community.

On the fundraising front, we are beginning to roll out a major gifts campaign. And the restoration of the tri-bays will be the top priority.

The annual fund last year was the best and those who are giving are giving larger gifts. Our alumni participation rates are not comparable to other schools. This year we will be doing work to involve the association to identify our lost alumni and to increase participation in the annual fund.

We hope that in addition to helping us in all the ways that you do that if you are not already following us on social media, that you will do so.

8. Treasurer's Report

Stuart noted that he took on the role in December 2017. There was a positive operational budget, but a decline in our investment account. Attributed to a more muted investment climate. Our investments are recovering; we are now getting close to where we were at the end of 2017. We don't have a written investment policy. Stuart has been working with Scotia MacLeod to develop an investment policy.

- a. **Motion:** (Stuart Pattillo/Lindsay Cameron Wilson) to accept financial statements. Carried.
- b. **Motion:** (Stuart Pattillo/Lindsay Cameron Wilson) to appoint G&R Chartered auditors. Carried.

9. Search Committee

Paul reported that there are two new executive members: Ian Whytock and Rachel Cadman. Laura Sears and Chere Chapman are retiring. We would like to thank them for their service and dedication to the alumni association.

- a. **Motion** (Paul Thomson/Mary Barker) to elect nominated slate of new Executive Members. Carried.

10. Announcements and New Business

- a) The AGM as it is now is out of alignment with the Board of Governors term appointments. Discussion was had regarding moving the AGM back to May/June. So, the alumni executive terms align with the board of governors.
- b) The annual dinner is cost prohibitive for younger alumni, discussion ensued around moving to a brunch in the spring. The plan would be to still honour the award recipients. A suggestion was made to have the AGM before the Brunch, so everyone is gathering for one event.
- c) A group of alumni came forward to recommend an award geared towards recognizing the achievements of a young alumni. The Awards committee will work on the creation of an award for young alumni.

- d) The Order of the Ancient Commoner will be moving forward as an actual Order. The awards committee will flesh this out. Elizabeth noted Dan de Munnik spearheaded the young alumni award, along with Greg Guy, and Chris Elson.

Mary Barker moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m.