



**FALL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 5, 2022**

The Association of Former Students' Chair of the Board, Dara Hegar '95, called the Fall Leadership Council Meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. in the Zachry Family Rooms of the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. She welcomed nearly 150 members of The Association's governing body who were attending this meeting either in person or on Zoom, and thanked them for their dedication and service to The Association of Former Students. Hegar recognized Rohit Mucherla '18 from General Motors, the latest chartered Corporate A&M Club. She again congratulated the 2022 12 Under 12 Young Alumni Spotlight Award recipients who were honored at the Leadership Council reception the evening before. Hegar welcomed the following speakers to the meeting: President of Texas A&M University Dr. M. Katherine Banks, President of the 12th Man Foundation Travis Dabney '96, Director of Athletics Ross Bjork, Student Body President Case Harris '23, and Director of Freshman Admissions Brandie Eneks '93. Hegar reported on the Sept. 16 Distinguished Alumni Gala honoring Travis Logan Smith, Jr., Class of 1898 (posthumous), Gen. Joe Ashy '62, Thomas Powell '62, Dr. Joe Fowler '68, Cliff Thomas '72, Bill Mahomes '69, Mark Fischer '72, Mark Albers '79, Gregory Cokinos '79, Bill Jones '81, Dr. Jimmy Williams, Jr. '83 and Elaine Mendoza '87. Hegar reported that the Distinguished Alumni Tribute was unveiled in Aggie Park the morning after the Distinguished Alumni Gala. She thanked the lead donors, Peggy Hughes '82 and Dan Allen Hughes '80, who helped make this possible. Hegar also thanked Jeff Potter '78, along with his wife, Distinguished Alumnus and Past Chair of The Association of Former Students Shelley Potter '78, for designing the tribute as well as Distinguished Alumnus Jim Thompson '68 whose company constructed the tribute. Hegar reported on Aggie Park and thanked Wayne Roberts '85 who made the lead gift in honor of his late wife, Shannon Lia Roberts '86. She commented on the Aggie Park grand opening weekend, which included a concert with Robert Earl Keen '78 as the headline entertainment. Hegar expressed her respect and appreciation for those who have served our great nation and thanked members of the Leadership Council who are serving, or who have served, in any of the U.S. armed forces. She closed her opening remarks by inviting President of the Aggie Network Student Ambassadors Dustie Koudela '23 provide the invocation. Mucherla led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SPRING LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 26, 2022. Carried. (Members of the Leadership Council who pre-registered for this meeting unanimously approved the minutes via prior online voting).

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY REPORT

Hegar thanked Texas A&M University President Dr. M. Katherine Banks for joining the meeting. Banks provided an update on the university's approximate total enrollment which is 74,000. She reported on the current areas of focus, which are relevance, opportunities and influence. She discussed transformational education as well as the new School of Arts, Performance and Visualization. Banks stated that in partnership with The Texas A&M University System, the university will create a \$5M fund, called Advancing Discovery to Market, or the ADM fund, to assist faculty, staff and students as they move their ideas from discovery to commercial products. She reported that she spoke with Student Body President Case Harris '23 about having student organizations adopt parts of Aggie Park to ensure that it is well cared for. Banks thanked Association Board member Beaver Aplin '80 for his generous gift of new Aplin Center, which will offer a transformational student experience through new university programs in hospitality, retail studies and food product development involving innovative degree programs. She stated that through the generosity of the Texas Legislature, a new small animal teaching and research hospital will be built to provide hands-on educational workspace for veterinary students as well as a state-of-the-art laboratory for animal health and translational research. She commented on the initiative to increase the size of the Corps of Cadets, March to 3,000, and reported there is a Patriot Scholarship for members of the Corps that will allow for students who are going into the military to graduate without any debt. She also reported on the Murray Scholarship, which provides in-state tuition for out-of-state students who are members of the Corps and in good standing.

12TH MAN FOUNDATION REPORT

Travis Dabney '96, President and CEO of the 12th Man Foundation, expressed his appreciation to the Leadership Council for their support of The Association's noble mission and also extended his thanks to The Association for serving the worldwide Aggie Network. He reported that in April 2022, the 12th Man Foundation announced the public phase of their Centennial Capital Campaign, a \$120 million campaign that will address a new indoor performance center for football, a new academic center that will welcome all student athletes, renovation of the Bright Football Complex, and a new indoor track and field facility on West Campus. Dabney stated lead gifts in the campaign have been made. In August 2022, Texas A&M University announced a project that will construct 20 new suites in Kyle Field; this construction will begin after the 2022 football season ends. Dabney reported the 12th Man Foundation currently has approximately 16,000 active members, with a goal to reach 17,500 members by the end of the year. He stated Alvarez and Marsal has been engaged to conduct an organizational assessment of the organization.

ATHLETICS REPORT

Ross Bjork, Texas A&M University's Director of Athletics, thanked The Association of Former Students and the Aggie Network for its support of Texas A&M Athletics. He shared the new mission statement for athletics which is to create opportunities through championship athletics. Bjork reported they want to launch and equip leaders, and more specifically the student athletes. The vision is that they are the home of the 12th Man; athletics should be the pinnacle of those opportunities. He reported it has been tough seasons for A&M's various sports this fall, but it is important to stay focused on the long term. Bjork mentioned that Aggie Park is great for gameday, but it was built for more than that and is a game changer for the entire university.

ASSOCIATION REPORT

Volunteer Spotlight

Hegar introduced Stephanie Murphy '00, President of the Aggie Women Network. Murphy stated the network was formed approximately 15 years ago and has a tagline of “connect, engage and give back.” The Aggie Women Network, which currently has 360 members, aims to support both current and former women students with programming, engagement opportunities and scholarships. Murphy stated the Constituent Network hosts an awards luncheon each year where they recognize women former students as well as an female eminent scholar. They have presented 42 Legacy Awards, with nine recipients later being honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of Texas A&M University. Murphy stated they have also presented nine Eminent Scholar Awards and have raised over \$200,000 for Presidential Endowed Scholarships. She reported they recently began a leadership experience called First Thursdays and started a program called Amplify, which is a former student to current student mentor program. The Aggie Women Network is currently testing a program called Inspire, which connects former students to former students. She thanked The Association of Former Students for creating monthly calls for Constituent Network presidents to meet and share ideas. Murphy stated the Aggie Women Network participated in the recent joint Constituent Network tailgate that was hosted by several networks.

Nominating Committee Report

Pat Beard '83, Immediate Past Chair and Chair of the 2022 Nominating Committee, stated The Association of Former Students' Nominating Committee met in College Station on Aug. 18, 2022, to nominate candidates to hold the following positions: Association Board of Directors, including the 2023 Chair Elect, Student Loan Fund Trustee, and Area and National Representatives. Beard recognized the Nominating Committee. He presented the slate of candidates for The Association's 2023 Board of Directors and announced that Bruce Chinn '79 and Aaron Pool '87 were nominated as new Board members.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR THE 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS PRESENTED. Carried. (Members of the Leadership Council who pre-registered for this meeting unanimously approved the candidates via prior online voting).

Beard also reported that George Nelson '64 was nominated for election as The Association of Former Students' 2023 Student Loan Fund Trustee.

MOTION: TO APPROVE GEORGE NELSON '64 AS THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS' 2023 STUDENT LOAN FUND TRUSTEE. Carried. (Members of the Leadership Council who pre-registered for this meeting unanimously approved him via prior online voting).

Beard stated the nominees for the 2023 Area and National Representatives will be presented for election by the general membership via a ballot distributed electronically, as well as in *Texas Aggie* magazine.

Finance Report

John Dickerson '87, member of the Finance Committee, presented the Finance Committee Report in the absence of committee chair Jeff Steen '80 who had a prior commitment. Dickerson reported that as of September 30, 2022, The Association provided more than \$8.5M in mission services and support to Texas A&M and the Aggie Network across all funds (both restricted and unrestricted), almost \$2M in cash for scholarships and academic programs, and \$6.5M through programs administered by The Association of Former Students for both current and former students. He reported total Association revenue for all funds was over \$32M with total expenses of \$13.8M. For 2023, The Association's management team presented a balanced preliminary operating budget to the Board of \$19,382,608, with total operating mission support of over \$12.4M. The Association's management team will present a finalized 2023 operating budget at the first quarter meeting in Feb. 2023.

Fundraising Report

Shara McClure '90, member of the Fundraising Committee, presented the Fundraising Committee Report in the absence of committee chair Bobby Jenkins '81 who also had a prior commitment. She stated The Association's 2022 Annual Fund goal is to raise \$11.125M. As of Oct. 31, 2022, \$6.9M had been raised from over 46,000 donors. She reported 23 new Endowed Century Club endowments had been established year-to-date for a total of 1,163 endowments. In regard to Aggie Ring Scholarships, there are 223 total endowments with 14 new scholarships having been established between Jan. 1 - Oct. 31, 2022. McClure reported on The Association's primary capital priority, Aggie Park, with over \$77M in commitments, and welcomed all individuals interested in financially supporting Aggie Park to contact Association Vice President Nic Taunton '07. Details on the Aggie Park project are available online at AggiePark.tamu.edu. McClure encouraged the Leadership Council to participate in Pass It Back Day, The Association's one day of giving, which is scheduled for Nov. 8, 2022. The Pass It Back Day goal is to have 5,000 donors by midnight. McClure reported The Association's partner program continues to grow, with there currently being five corporate partners. She stated that in 2022, the partner program will provide nearly \$1M in revenue to The Association. She concluded the Fundraising Report by thanking the Leadership Council for their support and introduced Student Body President Case Harris '23 to provide an update on behalf of the student body.

Student Body Report

Harris shared his appreciation for all that The Association of Former Students and Aggie Network does for Texas A&M and its students. He confirmed one of the highlights of the semester has been the opening of Aggie Park. He thanked The Association for the vision and gift and noted that students are utilizing the park at all hours of the day and night. Harris also reported on the variety of scholarships that The Association makes possible for students. He stated The Association continually serves students and finds new ways to do so. He reported on the Student Government Association's initiatives that focus on tradition, connection and advocacy and stated that SGA and The Association have a great partnership. Harris concluded by again expressing his appreciation to The Association for its support of Texas A&M and the student body.

Aggie Park

Robert White '81, Chair of the Aggie Park Task Committee, reported on the progress of Aggie Park. He stated the park is being used for all types of events, activities, and at all hours of the day. He shared the Aggie Park vision statement, which was created by Association Vice President Kathryn Greenwade '88 who passed away earlier in the year. White honored Greenwade for a job well done.

ADMISSIONS UPDATE

Hegar welcomed Brandie Eneks '93, Texas A&M's Director of Freshman Admissions. Eneks reported last year there were 52,000 applications for freshman admission to Texas A&M with 12,200 students being welcomed this the fall, making it the largest freshman class to date. She noted that Texas A&M is pacing 18% ahead of last year for fall 2023 enrollment and is expecting approximately 57,000 applications this admissions cycle, with nearly 31,000 applications already being submitted. Eneks reported the goal is to finalize all 2022-2023 application decisions by spring break of 2023.

OTHER BUSINESS

Scot Walker '90, Vice President, provided a brief update on The Association's initiative to better align the nomenclature of the traditions of Silver Taps and Muster to that of the actual traditions so as to avoid further confusion between the two traditions amongst current and former students.

Hegar announced she will appoint a Communications Task Committee to provide guidance and to help bring clarity for all of The Association's future communications. More details will be shared at the Spring Leadership Council meeting in February.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Hegar recognized and thanked outgoing Board member Martín Torrijos '87 his four years of service on The Association's Board of Directors. Garner and Hegar recognized and thanked outgoing Board member and Immediate Past Chair Pat Beard '83 for his eight years of service with a chair from the Pitzer Board Room commemorating his tenure on The Association's Board of Directors. Beard expressed his sincere appreciation to the Board, Leadership Council and staff. Garner thanked the Leadership Council for their service to The Association and to Texas A&M University. He went on to thank Hegar specifically for her inspiring leadership in 2022, and presented her with a proclamation acknowledging her dedicated service as The Association of Former Students' 2022 Chair of the Board.

CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

Hegar expressed her sincere appreciation for the opportunity to serve The Association of Former Students as the 2022 Chair of the Board and thanked the Leadership Council, fellow members of the Board and The Association's staff for their tremendous support. Hegar welcomed Chair Elect Bob Jordan '85 as the 2023 Chair of the Board and commended his selfless service and genuine leadership.

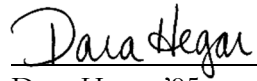
Hegar reminded the Leadership Council to make plans to attend the Spring Leadership Council Meeting, which is scheduled for Feb. 24-25, 2023. She noted that all future meeting notices and registration materials can be found at online at [AggieNetwork.com/Leadership Council](https://aggienetwork.com/Leadership-Council). Hegar encouraged the Leadership Council to participate in Pass It Back Day, which was scheduled for Nov. 8, 2022.

To close the meeting, Hegar invited all former Yell Leaders to lead in the singing of *Spirit of Aggieland*.

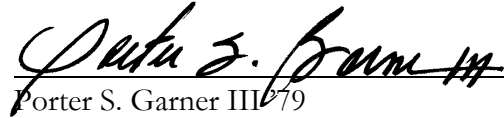
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dara Hegar '95
Chair of the Board



Porter S. Garner III '79
President and CEO