



DATE: April 17, 2011

FROM: Rebecca Votto '93
President—Saint Mary's College Alumnae Association Board of Directors

SUBJECT: Update of Spring 2011 Meeting of the Alumnae Association Board of Directors

Campus Highlights from the Spring Meeting:

- The Board was invited to attend **Celebrating Women in Science** on Saturday, March 26th. It was a day-long event that featured the presentation of Senior Comprehensives, Alumnae Panel: *Life After Senior Comps*, keynote address by Director of Development at the Mathile Institute for Human Nutrition, Sharon Norton, PhD : *The Making of a Scientist* and President Mooney's announcement of a major gift to Saint Mary's. The Board was able to attend the keynote address and President Mooney's address. Sharon Norton's speech engaged and enthused the standing-room-only audience at Carroll Auditorium. After the keynote, President Mooney announced that Saint Mary's received the largest single private gift in the College's history. MaryAnn and Clayton Mathile, donated \$9 million dollars to Saint Mary's for the renovation of the Science Hall. In addition, their daughter, Jennifer Mathile Prikkel '95, donated \$1 million to the project for a combined gift of \$10 million.

It was so exciting to be there for this very special day in Saint Mary's history. Some Board members were moved to tears at the announcement of this transformative gift. Everyone was over the moon! If you have a moment, explore the link below for video and press from the event.

- A link to more information on the event: www.saintmarys.edu/womeninscience
- The Board was also invited to attend **Meet Me at the Avenue** –an event hosted by Admissions for admitted students held March 26-27, 2011. The Board of Directors attended a reception for Presidential Scholars on Saturday, March 26th. President Mooney presented Presidential Scholars with their medallions. Director, Sarah Brown '05, represented the Alumnae Association addressing prospective students and their families at the Welcome for *Meet Me at the Avenue* on Sunday, March 27th.
- Several Board members sampled the newest beverage offered on campus, a bubbly, green soda called *Twist O'Luck*. A team of five students enrolled in the New Venture business class started the new soda company: creating the formula, designing the labels, and selecting the packaging: green glass bottles with gold twist off caps. It is available for purchase at Cyber Café. It is tasty!

Highlights from the Spring Meeting Agenda:

- Alumnae Relations Office submitted a draft of a strategic plan for the office detailing goals for the next 5 years. The Board reviewed the plan and shared feedback which will be incorporated for the Final Draft. Most notably, it was decided that the strategic plan will be edited to shape goals and objectives for the Alumnae Association and Alumnae Relations Office.

- Admissions provided the Board with an update and requested members call Admitted Legacy Students not yet committed to Saint Mary's.
- The Student/Alumnae Committee organized informal meetings for Board members with First Year Students of McCandless. A meeting on connecting and networking with alumnae and alumnae clubs was scheduled for Seniors and Board members.
- Student/Alumnae arranged for a candlelight dinner in the Noble Family Dining Hall the week of March 20th to promote the presence of the Board on campus to students.
- Student/Alumnae, in cooperation with the Career Crossings Office, organized mock interviews for students with Directors.
- On Friday, March 25th, the Board had lunch with President Mooney. During the lunch, we honored our retiring Directors: *Chris Bodewes '87, Mary Sue Dunn Curry '85, Jinqqiu Guan '11, Liz Bermingham Lacy '66, and Lisa Maxbauer Price '99.* We will surely miss each of these great women and I am so fortunate to have had the opportunity to know and work with each of them.

A brief review of some of the work executed by the Committees:

- BS&A selected two new members to the Board. Chelsea Young '13 was selected for the open Student position. Cass Connor '66 was selected from the pool of 1960s applicants. BS&A also selected the recipient of the Outstanding Senior Award which will be announced at the Alumnae Senior Brunch as well as the recipients of the Alumnae Association Awards which will be announced at Reunion.
- Clubs & Resources is reviewing different opportunities for Clubs/Alumnae to work with different College departments ie: Admissions as well as program support for Clubs.
- *One Book, One Saint Mary's* continues to connect the Saint Mary's community in various ways via, *History of Love*. Several clubs selected the book held discussion events over the 10-11. An online chat was held in December. The program was covered by *The Observer*. The Facebook group is active. Dr. Billy will moderate a discussion on *History of Love* as part of Reunion.
- Alumnae Engagement organized a reflection series for Lent 2011 featuring writings by members of the Saint Mary's community including: *Liz Leeuw '12, Alma Bravo '12, Therese Johnson Borchard '93, Jeanne Grammens '86, Sara Bateman Koehler '70, Sr. Mary E Penrose OSB '59, Debbie Johnson Schwiebert '74, Cindy Meyer Wargocki '99.* As well, Liz Leeuw '12 provided all the photographs used in the series. Therese Borchard '93 is the Commencement '11 speaker.
- Alumnae Engagement is organizing a Welcome Home event for Commencement, an informal event organized near the reception providing a central place for connection. If you plan to attend Commencement, look for the Welcome Home table and sign in and meet other alumnae.