

Summary Report  
AAWC Board of Directors Meeting  
October 2, 2017

On September 29-October 1, the Alumnae Association held its Fall Weekend on campus. Over 50 alumnae attended. Program highlights included sessions on the upcoming revision of the Association's bylaws, campus focus by Chair Barb Tenney '67 and President Barbara Mistick, a philanthropic session led by the Advancement Division, a discussion of college's social media venues, and the work of the Class Representatives. Lunch focused on support of the student experience with student intern speakers. On Saturday evening, many of us enjoyed a delicious dinner which served as a fundraiser for the Fulton Farm. We made an in-kind donation to the fundraiser of leftover beverages from Reunion Weekend.

Dr. Mistick shared some of the results from the alumnae/i survey. The college received 1,308 completed surveys; an 18% response rate – which is excellent. The key takeaways are for increases in alumnae/i engagement, internships, and overall support for students. Look for more on survey results in the *Wilson Magazine*.

The Travel Committee: As I write this report, several alumnae are traveling in Italy. They are visiting the Amalfi Coast, Naples, Greek ruins in Paestum, Herculaneum and Pompeii. Village Life in France: Languedoc – the REAL South of France is scheduled for October 14-22. Need travel advice? Contact the AAWC Travel Desk at [AAWCTravelDesk@gmail.com](mailto:AAWCTravelDesk@gmail.com). Seasoned alumnae travelers will be happy to assist you.

With the beginning of a new school year, comes the need for alums in the Aunt Sarah Program. Forty-five new students have signed up and pairing has begun. If you would like to be an Aunt Sarah to a student, please contact us at [AAWC@wilson.edu](mailto:AAWC@wilson.edu).

The Finance Committee reviewed the financial statements for FY17. Balances as of June 30 are: General operating fund \$21,477, Class Treasuries \$68,137, Alumnae/i Student Activities \$1,311, Internships \$6,206, Preservation \$6,163, Tift Award \$323, and the Silver Lining Fund \$4,616. Financials were sent to the auditors for review.

The Nominating Committee is currently working on the 2018-20 slate of officers and directors. Up for election will be the President, an Alumnae Trustee, a nominating committee member, and several directors. The Committee is always cognizant of the need for diversity on all levels. If you would like to nominate someone, please refer to the Nominating Form which can be found online.

With great dismay, we accepted the resignations of De-Enda Rotz and Sarah Wilson. De-Enda's work responsibilities have increased and prohibit her from a full commitment to

our Board of Directors. Sarah is also resigning as an Alumnae Trustee. Next semester, Sarah will be on the faculty of Wilson College in the sustainable studies area.

The Board approved the following appointments: Sue Ann Cook '81 as Alumnae Trustee and Dorothy Van Brakle '09 as Vice President. These individuals will serve until June 2019.

The Association ratified the awarding of an internship gift in the amount of \$400 to a student (given in May and approved by the Student Connections Committee at that time). This brings our total scholarships for fiscal year 2017 to \$1,200.

The Board approved the expenditure of up to \$200 to purchase music writing and transcribing software plus a USB interface for an electronic keyboard for the music department. The goal is to create a new Wilson songbook.

Total college enrollment for this fall is 1216 (an increase of 11%) vs 1098 in fall of 2016. Our largest gain was in the traditional undergraduates, with an approximately 21% increase. We have the largest freshman class since 1966. By cohort, there are 553 traditional undergraduates, 273 adult undergraduates, 258 graduate students, and 132 in the Eduspire Program.

Total giving to the college for FY17 amounted to \$5.2 million. The Wilson Fund came in at \$1.337 million. The number of donors increased this year.

Campus focus for fiscal year 2017:

- National recognition in *US News & World Report* -- #5 for Best Value regional colleges in the North, #11 for Best Regional College in the northeast region, and #6 for Best College for Veterans.
- Named a national College of Distinction for 2017-18 for our commitment and achievement in engaging students, great teaching, vibrant community, and successful outcomes.
- In May, two students graduated who were in the Student Loan Buyback Program; currently there are eight on track to qualify upon graduation in 2018.
- The nursing program has received accreditation.
- Exercise and Sport Science has been reinstated as a major.
- Wilson currently has ten sports teams – 135 athletes; 60 of which are freshmen.
- Lori Frey announced the addition of a pep band and has named Samantha Marshal as the Pep Band Director. She will direct and manage the overall pep band program as well as coordinate the appearances of the Phoenix mascot.

- Lori Frey also mentioned that she is working on creating a Booster Club. If you are interested in this program, please contact her.
- Wilson has accepted an invitation to join the Colonial States Athletic Conference in 2018-19. This move aligns Wilson with other small, private colleges and provides more balanced competition. No institution is more than four hours away – which cuts travel time – and represents areas in which we recruit students.

*Note: Over the summer and during Fall Weekend, alumnae inquired about an Association name change. Let me assure you that there are no plans to change the name of the Alumnae Association of Wilson College. We are our own entity – registered with the Commonwealth of PA and the federal government through the IRS.*

Mary F. Cramer '91  
President