

# Rose-Hulman Alumni Advisory Board

## Spring Meeting Minutes

### Saturday, March 26, 2022

- I. Call to order – Kedar Murthy
  - a. Kedar called meeting to order.
  
- II. Roll Call – Charlie Ricker
  - a. **AAB**-Bill Bess, Allison-Bowman Rogers, Gary Bullock, Mike Chaney, Kameron Eisenhour, Steve Gillman, Greg Gotwald, Nellie Hohne, Matt Iwema, Jason Karlen, Alyssa Lobo, Jessica Long, John McClain, Kedar Murthy, Kelly Noel, Kali Nordquist, Craig Pohlman, Dan Price, Nyle Riegle, Steve Schmitz, Amanda Stapleton, Deiter Schultz  
**ARBOT**-Jeff Papa  
**Absent:** Mark Renholzberger, Paul Palmer, Robert Stone  
St2pb3 25 5pb, secondly to approve minutes, Dan Price seconded; motion carried.
  
- III. Guest Speaker – **El Hayes** – **Life on Campus**
  - a. **Really made things different on campus** . Part of **what makes Rose special** is the ability to engage **with people**, small class size and the ability to access faculty and **made that more difficult**. As Rose emerges from the pandemic, campus is bustling, athletics are **back** traveling, musicals are being presented, bands **playing**, and classes are all **in person**.  
  
Rose is in the middle of **the strategic planning process**. As alums, a survey **will be coming out soon** to help identify **what changes you would like to see at Rose**. **What are the next steps for Rose post pandemic?**  
  
**Career Services**, affordability and **job placement** is **always** a topic of interest. **Last year**, even during the pandemic, Rose placed **96%** of students. The year before that Rose placed **95%** and the year before the pandemic, Rose **was at 95%** to hit **90%** when there **were no Career Fairs** being held and companies **were not recruiting** and the economy **was in question**, Rose did **well** . This year Rose is already off to a great start **with** half of the **class placed already**. Rose is getting ready for their first in

person Career Fair this spring since the pandemic and will help place most of the rest of our students.

Companies really want computer science majors, and for the first time, Rose is getting really close to crossing over from mechanical engineering into computer science being the most sought-after major. Part of the strategic planning process is trying to be more intentional about how the freshman classes are built.

Ayanna Tweedy was recently hired as the new athletic director after the

Q. For students that need mental health help, is there still a stigma around that? Will they come to an advisor or is that parents reaching out to you?

A. There definitely used to be a stigma around mental health. Today, it is much more common for students to be open about mental health. There are still students who feel they should not be asking for those resources, but it is much better than it was before. There is a student mental health committee that was formed and not because Rose asked them to form such a committee but because the student government wanted to push some initiatives, even before Rose had this grant.

Q. Knowing the level of accommodation that is present at Rose, is there any sense of when students leave Rose, are they making it on their own or are they struggling because their parents do not have the CEO's phone number of the company they are working for?

A. This is not a joke, some of the expectations are unreal. There is a whole generation of students who cannot cope on their own. There is a fine line between coddli

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to different individuals and cultures is awesome. Their ability to accept people from diverse cultures is amazing. Rose is still hitting that 'sweet' spot with students in what is offered.

Q.

During this academic year, the fatigue of mental health has been really high. The student health counseling center has seen a significant increase in its usage in both the number of students seen and individual sessions as compared to previous years. Hopefully, the grant that has been received and receiving additional resources for students will help the situation with student mental health as Rose moves forward.

When looking at Career Services, Rose is seeing positive results for the Class of 2022. Forty-three percent of students already have job offers as of last month and 18% of students are planning to attend graduate school.

Enrollment for the upcoming fall is at about 610-630. That is following an extremely strong record year enrollment of 643 for 2021 class. There is a slight decrease in domestic students but when you look at some of the critical areas of women and Black/African Americans, Rose has maintained noticeable gains. There are also noticeable gains from the East Coast and West Coast thanks to Dr. Tom Bear and his team. Overall applications are up over 10% with noticeable gains in key areas.

Current budget year is projected to have surplus of over \$300,000 which includes expenses related to COVID and expenses that were not realized for the compensation Savings from the Early Retirement program. The next year's budget projection should be consistent with past years. There is no anticipated surplus. Projected student enrollment of 2,166. There will be a slight increase in tuition, room, and board rates of about 3%.

Q. How is Rose doing on attrition on students and what is the trend?

A. There has not been a huge drop of students. As j(z)4 (eD10 (t)6 (on )- 7)7o2.004

into 2024. Next step is to finalize the action plans for the six goals that are outlined in the report. Then they will be resourced, executed, and monitored to be sure that Rose is achieving the desired results.

Q. Why is diversity or enhancing diversity not listed as one of the goals?

A. Diversity is always ongoing and is a critical focus for Rose. These six goals really need to be addressed in the next three years. Diversity is always a sub-bullet in the plan and is always ongoing. It is baked into the plan.

The success of the athletics program continues to be a leader in the HCAC. Ayanna Tweedy began her tenure on January 3 and has been warmly received by students. The football team won the 2021 HCAC championship for the third time since 2013 and competed in the NCAA Division 3 playoffs for the second time.

Renovations continue on Moench and Crapo Hall.

Overall student performance in first term calculus classes is improving but there are still some students struggling. The lack of ACT/SAT scores has not been a predictor of a student's success or struggles.

VI. Break for Brunch

- a. Brunch with Alumni Award winners

VII. New Business

- a. Alumni Advisory Board Membership – Nellie Hohne
  - i. Page 21 of board book. Committee was tasked with filling five position from decades 1970, 1980, 2000, 2010, and 2020. There were 30 applicants; those were culled down to 2-3 per decade and the membership committee took a decade, interviewed the candidates, and met two weeks later and discussed what happened with those interviews. The Committee's recommendations are Steve Decker - 1977; Kenny McCleary – 1983; Melva Holt – 2002; Victoria Zheng – 2013 and Alexa Myers – 2020. These candidates come from diverse backgrounds and from all over the country. Nellie asked for slate to be approved. Dan Price made a motion to approve slate of candidates, Matthew Iwema seconded. Motion approved.
- b. Alumni Representative to the Board of Trustees – Greg Gotwald
  - i. Greg Gotwald stated that the selection for ARBOT members is currently delayed. The AAB is looking for some direct feedback

from the Board of Trustees as to what they want to see from this position. Discussion took place and ultimately, the AAB will interview candidates and select who will represent the AAB on the Board of Trustees.

- c. Alumni Awards Celebration – Jason Karlen
  - i. The Alumni Awards will follow this meeting at Hatfield Hall. The list of award winners in on page 20 of the board book. All the winners except for Mitch Landess will be present. There are about 92-93 people registered to attend.

### VIII. Staff Reports

- a. Institutional Advancement – Steve Brady
  - i. Campus is currently mask optional since the end of February. Faculty do reserve the right to have their class mask up. One thing Erik alluded to be the high percentage of vaccinated students, staff, and faculty. There is a donor who made a very generous donation to support those who are vaccinated. Rose is bringing a national act to campus for all the students who are vaccinated. Vaccinated students got to vote on the style of music and then that turned into a comedian. The contract has not been signed but this is someone who has been on tv, Netflix and has national exposure. The event will be held on the SRC on Wed 1/12/20 at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$10.00.

- b. Alumni Relations – Charlie Ricker
  - i. In the last couple of months, Alumni Relations has gone back to hosting some events. Happy hours have returned. There were events in Milwaukee, Naples, and Minneapolis.
  - ii. Lego kits will be returning soon. A second set of Deming and the Union was ordered if you missed the first round. This summer the next set will be released which will be White Chapel.
  - iii. Rose Talks series continues with another one coming up in April on Longball Labs.
  - iv. Interview process has begun for the two Assistant Director positions to replace Katie Hoffmann and my former position. There are four candidates coming to campus in the next couple of weeks and will be present at the next Board meeting in August.

IX. Committee Breakout Sessions

X. Committee Report Out

a. Executive Committee – Kedar Murthy

- i. Nothing to report currently.

b. Board Nominating – Nellie Hohne

- i. Thank you to the committee for their help in selecting the five new board members. Committee helped to fine tune the process used





- ii. Fall 2022 – Friday, November 4 (Indy)
- iii. Spring 2023 – Saturday, March 25 (Terre Haute)
- iv. Summer 2023 – August 12, TBD
- v. Fall 2023 – November 3, (Indy)

XIII. Adjournment – Kedar Murthy

- a. Kedar made a motion to adjourn.
- b. Alumni Awards follows in Hatfield Hall