



DATE: September 25, 2011

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

SUBJECT: Alumnae Association Board Fall Meeting Highlights

The Alumnae Association Board of Directors meeting was held September 14-16, 2011.

- Reunion 2011 welcomed 1005 alumnae and guests. 92 members of the class of '61 (47%) returned to celebrate their 50th reunion. Over 70 student-athlete alumnae also returned as part of the Student-Athlete Affinity Group Reunion and 2011 Hall of Fame Induction Dinner. There were 33 programs offered by alumnae, faculty and staff over the course of the weekend. Giving to College as part of Reunion Gift Campaign increased to 38% for Reunion 11.
- The Alumnae Mentoring Program (AMP) pilot is an initiative of the Cross Currents Program that partners with the Career Crossings Office and the Office of Alumnae Relations. Cross Currents is a student advising program. As a pilot, the program paired 14 alumnae with 14 students based on career, geography and/or major. There are several requirements of both students and alumnae for participation in program. Feasibility to roll out to all Juniors/Seniors will be assessed during the 2 year pilot. 2 Board Members participate in program and 4 AMP members participated in the Board's Success After Saint Mary's program in September.
- 12 Clubs awarded scholarship monies to students from their areas, approximately 19 students benefit from Club Scholarship funds for 2011-12. Additionally, the Alumnae Memorial Scholarship generated \$15,600 in award money. All students receiving Alumnae Memorial Scholarship awards have a legacy connection.
- The Alumnae Travel Program for 2011-12 was scheduled was in partnership with Notre Dame Alumni Association to the Holy Land in November 2011, the trip was cancelled due to unrest in the area. Saint Mary's will partner with Notre Dame Alumni Association to travel to Ireland; the trip is scheduled for Wednesday, August 29, 2012- Wednesday, September 5, 2012. The highlight of the trip will be the Emerald Isle Classic (ND v Navy) in Dublin on Saturday, September 1, 2012. Saint Mary's alumnae will sit with Notre Dame alumni at the game and be included in all Notre Dame exclusive events. Anthony travel is making all arrangements for the trip.
- Alumnae seek opportunities to connect with each other and the College via social media. The Alumnae Association Facebook page has over 3,900 fans. 67% of the fans are ages 25-44. The Linked In Alumnae group has doubled in size since Fall 2010 with over 1,500 members. As well, the group has seen an increase in job posts and related discussions.
- The strategic plan for the Alumnae Association and Office of Alumnae Relations was presented to the Board. The Alumnae Board endorses the plan (Alumnae Relations Strategic Plan 2011-2016). The plan will be presented to the Board of Trustees' College Relations Committee in October.
- While on campus in September, Board members met with two student groups: *CAT Scholars* and *Friends with Sisters*. Board members also shared an informal dinner with students at the Noble Family Dining Hall. In addition to opportunities to interact with students, the Board shared lunch with *The Division for Mission*. While at lunch, Sr. Veronique Wiedower, CSC presented highlights from the 2010-11 Spirituality & Service survey of students.

- In an effort to foster collaboration and stronger relationships between the Association and the College, the Board partnered with College Offices, Faculty and staff to explore and develop specific areas for engagement of the Association with the College
 - *Success After Saint Mary's*: a program partnering Office of Alumnae Relations, Career Crossings Office and the Alumnae Association to encourage and strengthen the Saint Mary's network by creating a forum for connecting students with alumnae via a focus on networking and exploring alumnae career paths.
 - *One Book, One Saint Mary's*: engages the Saint Mary's community in a shared reading experience of a title voted on by the Alumnae Association. The program is coordinated by members of the Alumnae Board, Media Relations, Office of Alumnae Relations, Cushwa Leighton Library and faculty. This year's title is *Circling My Mother* by Mary Gordon. To date, the book was taught by Laura Ambrose in HUST and the program can be followed via the Saint Mary's website or Facebook.
 - *Spirituality & Service*: members of the Alumnae Board collaborate with members of the Office of Civic and Social Engagement, Campus Ministry and Center for Spirituality to provide alumnae with opportunities for spiritual and service engagement.
 - Giving & Development: Alumnae Board Members work with Jan Druvesteyn, Ass't VP of Development and Heather Frey, Director of Annual Fund to provide a foundation for fund raising strategies and efforts of the College.

- The Board's four standing committees guide the work of the Board, the Committees seek to:
 - At the Fall Meeting, BSA reviewed candidates for Board service. New Board members were selected and approved by the Board and will be announced shortly. Several current Board members were also presented for a second term and approved by the Board.
 - *Clubs and Resource Committee* will provide Club Leaders with resources to strengthen leadership and connection to College. Committee will work with OAR to revitalize as many clubs as possible.
 - President Mooney has 3 trips to Clubs planned for 2011-12: Denver in November; Chicago in December; and Detroit in March.
 - *Student Alumnae* will create opportunities for interaction between Association and students prior to graduation to strengthen the Saint Mary's
 - *Alumnae Engagement* will work with Office of Alumnae Relations to explore additional Reunion programs, promote alumnae leadership (as leaders of program), explore opportunities for continued alumnae engagement in life of College and promote leadership and success within Association namely

- ***Success After Saint Mary's*** seminar was held Thursday, September 15th. The task force invited members of the pilot Alumnae Mentor Program to participate in the event. Alumnae: Courtney Parry '09, Jen Bradburn '01, Mary Elizabeth Ulliman '10, Sarah Hoshaw '02 as well as Board Members shared their experiences in job search and career success with over 50 students who attended the event. This program was co-hosted by the Alumnae Association BOD, the Office of Alumnae Relations and CCO.

- The Board and College hosted the third annual ***Welcome Home*** event on Saturday, September 17th. ***Welcome Home*** invites alumnae, students and friends to Dalloway's prior to the ND game. BellaCappella performed several songs including *The Belles of Saint Mary's*. There was also a chili cook-off which featured recipes from four of the residence halls. Guests voted for their favorite chili. The winning recipe was submitted by: Holy Cross Hall. The event was attended by over 100 including faculty, staff, students, alumnae and guests. This event gives a visible and personal experience to connect alumnae, who may be in town for a high-profile weekend, with the College.