

Metro State University
Alumni Association Board Meeting
July 30, 2024, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
<https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/98538928998>

Members attended: Bryan Newman, Scott Pilgram, Ryan Ringwelski, Shahbaz Shah, Amanda Wong

Members attended by Zoom: Jim Houston, Deidra Isaac, Matt Moe, Eric Rios, Shanasha Whitson

Members not attending: Matt Christenson, Darrell Young

Staff attendees: Ginny Arthur, Kristine Hansen, Will Ruckel

Ryan Ringwelski convened the meeting. As an ice breaker activity, he asked each Board member and staff to name a pizza topping she/he loves that many people tend to hate. Will Ruckel, Director of Annual Fund and Stewardship, was introduced to the Board.

Announcement of new officers for FY25:

- President: Ryan Ringwelski
- Vice President: Matt Moe
- Engagement Officer: Shanasha Whitson

Ringwelski acknowledged and expressed his gratitude to exiting president Amanda Wong for her service as the board president these past two years. Wong will remain on the Executive Committee as an immediate-past president and as chair of the Advocacy Committee.

Ringwelski also recognized the departure of Shahbaz Shah from the Alumni Board and thanked him for his commitment during the past three years. Shah will continue to serve on the Membership Committee.

University Update by President Ginny Arthur:

- The Strategic Planning Steering and Planning Committee and its consultants crafted a draft plan that contains four key priorities and three goals under each priority to focus on over the next five years. The refined draft plan will be presented to all campus shareholders at the August 20 convocation, and it will be shared with the Alumni Board afterwards.

The priorities are:

- Student Success
- Equity and Inclusion
- Building on Strengths
- Sustainability and Community Engagement
 - Integration of community engagement
 - Strengthening partnerships and establishment of new collaborations
 - Enhancement of alumni involvement

Speaking of the goal of alumni involvement, the university would like to see at least one new alumni-led initiative and engage (TBD)% of alumni each year, and explore the ways to capture how our alumni are making changes in the broader community and how the university can connect them with our students.

- The academic year 2024-2025 starts in two weeks.
- Convocation is the week of August 19. The keynote speech by President Arthur will be held on August 20 at 11:00 a.m.-noon in the Founders Hall Auditorium, and the Alumni Board members are invited to attend.

Approval of Committee Notes:

Board members reviewed the committee notes prior to the Board meeting. Motion to approve the committee notes moved by Shah, seconded by Bryan Newman, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Membership Committee Update by Scott Pilgram:

- The committee will start looking at the list of possible committee members and discuss in August. Pilgram will be in touch with each committee chair to discuss the recruitment and current membership needs.
- The listening sessions for committee recruitment will resume in September. Ringwelski encouraged the board members to encourage any Metro State alumni who are interested in the board committees to attend the listening session.
- Happy hour is planned in August. Watch for the Doodle poll.

Foundation board updates:

No updates. The next Foundation Board meeting is in September.

Fall Events:

All board members are encouraged to volunteer at the upcoming events:

- August 24: *Metro State Alumni at the St. Paul Saints Game*; [MetroStateAlumniSaintsGame.eventbrite.com](https://www.metrostate.edu/calendar/diversity-networking-and-job-fair-0)
- September 12: *Career Fair Orientation*, 4-6 p.m.; <https://www.metrostate.edu/calendar/diversity-networking-and-job-fair-0>
- September 24-27: *Alumni Week of Service*
- September 28: *Fall Fest*
- September 26: *Diversity Networking Job Fair*; <https://www.metrostate.edu/calendar/job-fair>

Save the date: October 5: *Board Retreat*

Meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m. and the Board members headed to the University Advancement office suite to take part in the Annual Fund Drive Thank-a-thon afterwards.

Respectfully submitted,
Noriko Ramberg, Office Coordinator