

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023  
MONROE LIBRARY, SEMINAR ROOM 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR)

AGENDA

- I. Prayer**
- II. Call to Order/Welcome** Gene Hernandez  
President
- III. Approval of Minutes** Gene Hernandez  
August 22, 2023 Meeting
- IV. Guest Speakers**  
John W. Green, Vice President of Partnership Engagement, IVC  
Rebecca (Becky) Goff, NOLA Regional Director, IVC
- V. President's Report** Gene Hernandez  
House of Blues Event – Recap and Feedback  
Discussion – What have you heard about Loyola lately?
- VI. Student Report** Mia Vitello  
Student Government Association
- VII. Faculty Report** Mike Giusti  
Faculty Representative
- VIII. Young Alumni Pack Report** Laurie Leiva
- IX. Committee Reports**  
a) Awards & Admission Trent Dang & Ryan Holmes  
b) Career Mentoring Terry Fisher & Ashley Stevens  
c) Chapters Jen Costa  
d) New Orleans Chapter/Events Jill Farrell  
Subcommittee Chairs: Bea Forlano, Delaney Vollmer
- X. Fundraising Report** Garrett Lacour and Curt Howard  
Update on progress towards 2023-24 Goals  
Brief Outlook for the year  
Fall Appeal Video
- XI. Office of Alumni Engagement Report** Laurie Leiva  
AVP of Alumni Engagement
- XII. Unfinished or New Business**
- XIII.**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Awards and Admission Committee**

Co-Chairs: Trent Dang and Ryan Holmes

The application for the 2024 Alumni Association Graduation Award is live and being promoted by the Office of Alumni Engagement. The deadline for applications is Sunday, November 5, 2023. Interviews will take place during the week of November 13. This year the committee developed a scoring rubric to evaluate applicants. More information is available here: <https://www.loyno.edu/alumni-giving/alumni/alumni-awards-honors/alumni-association-graduation-award>

### **Career Development Committee**

Co-Chairs: Terry Fisher and Ashley Stevens

Thank you for supporting our first student-alumni career networking event! We will be sending out a survey to participants and we welcome your feedback. The next student-alumni networking event will take place on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. If you have suggestions for that event please send them to Terry and/or Ashley.

### **Chapters Committee**

Chair: Jen Costa

There was a chapter leadership Zoom meeting on 9/13, with several chapter leaders in attendance (NYC, Chicago, Washington DC, Dallas, Miami and Central Florida) to go over the goals for each chapter for the year and to provide key dates for planning purposes. Key dates were provided to the other chapters via email.

We are still looking for leadership in Nashville and St. Louis.

On 10/21/23, we are having a Presidential Reception for Dr. Cole hosted by our new chapter leader, Loren Altura, in our reestablished San Francisco Chapter.

We will be having six WOTP projects in the following chapters during November and early December: Boston, Chicago, Central Florida, Dallas, DC, and NYC.

Currently, there are 9 active alumni chapters (Atlanta, Boston, Central Florida, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Miami, NYC, and Washington D.C.) and 7 developing chapters (Austin, Lafayette, LA, Nashville, Puerto Rico, San Francisco, and St. Louis).

### **New Orleans Chapter/Events Committee**

Chair: Jill Farrell

There are several upcoming events including the first book club event on 10/23. New Orleans will also be participating in Wolves on the Prowl on 11/4 in connection with LUCAP and will be doing a community clean up of the neighborhood surrounding the Good Shepherd School. The following weekend is the inauguration of Dr. Cole as the 18<sup>th</sup> President of Loyola on Nov. 9-10<sup>th</sup>. Our next chapter event will be 1/25 at Miel Brewery for a Happy Hour and King Cake tasting, followed by 2/24 Day at the Track (to replace Starlight Racing). More details will come on those two events.

Board members are encouraged to register for 1912 if they have not yet, and to encourage their friends to register. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help with Jazz Brunch should contact sub-committee chair Robert Allen.

Subcommittee Chairs: Delaney Vollmer (Inauguration); Robert Allen (1912); Bea Forlano (Starlight Racing & WOTP).

The goal of the New Orleans Chapter / Events Committee for the upcoming year is to strengthen the connection between local alumni and the university as well as to increase engagement opportunities and build a stronger alumni network through offering a variety of event opportunities designed to appeal to various segments of the alumni population. The committee plans to offer a wider array of events designed to maximize the appeal of alumni events to as broad of an audience as possible.

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023

**MINUTES**

**Members in Attendance**

Gene Hernandez, Shercole King, Patricia M. Crowley, Curt Howard, Delaney Vollmer, Terry Fisher, Bea Forlano, Lizzi Showalter, Anne Seiler, Mia Vitello, Michael M. Davis, John Person, Mike Giusti, Jenna Cronin, Michelle Dunnick, Chelsea Mansulich, Ashley Stevens, Laura Lee Wolfson, Sharyn Booker, Antoine Barriere

**Members Attending Virtually**

Angel Robinson, Natasha Alveshire, Michelle Clarke Payne, Nick Poche, Jen Costa, Kyle Carpenter, Chris Zimny, Ryan Holmes

**Non-members in Attendance**

Eliana Fernandez, Laurie Leiva, Jessica Nystrom, Dr. Xavier Cole, Erin (YAP)

**I. Opening Prayer**

Patricia Crowley

**II. Call to Order/Welcome**

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Delaney Vollmer moved to approve the minutes, unanimously approved.

**IV. Guest Speaker: President Xavier Cole**

Gene Hernandez presented President Xavier Cole.

President Cole thanked the Board and the Search Committee for placing their trust as him as a president. He expressed gratitude for being able to return to his home in the Gulf Coast and being reminded of the culture of friendliness and hospitality in New Orleans. He is also excited for the future of Loyola. Began June 1 instead of August 1 in order to be able to be prepared for August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Started with meeting people in June in order to get to know the people and the community in order to make better decisions early on. Met with Gene Hernandez in order to get to know him and how the Board engages with Alumni and the University. Walked through the campus residence hall, the freshmen halls were not in good shape while the senior hall was good. This is a problem for retention. Pulled resources together to clean and paint the halls as well as replace the furniture; done in two months. This is done to make a better first impression on parents and students. Feedback was much more positive and retention was much easier.

Spoke to faculty and staff in order to learn about the stories of Loyola Alumni. Visited incarcerated student cohort. Connect with Loyola Alumni and network to help get the university where it needs to be.

**V. President's Report**

Delivered by Gene Hernandez. Excited about the changes that will be coming with Dr. Cole. Recap of his commencement speech, encouraged the students to get involved with the University community. Went over the Board Objective and Expectations.

### **BOARD OBJECTIVE**

Guided by the Jesuit principles of men and women with and for others, the Loyola University New Orleans Alumni Association is organized to serve alumni, promote a spirit of cooperation and fellowship among alumni, and encourage the development of lifelong relationships between alumni and the University, and foster philanthropic loyalty and support for the University.

### **BOARD EXPECTATIONS**

- Attend meetings (virtually and/or in person) and be actively involved
- Serve on at least one of the Alumni Association's working committees
- Make an annual gift to Loyola University

The approximate time commitment is 3 to 5 hours per month. Board terms are two (2) years long, and members can serve consecutive terms. The nominating committee of the Alumni Association works to ensure that the Board of Directors is representative of the diversity found at Loyola. Indicators of diversity include but are not limited to: age, gender, race, ethnicity, major, college of graduation, and degree type.

Introduction of the Faculty representative, manages the Maroon newspaper. Has been working at the Maroon since 2006. Interim Chairman of Mass Communications. University Brewmaster, teaches the brew class during the summer.

## **VI. Student Report**

Introduction of the new SGA Representative. Started recruitment on all of the Committees. Everyone is getting settled in school and SGA activities will begin in full force soon.

## **VII. Committee Reports**

Committee chairs explain and pitch their committees and their duties to the Board to encourage more involvement by members who have yet to fill out their participation survey.

- **Awards and Admission Committee**

Co-chairs Trent Dang and Ryan Holmes

- Nominations and Awards
- Work for more involvement from Alumni in events
- Investigate best practices used by other Universities to get Alumni more involved
- Interview award candidates and connect with seniors who are eligible for the awards

- **Career Development Committee**

Co-chairs Ashley Stevens, and Terry Fisher

- New/returning committee
- Partnering with the University to provide opportunities to students who are about to graduate.
- Making a closer relationship with Career Services
- Still determining all of the tasks for the Committee
- Already planning events with the Career Center; Students will be able to assist one of their meetings
- Working on more Alumni co-sponsored events
- Looking for people who want to help students succeed and transition to a professional life

- **Chapters Committee**

Chair Jen Costa

- Comprised of all of the Alumni Chapter leaders
- Supports the Alumni chapters and Chapter Events
- Goal of 3 events per chapter during the year: One social event, one community event, one larger event.
- Strong set of Alumni Chapters in Atlanta, Boston, Central Florida, and Washington DC from which best

- practices are taken to help developing Chapters
- Relaunching San Francisco Chapter this year
- Nashville, Lafayette Chapters are being onboarded
- Looking for Alumni Chapter Presidents in Austin, Nashville, Puerto Rico and Tampa

- **New Orleans Chapter/Events Committee**

Chair Jill Farrell

The goal of the New Orleans Chapter / Events Committee for the upcoming year is to strengthen the connection between local alumni and the university as well as to increase engagement opportunities and build a stronger alumni network through offering a variety of event opportunities designed to appeal to various segments of the alumni population. The committee plans to offer a wider array of events designed to maximize the appeal of alumni events to as broad of an audience as possible.

- Subcommittee Chairs:
  - Robert Allen – 1912 Society Dinner & Jazz Brunch
  - Bea Forlano – WOTP & Starlight Racing
  - Delaney Vollmer – Inauguration

Delaney Vollmer, chair of the Inauguration Committee, gave further details on their activities. This includes the Party at the House of Blues event for President Cole which has so far not had enough ticket sales. Members of the Board are encouraged to please purchase their tickets and encourage others to do so as well. They are encouraged to share on social media as well. The event cannot be cancelled so pushing for attendance is important.

Inauguration also coincides with Loyola Week and many student driven events. The Law School will be hosting the J. Skelly Wright Lecture series in November. November will also hold the Missioning Mass. The President is a Layperson and needs to be given a mission by the Jesuit provincial and the Archbishop. Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> will be the Inauguration ceremony, followed by the 1912 Society Dinner at the Roosevelt.

In past Inauguration events the University had Regalia available for Alum to participate in the procession for the event but they no longer have the budget for it. It's possible for the University to rent regalia for the event but the logistics regarding to costs and whether Alumni would be interested in participating if they would have to rent their regalia. Also to consider is that Loyola will be sending out an invitation to other universities to send representatives in regalia for the Inauguration procession and etiquette-wise how that would look if Loyola reps were simply in Loyola-branded shirts and not regalia. A poll will be sent out to the Alumni Board to gauge their opinions on the issue.

Volunteers are needed for Inauguration. People interested must contact Laurie Leiva in order to be written down as a volunteer for that event or for any other events they would like to volunteer for.

## VIII. **Office of Alumni Engagement Report**

Delivered by Laurie Leiva.

- Board Orientation, normally the first meeting of the year, was pushed back to September in order to work with President Cole's scheduling. All members of the Board are expected to attend. There will be Committee breakout groups to discuss the goals and activities of the Board Committees during the year. Will take place in the Panamerican Life Student Success Center in Monroe Library. Party at the House of Blues event will be on the same day that evening.
- New Orleans Chapter virtual book club, established by Jessica Nystrom, will be starting soon.
- Golf Tournament upcoming, raising funds for Athletics.
- Name Tag discussion

## IX. **Unfinished or New Business**

Discussion: Potential Starlight Racing Event on Friday, March 15, 2024

Starlight Racing might be changed to a day at the racetrack due to how busy the date given is. A poll will be sent out to the Board to gauge their opinion on the scheduling for the event or if the event should be changed entirely due to the difficult schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.



# LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS

# WOLVES

ON

# THE PROWL



Day of Service



Sign up here

November 4  
9am-12p  
The Good Sheperd School



In collaboration with the Alumni Association,  
LUCAP, and Court of Review

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY  
NEW ORLEANS

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS  
Student Life and Ministry



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# Alumni Association Board of Directors

## Tuesday, October 17, 2023



# Meeting Agenda

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- I. Prayer
- II. Call to Order/Welcome
- III. Approval of Minutes
- IV. IVC Presentation
- V. Reports
  - I. President of the Alumni Association Board of Directors
  - II. Student Report
  - III. Young Alumni Report
  - IV. Committee Reports: Awards & Admission; Career Networking; Chapters; Events;
  - V. Fundraising Report
  - VI. Office of Alumni Engagement Report
- VI. Unfinished or New Business
- VII. Adjourn (committee discussions if necessary)

# Student and Faculty Reports

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SGA Report, Mia Vitello

- Homecoming

Faculty Report, Mike Giusti

# Young Alumni Pack

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- Review Young Alumnus/a of the Year Nominations
- Upcoming Events
  - 10/25 Happy Hour at Tchoup Yard
  - 11/4 Participating in Wolves on the Prowl

# Committee Reports: Awards & Admission

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- Graduation Award Application deadline is November 5, 2023
- Interviews during the week of November 13
- Scoring Rubric to evaluate applicants

# Committee Reports: Career Development

- Recap of tonight's event
- Next event will take place on March 19, 2024

# Committee Reports: Chapters

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- Still looking for chapter leaders for Nashville & St. Louis
- Upcoming Chapter Events:
  - 10/19 – Nashville Chapter Reception & Mixer
  - 10/20 – Young Alumni Pack-style Happy Hour in Dallas
  - 10/21 – Presidential Reception in new San Francisco Chapter
  - 10/26 – Miami Chapter Happy Hour
  - WOTP Projects in: Boston, Chicago, Central Florida, Dallas, DC & NYC

# Committee Reports: New Orleans Events

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- Upcoming Events:
  - 10/23 – Favorite Reads with your Favorite Faculty #1
  - 11/4 –WOTP for New Orleans Chapter
  - 11/9-10 – Inauguration events and 1912 Dinner
  - 1/25 –Alumni Happy Hour & King Cake Tasting at Miel
  - 2/24 –Day at the Track.
- Is there board interest for any of these:
  - Saints watch party/tailgate (potentially 12/10)?
  - Pelicans Game in spring?
  - Crawfish boil?



# Sub-Committee Reports: WOTP & Fairgrounds

- Mark your calendars: 2/24 is the Day at the Racetrack. More info will be forthcoming as details are finalized.
- WOTP this year will be a community clean up on 11/4 in connection with LUCAP and The Good Shepherd School
  - Need volunteers to both clean, and also volunteers willing to be block captains. Block captains will be in charge of their individual team and blocks and also will need to attend a Zoom call on 10/23 at noon. See WOTP flyer for details. Let Bea or Laurie know if you are able to be a block captain.

# Sub-Committee Reports: 1912 & Jazz Brunch

- Make sure to register for 1912 if you have not already and encourage people to register.
- Still looking for volunteers to help make phone calls and encourage registration.
- In the spring will be looking for volunteers to assist with Jazz Brunch.

# Sub-Committee Reports: Inauguration

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- Inauguration coincides with Loyola Week and will kick off with Wolves on the Prowl on 11/4
- Calendar of events and registration links available at [loyno.edu/inauguration](http://loyno.edu/inauguration)
- Wednesday, November 8 – J. Skelly Wright Lecture and Reception at College of Law, 6 pm
- Thursday, November 9 – Missioning Mass at Holy Name, 12:15 pm followed by COLEchella
- Friday, November 10 – Inauguration Ceremony at Holy Name, 3 pm followed by reception in Palm Court
  - 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the Maroon, 5 pm
  - 1912 Society Inauguration Dinner, 6:30 pm

# Fundraising Report

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- Goal for Annual Giving is \$350,000 for Loyola Fund and Budget Relief.
- \$30,620 raised so far in FY24.
- FY24 Outlook
  - Phonathon - happening now. 6 weeks in Fall.
  - Mailed Appeals – Fall Appeal “Illuminate Loyola”; End of Calendar Year “Season of light”, End of Fiscal year and other targeted small mailers.
  - Loyola Loyal Day – March 20-21.

# Fundraising – Fall Appeal

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## [Fall Appeal Video](#)



# Alumni Engagement Report

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1. Raise \$350,000 for the Loyola Fund (\$13 million in other new gifts and pledges)
  - Direct Mail
  - Phonathon
  - Emails
  - Loyola Loyal Day\*
2. Execute events that showcase the values, history, and tradition of the University.
  - Inauguration & Commencement
  - 1912 Society Dinner
  - Alumni Association Jazz Brunch
  - Wolves on the Prowl

# Alumni Engagement Report

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## 3. Implement an alumni engagement strategy that supports University and advancement goals

- Volunteers
  - Alumni Association Board of Directors
  - Young Alumni Board
  - Law Alumni Board
- Chapters
- Affinity Alumni Programming

# Alumni Engagement Q1 (August-October)

- Annual Giving
- Presidential Travel and Introductions

Atlanta, Houston\*, San Francisco\*

Upcoming: Denver, Tampa, DC, Miami\*, Chicago\*

Historic Naming Committee and Black Alumni Engagement

- Staff Travel: DC, LA, Tampa, Dallas, San Francisco
- Inauguration and Commencement



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**THANK YOU!**

**Next Meeting Dates:  
Tuesday, January 23, 2024 – Meeting**