



WINTER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 28, 2015

After showing The Welcome to Aggieland 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 9:05 a.m. in the Zachry Family Rooms in the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. Garner recognized Dr. Mark Hussey '79, Interim President of Texas A&M University; Van Taylor '71, Chairman of the Texas A&M Foundation Board of Trustees; Brigadier General Joe Ramirez '79, Corps of Cadets Commandant; and Dr. Ed Davis '67, President of the Texas A&M Foundation. Garner recognized Class Agents Frank Litterst '43 and Cliff Hunter '43 for their long time service. Dr. Joe West '54, 2011 Distinguished Alumnus and Class Agent for the Class of '54, provided the invocation and Polly Marek '77, Class Agent for the Class of '77, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESIDENT AND CEO'S REMARKS

Garner provided an update on Association events and activities stating there are currently 264 A&M Clubs, including the Southwest Florida A&M Club which was chartered in January 2015 with Veronica Bynum '89 serving as president. The seventh Orange and Maroon Legislative Day took place on February 4, 2015 in Austin with Governor Greg Abbott, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick, and Speaker of the House Joe Strauss in attendance as well as other legislative members. Garner thanked 2015 Chair of the Board of The Association of Former Students Bo Bradbury '89 and Dr. Hussey '79 for attending.

Garner stated the dedication of the Corregidor Memorial Monument will coincide with Muster on April 21, 2015 on the Island of Corregidor and will honor the 1942 and 1946 Aggies who fought at Corregidor and Bataan. Twenty A&M Clubs provided financial support towards the construction of the monument and Association Vice President Marty Holmes '87 will lead a trip to attend the ceremonies. Garner expressed appreciation for the A&M Clubs whose financial support helped to create the Corregidor Memorial Monument and specifically recognized the Brazos County A&M Club, Dallas A&M Club, Fort Worth/Tarrant County A&M Club and Houston A&M Club. Garner stated the third printing of The Association's Directory of Former Students will be published in the Spring of 2016 by PCI who will mail postcards requesting Former Students to update their contact information. Garner reported the Century Club will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2015 and has raised \$190,000,000 since 1965. Garner recognized Class Agent Dennis Goehring '57 and Councilman Emeritus Charlie Weinbaum '47 as charter members of the Century Club.

Garner stated 12 former students had been named 2015 Distinguished Alumni of Texas A&M University. Richard Kardys '67 and Steve Cooper '78 had already been announced and Colonel Edward Vergne Adams '29 was recognized posthumously. 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 Friday, October 2, 2015.

INTRODUCTION OF 2015 ASSOCIATION CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Garner introduced Bo Bradbury '89 as The Association of Former Students' 2015 Chair of the Board and recognized him for his outstanding service to The Association and Texas A&M University.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Bradbury greeted the Council and stated he looked forward to serving as Chair of the Board this year. He thanked Immediate Past Chair Kathleen Gibson '81 for her admirable leadership and dedicated service to The Association of Former Students and Texas A&M University.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: (BETH MCQUEEN '83/MARK KLEMM '81) THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FALL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 9, 2014 BE APPROVED. Carried.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY REPORT

Dr. Mark Hussey '79, Interim President of Texas A&M University, thanked The Association of Former Students for the support provided to him over the past year. Hussey reported 38,437 students began the application process, 32,630 applications were submitted, 21,051 acceptance notices had been sent, and approximately 10,000 freshman are expected to enter in the Fall 2015. Hussey stated changes are being made to the commencement ceremonies. Due to the larger class sizes, the ceremonies cannot be held in Reed Arena, so graduation ceremonies will be expanded to three days with two ceremonies taking place on Thursday, three on Friday and two on Saturday. Hussey stated the growth of the Mays Business School and the College of Liberal Arts may require them to split their graduation to two ceremonies. Hussey reported there are 13 construction projects currently taking place or beginning soon. Hussey stated his priority is on legislative issues and he testified for senate finance on February 10, 2015 before the House Appropriations Subcommittee and on education on February 19, 2015. Hussey asked Council members to visit Texas elected officials and ask for their support for funding of higher education. A search committee is underway for the Vice President of Student Affairs position and the 12-member search committee will soon make a recommendation for Reveille IX with an announcement expected in Spring 2015. Hussey stated incoming Texas A&M University President Michael Young's arrival date is delayed due to a medical procedure.

CORPS OF CADETS REPORT

Brigadier General Joe Ramirez '79, Commandant of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets, stated the Corps of Cadets reactivated nine companies, two battalion staff and one major unit staff in the last four years. Ramirez stated the Corps overall GPR is 2.94 which is currently the highest GPR on record. Ramirez reported 2,470 cadets began the school year which is the highest number since 1970, and the Corps is expecting 2,600 cadets in Fall 2015. *City Described* recently named Texas A&M the #3 military school in America behind the U.S. Naval Academy and the U.S. Military Academy (West Point) and A&M. Ramirez said 184 officers were commissioned in 2014, more than any other school outside the three military academies. Ramirez reported Cadet Alyssa Michalke '16 was named the first female Corps Commander for 2015-2016, Student Body President Kyle Kelly '14 and all five Yell Leaders are members of the Corps, and the 2018 Fish Drill Team was named National Champions at Tulane Invitational Drill Meet in New Orleans. Ramirez reported the Quad Renovation is in year three and all renovations should be complete by Fall 2017. Funds are being raised to build a new University Music facility to house the Aggie Band, nine different bands, choral activities, and a new turf drill field. Ramirez stated the 1939 National Championship football team, seven Medal of Honor recipients were

members of the Corps of Cadets. Ramirez thanked the Leadership Council members for their support of the Corps.

TEXAS A&M FOUNDATION REPORT

Van Taylor '71, Trustee of the Board of Trustees of The Texas A&M Foundation, recognized Dr. Ed Davis '67, President of The Texas A&M Foundation, and stated Texas A&M ranks eighth in total giving for the top 25 public research institutions in 2014. Taylor reported a public announcement about the *Lead by Example* will be made later in 2015, and the leadership team is underway and already visiting key donors. Taylor reported the *Capturing The Spirit* campaign raised \$637 million, the *One Spirit One Vision* campaign raised \$1.5 billion and *Lead by Example* will be the largest campaign of any Texas university. Taylor reported between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2014, \$1,604,294,605 has been raised. Taylor stated to insure your dollars continue to support Texas A&M University is by giving to your local A&M Club, The Association of Former Students, the 12th Man Foundation and the Texas A&M Foundation.

THE ASSOCIATION REPORT

Finance Report

Phil Miner '80, Board Member and Chair of the Finance Committee, reviewed the 2014 financial report and stated the total Association revenues for all funds, including trust funds and building contributions, in 2014 exceeded total expenses by \$3,492,859. Total operating revenues were \$15,386,118. Total operating expenses were \$14,629,433. Minor reported the cost to raise one dollar to raise the 2014 Annual Fund was \$.26. In 2014, The Association provided \$11,281,652 in mission support and services to Texas A&M and the Aggie Network. As of December 31, 2014, The Association's net assets were \$109,175,308.

Fundraising Report

Cathy Mann '92, Board Member and Chair of the Finance Committee, reported the Endowed Century Club Trust Fund, included 40 new funds and totaled \$20,331,624 as of December 31, 2014. There were \$1,108,105 in gifts and pledges received for memorial and other scholarships. Mann reported \$18,109,269 has been raised to date for the building enhancement campaign and expressed appreciation for the 163 donors including five A&M Clubs. There are currently 31 Aggie Ring Scholarships with the fund balance totaling \$794,568 which does not include nine planned gifts. In 2014, 53 Aggie Rings were awarded through Aggie Ring scholarships. Mann stated John Ball '78, also known as the Walking Aggie, will be walking 2,673 miles from San Diego, California to Daytona, Florida to raise funds for an Aggie Ring scholarship. Ball's journey is scheduled to begin on March 1, 2015 and conclude on August 17, 2015. One can follow Ball's journey or donate at www.thewalkingaggie.com. Mann reported The Association set new records with 50,939 donors raising \$9,497,052 in the 2014 Annual Fund. She noted the 2015 Annual Fund goal is \$9,500,000 and 51,000 donors with \$1,780,710 having been raised as of February 24, 2015. Mann introduced Kasey Kram '15, member of Future Former Students and Buck Weirus Spirit Award recipient, who thanked The Association and Council members for their support of the Future Former Student program.

CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

Bradbury thanked the Council members for all they do in representing Texas A&M. He stated The Association's Resource Guide is being made available to all Leadership Council members. He announced the 2015 Sul Ross Reunion is scheduled for March 3-5, 2015, the Volunteer Leadership

Conference is scheduled for June 26-27, 2015, and the Fall Leadership Council will be held on November 13-14, 2015. To close the meeting, former Yell Leaders led in the singing of the *Spirit of Aggieland*.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file
Bo Bradbury '89
Chair of the Board

Signature on file
Porter S. Garner III '79
President and CEO