

**Truman State University**  
**Alumni Association Board of Directors**  
**April 8, 2017, Meeting • Official Minutes**



The Truman State University Alumni Board of Directors met Saturday, April 7, 2017, on the University campus in Kirksville, Mo. The meeting was called to order shortly after 8:30 a.m. by Alumni Board President Keith Epperson.

The Alumni Board members attending the meeting were, Donna Bailey, Don Bindner, Tania Cook, Keith Epperson, Natalie Gerhart, Hope Harms, Carol Keller-Michaelis, Greg Jochems, Brooks Miller, John Millemon, Pamela Popp (by phone), Denise Smith, Jason Turk and Justis Tuia (by phone). Also attending were Adam Childers-Arnold, Brett Combs, Jordan Ganter and Callie Templeton.

President Keith Epperson welcomed everyone and introductions were made. The agenda and minutes were both approved.

**Chapter Reports:**

Arizona - The Arizona Alumni Chapter hosted a wildflower hike, they have a wine tasting scheduled and a service event. The chapter's biggest challenge continues to be leadership and recruiting new volunteers.

Chicago – Lizz Esfeld reported the chapter coordinated a May grad Welcome event with a photographer there taking professional head shots. They are also hosting a service event, Top Golf and attending a baseball game.

Colorado – The chapter hosted a ski event, a hockey game event, and a brewery tour. They have a campaign event set for September. Their biggest challenge continues to be leadership and attracting attendance at events partially due to the large sprawling metro area and traffic challenges.

Dallas – John Millemon/Denise Smith reported there is a new leadership team forming. Tim Cox is the president; John Millemon the Dallas Alumni Board Rep and Cindy Maso has also joined the Board. They hope to host a couple of events.

Iowa – The chapter reported have multiple events in the works including Ronza night. They hosted a historical museum tour and will host a campaign event in June

Kansas City - Hope Harms reported that the chapter hosted a winter banquet with speaker Jay Self. Their hockey game sold out, they will host more Royals events and their Storytime with

Spike was a big hit. They had a Trivia night, a TruCare event at Harvesters and will host a new grad event in May at a brewery owned by a Truman grad.

Mid-Atlantic – The Chapter is off to a good start with a few successful events. Upcoming events include attending a Nationals vs. Cardinals game, a service event and a May brunch event.

Mid-Missouri - Tania Cook reported that Mid-Missouri has had some great events including Living Windows. They will tour the Botanical Gardens and have a wine tasting scheduled. The chapter is planning to partner with the Northeast Missouri Alumni Chapter on a Warm Springs Ranch tour, which is where Anheuser-Busch keeps their famous Clydesdales.

Northeast Missouri - Don Bindner reported that the Northeast Missouri Alumni Chapter has had many successful events already in 2017, including assisting at the December Grads Pizza Party, an Art Gallery event, a successful TruCare event and their plans for a Tour of Campus event.

St. Louis - Carol Keller reported that the chapter is off to a great start; they hosted a football game tailgate and attracted a lot of parents and families. Other upcoming events and past events include Pin-Up Bowl, TruCare, a Munny event and a Cardinals game and tailgate. They are searching for a new treasurer.

The Springfield Club will host a golf Tournament in June and a Student Send-Off in August.

The Florida Club attended a Cardinals Game.

The Omaha Club attended a Creighton vs. Truman basketball game and hosted a social hour prior to the game. The organized a TruCare event at a local food bank and hope to plan a few other events.

The Wichita Club hosted a social gathering and a TruCare event at Hope Ranch.

### **Nominating Committee:**

The search for nominees for a Board representative from the Arizona Alumni Chapter continues. All Board members are encouraged to submit suggestions.

Brooks Miller was elected via email ballot and fills the open At Large position. Watch for an email ballot in the future for another At Large position.

John Millemon was nominated to fill the Dallas Alumni Chapter representative role. Motion carried and Millemon was named the new representative.

Brett Combs was nominated to fill the Student Representative position (Greg Jochems is graduating). Combs was elected and named the new representative.

### **Re-election Slate**

Don Binder, third term, elected

Tania Cook, second term, elected  
Carol Keller, second term, elected  
Chelle King, second term, elected  
Justis Tuia, third term, elected  
Election of Executive Officers:  
President, Hope Harms, elected  
Vice President, Natalie Gerhart or Jean Kaul; Gerhart was elected

### **Executive Committee:**

Keith Epperson thanked the board members for their support the past two years during his tenure.

Hope Harms thanked the board members for their confidence in her and looks forward to serving as president.

Secretary Denise Smith announced the Board wants to try going digital with documents for the April Board meeting. Be sure to bring your laptop or tablet. Internet access will be provided.

### **Chapter Development Committee**

The committee is working on chapter maintenance and how to provide the best structure and support to volunteers. They also requested suggestions from the Board for the fall Alumni Leaders Conference. Updates are under consideration in the Chapter Honor Points system.

### **Programs and Awards Committee**

Carol Keller reported TruCare was a huge success and as of meeting time, 1,352 volunteers documented a total of 4,727 hours in 21 cities in nine states; six chapters and two clubs participated. They feel a strong foundation has been laid for the future of TruCare. The upcoming Alumni Travel program to Scotland is sold out with several on the waitlist. Smith has started a list of those interested in Iceland and it looks to be an exciting trip as well. They will continue to develop a list of possible future trips.

### **Student Relations Committee**

The committee is rebuilding and excited about restarting mock interviews and mentoring possibilities.

### **Old Business**

The revised Strategic Plan was presented and reviewed. The plan was approved with a couple of minor revisions and will be posted online.

Denise Smith reported on Articles of Incorporation for the Truman Alumni Association. The organization is now a separate 501 C3. All banking accounts are being closed and reopened under our new number. New financial reporting guidelines will be implemented and are enclosed in the packets.

The Foundation report was presented by liaison Jon Best. The Foundation Board approved a new Strategic Plan at their morning meeting. Endowments are at approximately 45 million, almost double what they were just over 10 years ago. The Foundation Board is working on a strategy to maintain consistency with Board turnover as members are termed out.

**New Business**

Denise Smith reviewed the activities for the rest of the weekend, and announced the start time for the Foundation Reception and Banquet.

The next Alumni Board meeting is Friday, October 13, 2017, 7:30 a.m. in Kirksville.

*(Minutes prepared by Jordan Ganter and Denise Smith)*

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Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

