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President's Report

President Hurley updated the Board on the status of the ongoing searches for a Dean of the School of Education and Human Services and Vice Presidents in the areas of Enrollment Management (VP EM) and Institutional Advancement (VPIA). Final interviews are in process for the Dean's position and a decision should be made soon. Three finalists for VP EM have been approved for a series of on-campus interviews to be conducted in early March and the VPIA search committee is still conducting preliminary interviews.

Mr. Hurley reported that the completion of Science Hall is a critical need for the college. The college is evaluating opportunities such as the Governor Cuomo's Start Up NY program that would enable Canisius to engage in collaborations that are synergistic with the college's mission and programs and simultaneously provide some of the resources required to complete the build-out of Science Hall.

Mr. Hurley reported that after two years of work, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) rejected Canisius' application for a PhD in Counselor Education. The college plans to appeal the decision. Mr. Hurley also reported on federal and state legislative issues, including the Higher Education Reauthorization Act and a recent meeting of presidents of the Western New York Consortium of Higher Education at which the local state legislative delegation heard numerous complaints about NYSED's new program evaluation process.

Mr. Hurley reported on a number of accomplishments in men's basketball, baseball, and swimming and diving. In women's lacrosse, the Griffins were picked to repeat as MAAC champions in a pre-season coach's poll. Mr. Hurley also reported that students in the Golden Griffin Fund took first place for the fourth consecutive year in the Chartered Financial Analyst Upstate NY Competition and will go on to the national competition.

Mr. Hurley updated the Board on the status of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education self-study process and timeline. He also reported on progress of the Strategic Assessment initiatives.

Honorary Degree

The Executive Committee nominated and the Board approved Richard F. Griffin '54, a prominent local attorney, and his wife Jane, a researcher from Hauptman Woodward Research Institute for honorary degrees at the May Commencement.

Finance & Facilities Committee Resolution

The Board unanimously passed a resolution increasing 2014-15 undergraduate tuition, and room and board by 2.0%.

Academics Committee

Dr. Christine Licata-Culhane reported that the Academics Committee spent considerable time reviewing the college's progress toward completing the Middle States Commission on Higher Education self-study. The committee specifically reviewed first drafts of reports on standards 11, 12 and 14. While there are concerns to be addressed, the committee encouraged the college to approach the report in a reflective but positive way. The committee also discussed the Core Curriculum and challenges in assessing it. The committee recommended that the Core be refined to make it assessable, less complicated, and marketable for the college. The committee heard from Dr. Michael Noonan, Chair of the Faculty Senate, who discussed the positive progress toward improving shared governance at Canisius and reported on current faculty concerns.

Audit Committee

Mr. Ben K. Wells reported that Marco Benedetti successfully obtained essential bond covenant waivers and that the final audited financial statements were filed on time. The audit identified issues

in endowment accounting and the control environment. Corrective measures are already underway.

**Finance and Facilities
Committee**

Mr. Michael A. Ervolina reported on the current year operating statements, employment totals and expense reductions. While revenue is declining as enrollment shrinks with the demographic shifts, the committee commended the college for the progress it has made in controlling expenses. The college anticipates closing the year with a balanced budget. A report submitted by the Investment Advisory Subcommittee indicated that the value of the college's endowment hit a high water mark of more than \$103 million as of January 31. The committee also discussed capital projects and progress on the renovations to the Library Learning Commons project.

**Institutional
Advancement
Committee**

Mr. John R. Connolly reported that the committee reviewed the progress of the Canisius Fund. Currently at 70% of its goal, Institutional Advancement will make a significant push to achieve its goals for participation and donations fiscal year end. He reported that the committee reviewed the latest edition of the Canisius College Community Report. Mr. Connolly said the committee was very impressed by the substance of the report and encouraged the college to promote it widely. He also reported that the Office of Alumni Engagement is implementing a variety of new programs to invigorate participation in the alumni chapters. He reported that plans for the Regents Ball, scheduled for May 3, 2014, are well underway and that the college looks forward to honoring Russ Brandon, President and CEO of the Buffalo Bills, with the Distinguished Citizen Award.

**Mission & Identity
Committee**

Hon. Mary Grace Diehl reported that Rev. Michael Tunney, S.J. has been working on portions of the Middle States self-study that are focused on mission. Fr. Tunney updated the committee on progress with the "My Magis" project and efforts to expand mission and identity across the college community. Ms. Diehl also said the committee is also continuing its work of the charge for the Mission & Identity Committee. A draft will be presented to the Board at its May meeting.

**Student Life
Committee**

Mr. Lawrence J. Vilardo reported that the committee is continuing to focus on student retention. Several students shared their experiences and offered suggestions to improve student life. He said that the committee was pleased to learn that freshmen fall to spring retention rates are showing signs of improvement and credited initiatives implemented last fall for the positive results. The committee heard from Brock Wilkinson on a proposal to install a wellness center in the Palisano Pavilion. The Board supported this initiative for its potential to improve student satisfaction and on-campus engagement. The committee also received a report from Gary Everett, Director of Public Safety, on measures their unit has undertaken to improve campus safety.

**Trusteeship
Committee**

Mr. Rocco J. Maggiotto reported on the status of the new trustee selection process. There are currently up to six vacancies on the Board and Mr. Hurley will begin discussions with nominees to ascertain their interest. The committee, he said, also reviewed memos by Mr. Hurley for measures to improve shared governance and enhance board effectiveness. He reported that the committee fully endorsed the recommendations and that Mr. Hurley will continue to work with the Faculty Senate and the administration to work out the details.

**Future Meetings and
Events**

2013-14 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule

- May 5, 2014

Board of Regents Scholarship Ball

- May 3, 2013

Commencement Exercises

- Graduate Ceremony: May 14, 2014- 7:00 p.m.
- Undergraduate Ceremony: May 17, 2014 – 10:00 a.m.

Erica C. Sammarco, Secretary