



## Board of Trustees HIGHLIGHTS & SUMMARY

Vol. 24, No. 4 May 7, 2018

### President's Report

President John J. Hurley reported that the college hosted a successful Regents Scholarship Ball on May 5, 2018 and honored Candace Johnson, PhD, President/CEO of Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Mr. Hurley also congratulated the men's lacrosse team, which earned the MAAC Championship title and a berth in the NCAA Tournament. Mr. Hurley reported on enrollment and noted that the college is confronting a variety of challenges. There are still a number of prospective students in the admissions pool and the college is doing everything possible to meet its recruitment goals. Mr. Hurley reported that the NYS budget passed before Easter and legislation included the preservation of Bundy Aid and an increase for the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP). He said these programs are highly important for the college and its students, including many first generation students. Regarding *Canisius 150*, the college's strategic plan, Mr. Hurley said that progress has been made on nearly all of the objectives of the annual operating plan. He announced that the college has filled some critical positions: Denise Rotundo, PhD, has been selected as the next Dean of the Wehle School of Business; Kimberly Venti has been selected to become the next Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement; Kim Beatty, has been selected as the Director of Public Safety; and Scott Hemmer has joined Canisius as Women's Basketball Coach. In closing, Mr. Hurley reported on the college's plan to implement a new summer hours program for administrative staff.

### Academics Committee

Dr. Margaret McCarthy, Vice President for Academic Affairs, announced that Dr. Rotundo will begin her position as the Dean of the Wehle School of Business on June 4, 2018. She also reported on other vacant positions that have been filled, as well as an estimate of budget savings associated with unfilled positions and other adjustments. Dr. McCarthy shared photos of the East West Community Garden ground breaking. This space has been developed by faculty and staff members who are dedicated to sustainability in collaboration with PS 17, the Somali-Bantu Community Organization, and the Oxford Square Block Club, among others. Dr. McCarthy explained the process for creating new programs and suspending others, and provided the committee with a list of program changes. The committee recommended and the Board approved the final resolution to accept the changes as presented at the meeting. Dr. McCarthy, together with Fr. Patrick Lynch, SJ, retiring director of the core curriculum, explained the three new pathways through the Core: Sustainability, Global Citizenship, and "Canisius Camino" modeled after the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. As a pilot program next year, students will have the opportunity to choose one of the pathways in order to develop an interdisciplinary understanding of the topic area. Karl Kozlowski, PhD, Chair of the Faculty Senate explained that the Faculty Handbook updates have not been completed. He also discussed with the committee the results of the Faculty Morale Survey, which were distributed to all Trustees.

### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee renewed the appointment of Deloitte as the college's audit firm for 2018, and Deloitte presented its audit plan for the upcoming year. The committee also reviewed the status of new and ongoing legal claims. Marco Benedetti, Vice President for Business & Finance, explained that a number of claims were settled during the fiscal year and new claim activity has reduced overall.

### Committee on Trusteeship

The Board unanimously elected the following individuals to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees, effective July 1, 2018:

- Catherine A. Bolz '85, MBA '89, Global Head of Benefits, Bloomberg, LP
- Christopher P. Devine, CPA '98, CFO, Pyramid Hotel Group
- Christopher F. Malof, MBA '96, Managing Director, The Arthurs Malof Group, UBS Financial Services
- Francis M. Lazarus, '66 PhD, President Emeritus, University of Dallas
- Lt. Col. James E. McNicholas, Jr. '68, Retired, U.S. Army
- Hon. Acea M. Mosey '92, Erie County Surrogate Court Judge
- Marya J. Propis '91, Insurance Executive and Consultant
- Anthony F. Shelley '84, Attorney, Miller & Chevalier

The following Trustees were unanimously elected to serve a second three-year term on the Board of Trustees effective July 1, 2018: Martin J. Berardi '79, David S. Ciancimino, S.J., Thomas R. Emmerling '75, Cynthia E. Vance, and Nancy W. Ware '78, MBA '85. The following officers were also elected: Chair, Lee C. Wortham '79; Vice Chair, John R. Connolly '72; Secretary, Erica C. Sammarco '00; and Treasurer, Marco F. Benedetti.

The committee also presented a resolution to amend the Trustees Roles and Responsibilities policy. The change was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Enrollment Management Committee**

The Enrollment Management Committee heard an update on academic programs by Dr. McCarthy. Director of Undergraduate Admission, Justin Rogers, and Dr. David Devereux, Professor of History, provided the committee with a report on the undergraduate admissions faculty advisory group, which was formed earlier this year. Director of Graduate Admission, Julie Zulewski, in partnership with Dr. Shawn O'Rourke, Assistant Professor of Sports Administration, discussed the work of the graduate advisory council. Kathleen B. Davis, Vice President for Enrollment Management, provided an update on summer undergraduate and graduate registration and presented on the Fall 2018 freshmen enrollment statistics. The committee discussed a range of plans that will be implemented to continue to make progress toward the recruitment goals.

**Finance & Facilities Committee**

The Fiscal Year 2019 Budget was reviewed in depth. The committee ultimately recommended approval of the operating budget with a deficit and included a modest increase to the employee retirement contribution, but they directed the leadership of the college to develop a plan to increase student revenues and manage expenses to offset the anticipated deficit. The committee also recommended approval of the proposed capital budget, which includes \$2.9 million in capital improvements. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved operating guidelines and the capital budget and plan for the 2018-19 fiscal year and approved a 5% spending rate from the college's endowment to support scholarships and programs. Additionally, the Board resolved to modify the college's 403 (b) retirement plan matching contribution to an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the participant's compensation provided that the participant's elective deferral equals or exceeds one percent (1%) of the participant's compensation. The committee also reviewed several real estate opportunities. The committee recommended and the Board approved a resolution to sell 23 Agassiz Circle, the current Institutional Advancement office, which will relocate to the Martin House on campus, 1016 Lafayette Avenue, and 41 Hughes Ave, as well as an exchange for property owned by the college at 16 Glendale for property owned by a seller at 69 Florida St. .

**Mission & Identity Committee**

Dr. Sandra Estanek, Chair of the Mission Priority Examen process, reported on the status of the evidence collected, interviews conducted, and surveys underway to understand the many ways in which the college expresses its Catholic, Jesuit mission and identity. She outlined the steering committee's preliminary findings and said the report would be written over the summer. Committee members were invited to review a drafts; the final report will be delivered to the Board at the October meeting. The committee continued its discussions about the future of Canisius as a Catholic, Jesuit university in the face of a diminishing Jesuit presence on the campus. The committee discussed efforts to increase lay formation and to develop a plan, in consultation with the Province, that would ensure that the college's Catholic, Jesuit mission and identity remained vital and operative well into the future.

**Institutional Advancement Committee**

William Collins, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, reported year-to-date fundraising stands at \$9.1 million versus \$5.4 million one year ago, due in large part to a number of large gifts and bequests that have been secured during this fiscal year. The Canisius Fund is running slightly behind last year but that will improve as the proceeds from Giving Day are booked. Summer Handzlik, director of the Canisius Fund, reported Giving Day 2018 finished at 2,158 donors and contributions totaling \$456,000. Mr. Collins reviewed progress on the implementation of the West Wind Consulting recommendations, chief among them the hiring of a new Associate Vice president, Kimberly Venti, who starts at the college on May 21. Associate Vice President of Marketing, Matt Wojick, gave a report on the college's marketing and advertising programs for recruitment, including a review of the high level strategy, budget allocations and creative executions in a variety of media.

**Student Life Committee**

Amelia Greenan '18 offered a reflection of her year as Undergraduate Student Association (USA) president and introduced the incoming president, Matthew Smardz '19. He briefly outlined his goals for USA for the 2018-19 academic year. Dr. Jonathan Lopez '03 offered his final report as chair of the Faculty Student Liaison Committee of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Lopez indicated that Dr. Debra Burhans will chair this committee next year. Bill Maher, Director of Athletics offered the annual athletics report. Mr. Maher highlighted the outstanding achievements of our student-athletes both in the classroom and in their respective sports. Ms. Greenan '18, Kriselle Green '18, and Ryan Stekl '18 spoke with the committee about their experiences as undergraduate students.

**Special Thanks**

The following Trustees were recognized for their dedicated service to the Board of Trustees. Their terms conclude on June 30, 2018:

- Teresa M. Amabile, PhD, Baker Foundation Professor, Harvard Business School
- Michael A. Ervolina, Jr., President, Valu Home Centers, Inc.
- Ronald A. Raccuia, President, ADPRO Sports
- James E. Sherwood, PhD, Ret. Executive Dean/Campus CEO, Suffolk County Community College
- Hon. Lawrence J. Vilardo, US District Judge
- Pauline C. Will, Partner, Bennett, Schechter, Arcuri & Will, LLP

**2018-19 Board Meeting Dates**

October 1, 2018  
December 3, 2018  
March 4, 2019  
May 6, 2019

**Erica C. Sammarco, Secretary**