



WINTER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 22, 2014

After showing The Association Impact Video, Porter S. Garner III '79, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Association of Former Students, called the Winter Leadership Council meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Zachry Family Rooms in the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. Garner recognized Dr. Karan Watson, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at Texas A&M, Dr. Ed Davis '67, President of the Texas A&M Foundation, and Dr. Tim Rhea, Director of Bands at Texas A&M. Benjamin Pinkerton '14, Corps of Cadets Chaplain, provided the invocation and Don Boyle, Jr. '08, President of the Sea Aggie Former Student Network, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESIDENT AND CEO'S REMARKS

Garner provided an update on Association events and activities including promoting the SEC Network and asked the Council members to contact their local cable and satellite providers to ask them to add the SEC Network to their selections. Garner stated the Young Alumni Advisory Council was formed in 2012 and consists of 38 Aggies who have graduated in the most recent 10 years, and welcomed and recognized member Jaime Ortegon '06. Garner stated the Young Alumni Advisory Council was instrumental in creating the 12 Under 12 Spotlight which appeared in the January 2014 *Texas Aggie*, and also Aggie Entrepreneurship Saturday. The Association partnered with the Mays Business School's Center for New Ventures and Entrepreneurship and Start Up Aggieland to host the first Aggie Entrepreneurship workshops in Fort Worth and Houston on February 1, 2014. More than 200 Aggies attended the workshops allowing them to learn from successful Aggie entrepreneurs including Phil Miner '80, Association board member, and Beaver Aplin '80, owner of Buc-ee's. Garner stated The Association is celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Aggie Ring in 2014 and photo essays and stories about the Aggie Ring will be featured in future issues of the *Texas Aggie*. The March issue will include a story about Curtis Childers '08, a former student who overcame drug addiction and turned his life around to help others. In 2013, Childers shared his story to a group of students at Rockdale High School who were so moved by it, they took action to replace Childers' Aggie Ring. A video detailing this special moment was shown to the Council members. Garner announced 12 former students had been named 2014 Distinguished Alumni and he recognized Chuck Ellison '76 whose surprise announcement was during the Council reception on Friday, February 21. The remaining recipients will be announced through upcoming surprise announcements over the next few weeks, and the honorees will be recognized at the Distinguished Alumni Gala scheduled for October 10, 2014 at the Brazos County Expo.

INTRODUCTION OF 2014 ASSOCIATION CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Garner introduced Kathleen Gibson '81 as The Association of Former Students' 2014 Chair of the Board and recognized her for her outstanding service to The Association and Texas A&M University.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Gibson greeted the Council and stated she looked forward to serving as Chair of the Board. She thanked Immediate Past Chair David Heath '76 for his noble service to The Association of Former Students and Texas A&M University.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: (SHADY GROVES '68/JIM BOSWELL '68) THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FALL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 9, 2013 BE APPROVED. Carried.

TEXAS A&M FOUNDATION REPORT

Dr. Ed Davis '67, President of the Texas A&M Foundation, stated the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) rankings indicated that Texas A&M University, The Texas A&M University System and its related foundations had the highest growth in endowment of the top 10 institutions of higher education in the nation for the fiscal year 2012-2013, and the market value of that endowment, which includes the one-third share of the Permanent University Fund, is \$8.7 billion, a 14.3% increase over the last 12 months. Davis stated Texas A&M ranked seventh among 835 U.S. public and private colleges and universities, below Harvard, Yale, The University of Texas, Stanford, Princeton and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Davis reported the Foundation has documented approximately \$47 million in planned gifts for the fiscal year-to-date and approximately \$65 million in actual contributions have been raised as of December 31, 2013. Davis stated the *25 by 25 Engineering Campaign* was launched in January 2013 and \$48.5 million has been raised towards the \$100 million goal for the renovation of the Zachry building and the construction of the new adjoining Undergraduate Learning Center. Davis stated Francis Hall is being renovated to accommodate the Construction Science Department and has a \$5.2 million goal and \$4.5 million has been committed. *The Lead by Example: Academic Excellence Driven by Aggie Values Campaign* began counting in January 2012 and \$1.132 billion had been raised as of December 31, 2013. Davis reported as of the calendar year, the Texas A&M Foundation had a 12.7% return on the endowment.

THE ASSOCIATION REPORT

Finance Report

Phil Miner '80, Board Member and Chair of the Finance Committee, reviewed the 2013 financial report and stated the total Association revenues for all funds, including trust funds and building contributions, in 2013 exceeded total expenses by \$3,304,348. Total operating revenues were \$14,346,870. Total operating expenses were \$13,501,791. Miner reported the total cost to raise one dollar was \$.256, which is well below the Better Business Bureau's benchmark of 35 cents. As of December 31, 2013, The Association's net assets totaled \$102,711,782.

Fundraising Report

MG (Ret) David Rubenstein '77, Board Member and Chair of the Fundraising Committee, reported The Association set new records with 49,829 donors raising \$8,933,972 in the 2013 Annual Fund. The Endowed Century Club Trust Fund, included 48 new funds, totaled \$19,231,597 as of December 31, 2013. There were \$2,332,473 in gifts and pledges received for memorial and other scholarships. There are currently 27 Aggie Ring Scholarships and the fund balance is \$493,595 which does not include eight planned gifts. Rubenstein reported \$17,587,444 has been raised to date for the building enhancement campaign. He noted the 2014 Annual Fund goal is \$8,400,000 with \$1,599,610 raised as of February 18,

2014. Rubenstein introduced Dr. Timothy Rhea, Director of Bands and Performing Ensembles at Texas A&M, who explained how donor dollars from The Association of Former Students fund travel and various aspects of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band and he offered his thanks to The Association and Council members for their donations in support of the Aggie Band.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY REPORT

Dr. Karan L. Watson, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, reported the Kyle Field Renovation is progressing and will meet the scheduled deadline, the Corps of Cadets Quad renovation is almost complete, the Corps currently holds the highest GPA in years, and in 2014, Texas A&M celebrated 50 years of inclusion. Watson stated Dr. Katherine Banks, Dean of the Dwight Look College of Engineering, was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, one of the highest professional honors accorded an engineer, and in the last year, 11 faculty members received career awards from the National Science Foundation. Watson stated the faculty has been supportive of Dr. Mark Hussey '79 as the Interim President and the search for a new university president is ongoing. Watson reported the merger of the Texas A&M Law School and the Health Science Center mergers are going well. A&M is striving to increase in size and still offer a quality education as part of its mission and the *25 by 25 Engineering Campaign* will allow for increased enrollment and access for qualified students to pursue engineering education at A&M. Watson stated there are 58,000 attending Texas A&M including the Galveston and Qatar campuses, the Health Science Center and Texas A&M Law School. Watson answered the Leadership Council's questions.

OTHER BUSINESS

Gibson stated the Constituent Network Task Committee has reviewed the structure of Constituent Network services and policies of the metropolitan area A&M Clubs and a detailed explanation of the proposed changes will be presented during the Volunteer Leadership Workshop on June 27 and 28, and a vote for approval will occur during the Fall Leadership Council meeting on November 15, 2014.

CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

Gibson said she was honored to serve as the 2014 Chair of the Board and looked forward to working with the Leadership Council and thanked them for representing The Association of Former Students throughout the State of Texas and the world. Gibson recognized former Association Chairs of the Board, S. Shariq Yosufzai '74 and Rear Admiral Robert Smith III USN (Ret) '61, and called Porter S. Garner III '79 to the stage to recognize him for his outstanding leadership of The Association of Former Students. Gibson announced the 2014 Sul Ross Reunion is scheduled for March 3-5, and the Fall Leadership Council is scheduled to be held November 14-15, 2014. To close the meeting, former Yell Leaders led in the singing of the *Spirit of Aggieland*.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gibson '81
Chair of the Board

Porter S. Garner III '79
President and CEO