

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ALUMNI COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

May 11, 2021

ATTACHMENTS AT END OF DOCUMENT INCLUDE: LIST OF INVITEES, ATTENDEES, AGENDA;

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021

ZOOM MEETING

Facilitator: Anika Penn

Time Meeting Start: 5:00p.m. (ET)

Meeting End Time: 6:30 p.m. (ET)

MEETING MINUTES

WELCOME AND UPDATES

President Anika Penn welcomed everyone and reported on the breaking news that Bloomberg philanthropies made a \$150M gift for the Vivien Thomas Scholars Initiative, a program devoted to creating additional pathways for students of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) to pursue and receive PhDs in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields within Hopkins' 37 programs [See video](#). Shelby Wilkes, who knew Dr. Thomas, has many stories to share about him.

Anika provided the following additional University updates:

- The University and the Hospital system have adopted a \$15 minimum wage.
- The Gruber Prize in Cosmology price went to Marc Kamionkowski, Professor of Physics and Astronomy at Johns Hopkins.
- The Committee to Establish Principles on Naming has a draft report [found here](#).
- Three areas on campus being considered for naming include Charles Commons, the Undergraduate Teaching Lab and the Johns Hopkins Outpatient Center in East Baltimore.

Anika has been having office hours on Fridays, two so far, three to go, and they have been productive conversations with Council members.

She reported that she participated in a panel with the deans on Alumni Weekend.

Anika asked Christina Alexander to introduce the new Associate Director of Alumni Relations at SAIS, Joseph Letourneau, who will begin on May 15 of reunion weekend to better serve the alumni population. His last alumni relations position was at the Maryland Institute College of Art.

For the upcoming Commencement virtual programs, Anika went to a film studio in NY and filmed nine speeches. An in-person commencement will take place on Homewood field for a limited group. There are 11 ceremonies, some in person. The Alumni Office will mail the graduation gifts this year rather than distribute them in person.

Anika noted the new format for the Executive Committee meetings -- having divisional reps reporting and providing meatier content. Following President Daniels conversation, some ideas for future speakers include Chief Diversity Officer Katrina Caldwell and Vice Provost and Chief Risk Officer Jon Links. We will continue to ask for more suggestions using OneHop.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Secretary asked for and received approval of the minutes of the March 9 meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Awards & Nominations

Co-chair Ralph Hruban reported that the 15-member committee selected and proposed a list of 11 members to serve a 2nd term and a group of 14 to serve a first term to replace the 14 who are rotating off. The proposed new members were chosen based on their demonstrated track record with the University, and diversity of school, location, ethnicity, gender and race. Two alternates were also proposed in case any declined to join the Council. He asked for a vote and received approval of both groups.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

2nd Vice President Sonia Sarkar showed slides that outlined the old, intermediate, and proposed new structures, and thanked everyone for their feedback. She and Anika will have conversations with outgoing and incoming leaders, will share the structure with the broader group, and plan to formally have it in place in the fall.

BUDGET REPORT

In the absence of the treasurer, Susan reported that \$137K has been raised to date. As a reminder, JHAA has \$500,000 in funding that we can pull from as needed. We are on target to raise \$200K. Revenues are at \$777 K, expenses are currently at \$300K. We anticipate more end of year expenses including those of the new platforms used for Alumni Weekend.

All Alumni Council members are encouraged all to make an end of year gift if they haven't already.

DIVISIONAL REPORTS

Engineering – John DeMaggio, Engr '94

Focus:

- **COVID response**
- **Status of school**
- **Maintain student assistance programs and help students deal with the shutdown**
- **Maintain Alumni connection with the shutdown**
- **Vision of future**

COVID Response

- Dr. Lauren Garner's COVID tracking map - began 22 Jan before major outbreaks outside of China. Used by US government, major media outlets and internationally to track the spread of the COVID virus, 2 billion hits per day at its height.
- Student initiative- 3D printable ventilation splitter allowing multiple users of one ventilator.
- From N95 mask decon developments/ analyzing data/apps for early detection of symptoms to robotic systems to limit health care workers exposure Whiting school has been on the front of the battle in the COVID response.
- Online classes with 34 high tech classrooms/ students I mentor say easier to go back and re-view classes or formulas - but also much easier to fall asleep.
- Dean Schlesinger: "COVID didn't change higher education, it accelerated changes in higher education."

Status of school

- Whiting school is ranked 11th overall in engineering schools
- Programs: Biomechanical number one in the world and Engineering Management number one in the world.
- 5000 students in the EP program around the world with about 450 professors. Steadily growing from first online course in 2001 / over the last five years from less than 1500, 22 Master's programs.
- DEng program for full time professionals.
- Budget grown from 200 M in FY 15 to 330 M in FY 22 with a 50% increase in faculty. 65% growth!
- Exceeded Philanthropy every year/ about 20 Million a year with a current endowment of about 213 Million.

Student

- Mock Interviews and Speed Networking
 - Successful program that routinely attracts between 40-60 students and 20-40 alumni each session.
 - Freshman through graduate students participate
 - Sessions 2x per year, fall and spring.
 - Students rotate between alumni (around 3 each session) for 10-15 minutes mock interview to build interview skills.
 - Speed networking sessions, 5 min in length, also take place.
 - Transitioned to a full virtual program during COVID. This helped with how to interview in the virtual environment.

- Mentoring:

The Engineering Alumni started a formal mentoring program in 2010. The success of program has considerably increased the scope since then.

Formal Mentoring – required a minimum of a yearlong commitment with students and Alumni connected requiring periodic contact between Alumni and student. Note that the Mock interviews and the Speed networking both feed an informal mentoring as students maintain contact with Alumni after the events.

Pop-up mentoring – one contact between student and Alumni

Mentoring meet-ups – Department based for one evening

Monthly Mentoring Cohort Groups – in the pilot phase, monthly topical and group based such as consulting, working in the OR, etc

- Career “Night”

Career Night – Virtual events, smaller than the in person events that would draw 200 – 250 students.

Theme panels - Alumni host a panel to discuss different thematic topics for the students in conjunction with the Life Design.

Alumni connections:

- Coffee with the Dean:

Briefed at the Oct 2019 Key-3 meeting

Dean host virtual coffee chat with 10-15 Alumni.

Piloted 2 years ago. Met with immediate success. Included international Alumni. Expanded out to include Area specific such as Asia due to time difference and specific Coffee with the Department Heads. This has been an easy transition with the advent of the shutdown with at least two a month.

- Alumni Spotlight Program – pilot program to recognizing midlevel Engineering Alumni for technical or public contributions within their field.

- Virtual Student Design day. Students showcase their student design projects, Alumni participate virtually also as judges.

- Dean’s student dinners at home. Dean and his wife host a dinner at his home for freshman students 20 at a time with one alumnus and one faculty member invited. On hold due to the shutdown.

- Encouraging registration in ONEHOP and participation in the virtual events offered by the University.

Vision of the future:

The Whiting School, led by Dean Schlesinger, has defined three areas of strategic leadership:

- Engineering the Future of Healthcare
- Engineering a more Resilient Society
- Engineering in a Data Driven Society

We are building more centers and hiring interdisciplinary faculty that intersect with these area, and will use them as themes for future events. We are just initiating a defining role to incorporate our Alumni into these strategic initiatives.

Kim Dolan shared about efforts in the DEI space. New programs include the development of Diversity Champions, faculty champions in each department; increased training among faculty, grads, undergrads; grad path in collaboration with HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities), center for education outreach designs stem initiatives in Baltimore City for k-12.

Growing Importance of Education and Equity: eSchool+ Initiative

- The world has focused a lot of attention on the process and value of K-12 education this year. One of many examples of SOE's involvement in this discussion is the eSchool+ Initiative (*read: E School Plus Initiative*).
- <https://www.covideducationrecovery.global/>

<https://www.givecampus.com/schools/JohnsHopkins/school-of-education>

- Assistant Professor **Annette Anderson** has taken a leading role in this cross-divisional collaboration, involving faculty from the School of Education, the Berman Institute of Bioethics, the School of Medicine, and the School of Public Health. They developed a school reopening tracker that highlights issues of equity and ethics—and just recently added [a global education recovery tracker](#).
- Dr. Anderson has also been repeatedly interviewed on major news networks regarding the equity and ethical issues around school reopening – most recently speaking on CNN last Friday, May 6, about why a disproportionate number of black and Hispanic students are continuing remote learning instead of going back to school in person.

New Bloomberg Professor: Odis Johnson, Jr.

- This year, we were excited to welcome **Odis Johnson, Jr.**, as a Bloomberg Distinguished Professor and inaugural director of the [Johns Hopkins Center for Safe and Healthy Schools](#). His research on the interrelated topics of neighborhoods, social policy, and race—and his ideas on social change—have been featured in *Oprah Magazine*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, and other outlets.
- Dr. Johnson has already started cross-divisional work and we are excited to watch his work develop at Hopkins. He has led a university-wide discussion on how systemic racism and the technological infrastructure of schools combine to keep greater "techquity" out of reach for many disadvantaged students. Last month, he also published a new study on why school punishment and poor math achievement often go hand in hand.

Community-wide Engagement on Race and Equity

- Last week, the School of Education hosted a lecture and Q&A with **Isabel Wilkerson**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. Alumni, students, faculty, and staff were all invited to participate, and the audience numbered more than 900 attendees.
- In addition to this terrific opportunity to hear from Ms. Wilkerson, over 100 faculty and staff read her book and participated in a series of moderated book club discussions. Trained facilitators were able to lead constructive, in-depth conversations about the difficult, intertwined topics of race, equity, and caste in American society.

Our First Associate Dean for Diversity and Faculty Development

- The idea—and much of the coordination—for these *Caste* book club discussions came from **Professor Norma Day-Vines**, who has recently been named SOE’s first Associate Dean for Diversity and Faculty Development. She will assume this new role July 1.

Integrating Mission into Fundraising Appeals

- As a side note, the School of Education is dedicating its OneHopkins efforts to prioritizing issues of race, equity, and culture at SOE. If you go to the OneHopkins giving page now, you can see Dr. Anderson, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Day-Vines and Dr. Eric Rice in the video. Please take a look—and even consider making a gift of support. <https://www.givecampus.com/schools/JohnsHopkins/school-of-education>

Alumni Connections: Mentoring

- Turning to the alumni side, we have been having virtual events throughout the year. One of our most successful was a mentor match-up. We used the OneHop Mentoring platform to match counseling students interested in private practice with alumni who currently work in private practice. It was a one-time mentoring opportunity that had a great turn out and received really positive feedback from both alumni and students.

Big Alumni News: Teacher of the Year

- And lastly, this group selected **Alejandro Diasgranados** (pronounced Ah-lay-HAHN-dro Dee-ahs gra-NAH-dos), a 2018 MS in Education graduate, for an Outstanding Recent Graduate Award.
- I am delighted to report that he also recently won National University’s Teacher of the Year, which comes with \$50,000 and national recognition—the award was presented by Drew Barrymore on her talk show. Alejandro will receive our award at SOE’s virtual graduation on May 26, and we’ve been given permission to run some of the Drew Barrymore footage when we introduce him. He is a terrific example of what a teacher can be, and I know we are proud to have him as a Hopkins alum.

Shifting to COVID – we have been working virtually, and doing some great thinking outside the box and thinking how to intertwine the technology. Some of the programs were already totally online. “Destination” graduations previously were held in Hawaii, Las Vegas, and Texas to accommodate non-Baltimore students, but none were offered in 2021.

IN SOM, reliance on board testing dropped. Potentially thinking about making optional the SAT.

To diversity, tell stories about the alumni and the university. Changing the narrative.

ALUMNI RELATIONS UPDATE

Susan reported that today was One Hopkins Giving Day. The 1,750-donor goal was exceeded. Because of Giving Tuesday, the Vivien Thomas email was sent a day after the announcement so that the message did not get lost in all the emails for One Hopkins Giving Day.

There will be a follow up survey about alumni giving this summer or fall - an attitudinal study about giving, looking at the HUG (Homewood Undergraduate Giving) program. The Executive Committee will be interviewed about the survey.

She noted two areas: CUE2 link <https://provost.jhu.edu/about/cue2/> and the mentoring article in HUB <https://hub.jhu.edu/2021/05/11/onehop-mentoring/>

The Alumni Relations Office will return to the on-campus office in mid-August. Guidelines for in person on and off campus events are being created. The Annual Meeting probably can take place in person in Baltimore.

NEW BUSINESS

No other new business was brought up, so the President adjourned the meeting at 6:21 pm.

Next Executive Committee Meetings:

September 14, 2021, 5-6:30 p.m.

Leadership Weekend – October 1-3, 2021

Invitees:

Executive Committee			
First Name	Last Name	Title	Attendance
Anika	Penn	President	Attended
Mary Ann	Dickson	First Vice President	Attended
Sonia	Sarkar	Second Vice President	Attended
Seth	McDonnell	Treasurer	Attended
Judy	Keen	Secretary	Attended
Allyson	Handley	Past President, Ex-officio	Attended
Mervat	Mina	Div Rep Business	Attended
Robert	Hitz	Div Rep Peabody	Attended
John	DeMaggio	Div Rep Engineering	Attended
Susan	Kulik	Div Rep Nursing	Absent
David	Einolf	Div Rep A&S	Absent
Shelby	Kemper	Div Rep Public Health	Attended

Shelby	Wilkes	Div Rep Medicine	Attended
Daniela	Kaisth	Div Rep SAIS	Absent
Tony	Spann	Div Rep Education	Attended
Claudia	DeCarlo	Communications & Digital Engagement Co-chair	Attended
Mike	Waters	Communications & Digital Engagement Co-chair	Attended
Brian	Fruchey	Awards & Nominations, Co-Chair	Attended
Ralph	Hruban	Awards & Nominations, Co-Chair	Attended
Braphus	Kaalund	Student & Alumni Engagement ,Co-Chair	Attended
Mary	Simonsen	Student & Alumni Engagement, Co-Chair	Attended
Janice	Bonsu	Student & Alumni Engagement, Co-Chair	Absent
Reggie	Bannerman	Student Grants, Co-Chair	Attended
Mike	Pryzby	Student Grants, Co-Chair	Attended
Phuong	Tran	Org Rep PRIDE	Attended
Lalita	Hamilton	Org Rep SOBA	Absent

Staff Members: Susan deMuth, Assoc. VP, OAR, Executive Director, JHAA; Marguerite Jones, OAR; Patricia Conklin, OAR; Elena Thompson, OAR; Gwen Harley, OAR; Jason Heiserman, OAR; Rachel Doliner, OAR; Jamie Seward, OAR; Jenn Fisher, OAR; Leah Murphy, OAR; Jen Yeager and Jaimie Ermak, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences; Debbie Kennison and Ember Schaeffer, School of Education; Christina Alexander, School of Advanced International Studies; Erika Juengst, Leslie Proctor and Elizabeth Rigsbee, Bloomberg School of Public Health; Michael Carlton and Conor Reynolds, Peabody Institute; Robin Ingram and Trudee Wooden, School of Medicine; Kim Dolan and Lee Gerstein, Whiting School of Engineering; Jennifer Benson, Jasmine Gillus and Philip Bakerman, Carey Business School; Katie Damaroda, School of Nursing; Casey Miller, Hopkins Connect

Facilitator: Anika Penn

Meeting Start Time: 5:00 pm (ET) Meeting End Time: 6:30 pm (ET)

Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcome and Update:
Anika Penn, SAIS '10, Mary Ann Dickson, A&S '97
 - a. Board of Trustee Update
 - b. Commencement review
 - c. Review new strategy for Executive Mtgs
 - i. University Speakers
 1. Review Conversation with President Daniels
 2. Potential future speakers to include Chief Diversity Officer Katrina Caldwell, Vice Provost and Chief Risk and Compliance Officer Jon Links,
2. Approval of the March 9 meeting minutes:
Judy Keen, A&S '98, BSPH '02, Med '04
3. Committee Reports
 - a. Awards & Nominations:
Ralph Hruban, Med '85 and Brian Fruchey, Bus '10
 - b. Strategic Plan:
Sonia Sarkar, A&S, '09, BSPH '13, '20
4. Budget report:
Seth McDonnell, Bus '07, and Susan deMuth
5. Divisional Reports – Priorities
 - a. Engineering – John DeMaggio, Engr '94
 - b. School of Education – Tony Spann, Ed '10
6. Alumni Relations Update: Susan deMuth

Next Executive Committee Meetings:

September 14, 2021 – 5:00 – 6:30 pm ET

October 1-3, 2021 – Annual Meeting/Leadership Summit