

## Metro State University

### Alumni Association Board Meeting

November 28, 2023, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

<https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/96322297069>

**Members attended by Zoom:** Jim Houston, Thulani Jwacu, Matt Moe, Bryan Newman, Scott Pilgram, Ryan Ringwelski, Shahbaz Shah, Shanasha Whitson, Amanda Wong, Darrell Young

**Members not attending:** Matt Christenson, Deidra Isaac, Eric Rios

**Staff attendees:** Kristine Hansen, Rachel Hughes, Josh Windham

**Guest:** President Ginny Arthur

Amanda Wong convened the meeting. As an ice breaker activity, each Board member and staff shared a song that best describes himself/herself.

#### President's Update:

- Updated mission, vision and value statements of the university will be shared with the Metro community at the Town Hall on Friday.
- The renovation in the Student Center is completed. The university bookstore, food pantry, and Student Parent Center are now housed in the Student Center.
- The library space vacated by the bookstore on the first floor has already been renovated, and the Gordon Parks Gallery will move into the space.
- Metro State held a round table on campus that was hosted by Representative Betty McCollum who has been an avid supporter of Metro State and our cyber security programs. We brought together people from business, education, government and military sectors to discuss how the \$10.5 million should be distributed once Congress passes the defense bill. It was a great way to connect with people for the work ahead on cyber security.
- Metro State's Winter Giving Program is assisting 660 students and their families who need assistance this holiday season.
- Model Legislature, which was historically held at Winona State University for many years and run by Rep. Gene Pelowski, will be hosted by Metro State next year on Dec. 8 and 9, 2024. This is an opportunity for young people, eighth-grade and up, to learn about how to engage in the Minnesota legislative process and be advocates. We will host the final session at the State Capitol.
- As a part of the mid-term review of the university's 10-year Strategic Plan, the Mission, Vision and Values of Metro State will need to be updated. Pres. Arthur shared the final draft of the statement with the Board. The focus group successfully condensed the mission and vision, and implemented what community values in the university values.

- **Mission**

*Metro State University empowers learners to transform their lives and communities through relevant, student-centered education in an inclusive, anti-racist, and supportive learning environment.*

- **Vision**

*Metro State University will deliver the transformative power of higher education to all. As a national leader, we will innovate to meet emerging challenges, remove barriers to access and success, and propel the social and economic mobility of diverse learners and their communities.*

- **Values**

- **Inclusion**

*We seek unity in diversity, find strength in our differences, and create a space where all people feel like they belong and can contribute, while identifying, challenging, and changing the values, structures, and behaviors that perpetuate systemic bias systems around disability status, ethnicity, gender and gender identity, immigration status, sexuality, or social class.*

- **Anti-racism**  
*We actively identify, challenge, and change the values, structures, and behaviors that perpetuate systemic racism to create a more equitable and just university. We equip learners to be agents of change.*
- **Integrity**  
*We expect and support honesty, transparency, fairness, and curiosity from all members of the university community. We listen to understand, seek reconciliation of differences, and hold each other accountable.*
- **Meaningful Education**  
*We inspire and challenge diverse learners to pursue and apply knowledge for the good of their communities, recognizing competencies achieved through unique lived experiences, discoveries, individualized study, and engagement. We equip learners with the knowledge, communication and critical thinking skills, and information literacy to analyze and resolve the problems of today and tomorrow.*
- **Transformation**  
*We accelerate social mobility and economic advancement of learners and graduates, their families, and their communities by providing a dynamic and affordable education that helps them achieve their aspirations. Learners see a Metro State University education as a catalyst for their personal transformation.*

### **Approval of Committee Notes:**

This action will be moved to the January meeting. In the future, committee notes will be housed in the Teams folder. Board members will be asked to review them through the platform.

### **Foundation Board Updates by Matt Moe:**

- Foundation Board discussed the overall engagement and expectations of the Board.
- The Board recapped the Rise to Shine event and discussed the feasibility of the event next year.
- The Board's financial status was reviewed. Everything seemed to be on track.
- The Board announced that the next in-person board meeting is on April 9, 2024.

Going forward, the Foundation Board updates will be included in the Alumni Board agenda since the Alumni Board represents as a member and collaborates with the Foundation Board.

### **Call for Pitch/Key Messages**

Alumni Board would like to create key messages that summarize Metro State and what the Board does when they meet with external constituents. Wong will send a follow-up email to the Board to recruit volunteers.

### **Micro-Learning Survey**

In an attempt to foster a camaraderie within the Board and contribute to personal/professional development, Kristine Hansen casted a poll:

- One skill that you can teach your fellow Board members
  - Creating a 60-second presentation of who, what, and how you want to be introduced
  - Persistence
  - Teaching people where to go to diversify
  - How to scan a resume quickly
  - Basic board financial management
  - How to inspire people to get involved
  - Accounting
  - Logic models
  - Quick PowerPoint skills, optimizing LinkedIn profiles

- One skill you would be interested in learning from your fellow Board members
  - Writing public posts that sing
  - Perceived power differentials in the workspace/working with executives
  - Learning where more resources are for community members
  - Marketing to potential donors or sponsors
  - Marketing
  - How to better use social media
  - How to have difficult conversations
  - How to run an effective and positive meeting

### **Give to the Max Day (GTMD) Update**

Hansen thanked the Board who contributed to the success of the effort.

- A couple of matches by faculty members and a match from Foundation Board member Bob Carter were met.
- There were 120 donors who gave during the Give to the GTMD period.
- Before the match, we raised \$16,914.23.
- The grand total with matches was \$24,414.23

### **Alumni Professional Development Fund Awards**

The Alumni Professional Development Fund is a small fund that supports alumni in launching their career by covering the cost associated with professional development. The Fundraising Committee chose two recipients:

- \$500 to Miranda Price '22 who will use the fund for the SHRM-CP (Society of Human Resources Management Certified Professional)
- \$490 to Jessica Butina '21 who will use the fund for various continuing education opportunities and memberships in the nursing field

Metro State strives to support and have a lifelong relationship with our alumni, and this is one of the ways to live out the value proposition of walking beside them on their journey for life.

### **Other business**

- Call for volunteers for the Alumni Career Experience on January 11
- After-holiday social prior to the January 30 board meeting—more information to come

Meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Noriko Ramberg, Office Coordinator