

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Friday, July 17, 2015

Rutgers Inn and Conference Center-New Brunswick

PRESENT: Timothy Farrow, *Chair*, Joe Lemkin, *Vice Chair*, Kim Sciallo, *Corporate Secretary*, Donna K. Thornton, *Vice President for Alumni Relations*; Greg Bedard, Neal Collins, Carl Burns, Jim Cummings, Michael Duncan, Ken Johnson, Jeff Linfante, Houshang Parsa, Keanna Ralph, Charles Spingler, Mary Clare Venuto, Linda Wray

ALSO PRESENT: Nevin Kessler, *Rutgers University Foundation President*, Tom Hammond, *Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations*, Lisa English, *Director, Alumni Relations, Rutgers-Newark*, Patrice Jaskiewicz, *Administrative Assistant*, Cassie Kingsbury, *Assistant Director for Volunteer Engagement*, Tara Kissenberth, *Assistant Director for Volunteer Engagement* Yvette Martinez, *Senior Director for Student Engagement*, Kristy Omelianuk, *Associate Director, Benefits and Business Development*, Scott Owens, *Director, Alumni Relations, Rutgers-Camden*, Mike Rutkowski, *Director for Events*, Dana Shapiro, *Associate Director of Volunteer Engagement* and Laura Stanik, *Associate Vice President for Foundation and Alumni Communications*,

EXCUSED: Sean Murphy, Debra O'Neal, Zahara Wadud-Pinkett

UNEXCUSED: Squire Servance

A brief Board meeting was held during the annual Board Retreat.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:11 p.m. by Tim Farrow, Chair.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- I. **Diversity Work Group** – Mr. Houshang Parsa reported for Debra O'Neal, the committee chair who could not attend. Mr. Houshang explained that the committee was formed as a sub-committee of the Awards and Recognition Committee. Their purpose is to improve upon reaching out to be sure the group of awardees is more inclusive and reflective of the alumni body. The work group was tasked to review and evaluate the current processes and determine if improvements could be made to increase interest to nominate alumni of color for the REAL and HDA awards. Mr. Parsa went over the report from the recent meetings which highlighted past nominee statistics. The committee recommends strengthening the nomination process by revising the communications plan and tracking and measuring the new recommendations for at least two award cycles.

II. ACTION ITEMS

- i. Resolution to Approve the Recipients of the 2015 Rutgers Excellence in Leadership Awards (REAL) – by Houshang Parsa

There was a motion to approve the resolution (Ken Johnson), seconded (Jeff Linfante) with an opportunity for discussion. The resolution was approved unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present

- ii. Resolution to Designate the Rutgers Honors College Alumni Society by Kim Sciallo

After a lengthy discussion, there was a motion made to table the resolution by Jeff Linfante in order to further specify the identity of the constituents as New Brunswick. The motion was seconded by Charles Spingler. An email board vote will follow, pending approval by the Alumni Leader applicant.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved (Jeff Linfante) and seconded (Tim Farrow). The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Kim Sciallo
Corporate Secretary

Prepared by:
Patrice Jaskiewicz
Administrative Assistant
Alumni Relations, New Brunswick