



Alumni Association of Queen's University at Kingston
Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting of Alumni Assembly
Held virtually on Thursday, May 12, 2022

In attendance:

(* indicates voting member of Assembly):

- *Colin McLeod, President, QUAA and Chair, QUAA Board of Directors
- *Alec Attfield, QUAA Director, Global Branch Network
- *Alex Rose, Delegate for Kingston Branch President
- *Alisha Hobson, QUAA Director, Digital Media
- *Aliya Hollingsworth, Toronto Branch President
- *Allison Williams, QUAA Director, Alumni Giving
- *Alvin Hew, Singapore Branch President
- *Beth Langdon, SGPS President
- *Bruce Miller, Reunion Coordinator
- *Edmond Chan, Hong Kong Branch Co-President
- *Elaine Wu, QUAA Director, Alumni Awards
- *Elena Christopoulos, Southern California Branch President
- *Elisabeth White, Vancouver Branch President
- *Eric Sikich, AMS President
- *George Jackson, Giving Society Representative
- *Glenn Donovan, Alumni Booster Club Representative
- *Guy Raffaele, Queen's Queer Alumni Chapter
- *Heather Black, University Councillor
- *Jacklyn Lewis, QUAA EVP, Operations
- *Julia Reid, QUAA Director, Reunions
- *Julie Rentsch, Portland Branch President
- Karen Bertrand, Vice-Principal (Advancement)
- *Lea Trotman, QUAA Director, Special Projects
- *Leigh Kalin, AVP, Alumni Relations & Annual Giving
- *Lisa Hood, QUAA EVP, Volunteer Recruitment & Recognition
- *Miles Brackenbury, Varsity Council Co-President
- *Nausheen Sadiq, Reunion Coordinator
- Nicole Lynch, Regional Strategy Coordinator, Alumni Strategy
- *Owen Crawford-Lem, Rector
- *Peter Reimer, QUAA Director, Digital Media
- Rachel Green, Varsity Council Co-President
- Rico Garcia Ondarza, QUAA Past President
- *Samara Lijiam, Incoming QSAA President

- Sarah Blayney Lew, Administrative Assistant to the AVP, Alumni Relations & Annual Giving
- Susanne Gage, Toronto Branch
- *Tuba Chishti, QUAA Director, Alumni Volunteer Summit

Regrets:

- *Angela Wright, London UK Branch President
- *Anna Premyslova, Calgary Branch President
- *Bittu George, University Councillor
- *Elke Beecken, Germany Branch President
- *Fred Siemonsen, Reunion Coordinator
- *Geneviève Pagé, Montreal Branch President
- *Kimberly Molina, Ottawa Branch President
- *Lauren Winkler, Queen's Indigenous Alumni Chapter
- *Megan Divecha, QUAA Director, Marketing and Communications; QSAA President
- *Lochana Ponnambalam, Reunion Coordinator
- *Patrick Deane, Principal
- *Zaid Kasim, QUAA Director, Young Alumni

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1. Opening session

a. Welcome from QUAA President, Colin McLeod

Colin welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the 2022 Annual General Meeting of Alumni Assembly. A land acknowledgement was shared for the Kingston/Katarokwi region.

Alumni Assembly is the voting body of the Alumni Association and is made up of members by virtue of the position they hold. Voting members of Alumni Assembly include:

- The QUAA Board of Directors and its Executive Committee;
- Branch Presidents, Branch delegates;
- Representatives from University Council and Senate;
- Representatives from the AMS, SGPS, QSAA, and Varsity Council;
- Assembly Members-at-Large;
- And the Principal of Queen's University or a delegate.

Non-voting members are invited to stay and are welcome to ask questions. Voting members were reminded that materials were circulated in advance of the meeting and are also available online. For formal motions, voting members are asked to state their name for the official record.

b. Approval of the 2022 AGM Agenda

There were no additions or modifications requested to the agenda. Colin asked for a motion that the agenda for the 2022 Annual General Meeting be approved as submitted. Moved by George Jackson and seconded by Lea Trotman.

Carried

c. Approval of the 2021 Minutes from the AGM of Alumni Assembly *Appendix A: Minutes from 2021 AGM*

There were no questions or outstanding actions for review. Colin asked for a motion that the minutes from the 2021 Annual General Meeting be approved as submitted. Moved by Tuba Chishti and seconded by Rico Garcia.

Carried

2. QUAA President's Report

Appendix B: QUAA President's Report

Colin reviewed the slides as part of the QUAA President's Report to Alumni Assembly. The slides provide an overview of the past year for the QUAA President as well as the QUAA Board.

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Colin acknowledged the challenges faced over the past two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and commended outgoing President Rico Garcia for leading the QUAA through these unprecedented times. Rico kept the Board involved and engaged, continuing to move the group forward with its mission.

Colin reflected on the mission of the QUAA, "to reach out and foster a lifelong association with Queen's, to engage our members in the life and work of the university, and to serve the alumni community in all its diversity." Over the past several years, the QUAA has endeavored to being more open, inclusive, and transparent, creating events and opportunities that appeal not only to the core group of enthusiastic Queen's alumni, but also those with more diverse student and alumni experiences.

Colin acknowledged the continued efforts toward putting Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Indigeneity (EDI) commitments into action. Alumni volunteer leaders completed an EDI Awareness Building Credential in partnership with Queen's Human Rights and Equity Office (HREO). The fully virtual Alumni Volunteer Series took place of the traditional AV Summit, with the aim of educating and engaging the Queen's alumni community on topics related to EDI. The Queen's Black Alumni Chapter continued to grow, and the Queer Alumni Chapter was launched. And the QSAA supported two indigenous funds through their Tricolour Giving Initiative.

This was the second year where Homecoming was fully virtual, with hosts Shelagh Rogers, Artsci'77, LLD'19, and Rico Garcia Ondarza, Artsci'13. A new platform was utilized for improved participation in and movement between various Homecoming events. Colin shared that plans are in progress to return to in-person with virtual elements for Homecoming 2022 – VP Bertrand will share more later in the meeting.

A hybrid QUAA Awards Gala event will recognize award recipients on June 9, 2022:

- Jim Leech, MBA'73 – Alumni Achievement Award
- Leslie Laing Gibbard, MSc'82, PhD'87 – Alumni Humanitarian Award
- Sharon Ranson, Com'80 – Alumni Mentorship Award
- Jeremy Mosher, Artsci'08 – Herbert J. Hamilton Volunteer Service Award
- Toronto Branch Spring Wellness Event – Initiative of the Year
- Kimberly Molina, Artsci'07 – Marsha Lampman Branch Volunteer Award
- Heather Evans, Com'16 – One to Watch Award
- Aaryan Chaudhury, Artsci'21 – Outstanding Student Award
- Danielle Charland, Artsci'22 – QSAA Volunteer of Distinction Award
- Yinka Adegbusi, Artsci'13 – Rising Star Volunteer Award

Colin acknowledged the continued efforts of the QUAA Board toward improved Governance and transparency through reforms to Alumni Assembly structure and

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membership, and Board member recruitment and outreach, with the goal of having these groups better reflect the Queen's alumni community.

Colin closed his presentation by sharing the current key priorities of the QUAA Board:

1. Continued focus on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Indigeneity (EDII)
2. Expanding the Alumni Chapters portfolio
3. Helping recent graduates with their transition to the workforce
4. Continue fostering a culture of philanthropy

Colin asked for a motion that the QUAA President's Report be accepted into the official record. Moved by Alvin Hew and seconded by Heather Black.

Carried

3. QUAA Financial Reports

Appendix C: QUAA Financial Reports

Jackie Lewis, QUAA Executive Vice-President, Operations, provided a review of the QUAA Financial Reports for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

This report summarizes the annual activity in the following three endowed (interest bearing) funds: The Iris Marsh Alumni Expansion Fund; The F. MacRae Speaker's Fund; and The Alumni Excellence in Teaching Award Fund. The yearly activity in the QUAA Projects Fund account is also documented.

Jackie highlighted the importance of philanthropy, encouraging Alumni Assembly members to join the QUAA Board in aiming for 100% giving participation in 2022-2023. She also encouraged members to listen to the new "Cause and Effect" podcast featuring Queen's alumni and their stories of philanthropy. The latest podcast episode features a compelling interview with Allison Williams, QUAA Director, Alumni Giving.

Jackie reviewed the Irish Marsh Alumni Expansion Endowment Fund. The QUAA Board received a record number of applications for grants from this fund. A total of \$3,723.00 was allocated to eight student and alumni organizations toward special projects, such as the Queen's Engineering Society's professional development industry insider seminar. The funds received allowed them to offer a participation incentive, and they credit the increased interest in and registrations for this seminar to the funding provided by the QUAA. Applications for the next round of grants open this fall.

Jackie advised that funds have not been awarded from the F. MacRae Speaker's Endowment Fund recently. The QUAA Board is working on a path forward to honour Ms. MacRae and ensure that these funds are used in a sustainable manner. She also advised that the Alumni Excellence in Teaching Award was not awarded for 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Expenditures noted from the Alumni Excellence in Teaching

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Award Endowment Fund are from the presentation of the 2020 Teaching Award trophy to award winner Dr. Anne Petitjean.

The QUAA Projects Trust Fund is designed to fund special projects which align with the QUAA Board's vision. An influx of donations toward this fund over the past year can be significantly attributed to a donation and matching gift challenge to Alumni Assembly by QUAA Past President, Jeremy Mosher, Artsci'08, and spouse Dr. Andrea Mosher, Artsci'08. The QUAA Board will review how to distribute the funds from this support in line with their priorities moving forward, particularly with regard to Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity, and Indigeneity (EDI).

Colin asked for a motion that the QUAA Financial Reports be accepted into the official record. Moved by George Jackson and seconded by Edmond Chan.

Carried

4. Introduction of the 2022-2023 QUAA Board of Directors

Appendix D: 2022-2023 QUAA Board of Directors

Appendix E: QUAA Board of Directors – Position Overviews and Organizational Chart

Outgoing QUAA President, Rico Garcia, thanked the 2021-2022 QUAA Board of Directors and acknowledged the outgoing Directors:

- Irene Wood, Artsci'79 – Director, Reunions
- Kathy Owen, Artsci'67 – Director, Alumni Awards
- Allan McGavin, Com'08, Law'12 – Director, Global Alumni Network
- Yinka Adegbusi, Artsci'13 – Director, Alumni Constituency Groups
- Jasmit Kaur, Artsci'17 – Director, Young Alumni

Rico also acknowledged the additional outgoing Assembly members, thanking them for their time and contributions:

- Sue Bates, Artsci'91 – Giving Society or Committee Representative
- Alvin Michael Hew, Com'86 – President, Singapore Branch
- Lauren Winkler, Artsci'17, Law'20 – Queen's Indigenous Alumni Chapter
- Lochana Ponnambalam, Sc'12 – Reunion Volunteer Representative
- Frederic Siemonsen, Sc'54 – Reunion Volunteer Representative

Lisa Hood, QUAA Executive Vice-President, Volunteer Recruitment & Recognition, acknowledged and thanked Rico for his incredible leadership during such extraordinary times. Lisa then provided an introduction of the proposed QUAA Board of Directors for 2022-23, including new Directors (*) selected by the Leadership Development Committee:

- *Alec Attfield, Artsci'86, Ed'87, MPA'04 – Director, Alumni Constituency

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Groups

- *Alisha Hobson, Artsci'17 – Director, Digital Media
- *Elaine Wu, Artsci'98, MIR'00, Law'03 – Director, Alumni Awards
- *Lea Trotman, Artsci'17 – Director, Special Projects
- *Megan Divecha, Artsci'22 – Director, Marketing & Communications
- *Zaid Kasim, Sc'22 – Director, Young Alumni
- Allison Williams, Artsci'09 – Director, Alumni Giving
- Jackie Lewis, Artsci'11 – Executive Vice-President, Operations
- Julia Reid, Artsci'08 – Director, Reunions
- Leigh Kalin, Artsci'92 – (Ex-Officio) Associate Vice-Principal Alumni Relations & Annual Giving
- Lisa Hood, Artsci'04 – Executive Vice-President, Volunteer Recruitment and Recognition
- Peter Reimer, Artsci'14 – Director, Global Branch Network

A ratification vote for the 2022-23 QUAA Board of Directors was held through a confidential Zoom poll sent to voting members of Alumni Assembly. Quorum was met and the Board of Directors was endorsed.

Colin asked for a motion to ratify members of the QUAA Board of Directors. Moved by Bruce Miller and seconded by Alvin Hew.

Carried

5. Vice-Principal's Report – University Updates

Karen Bertrand, Vice-Principal (Advancement), provided updates on key university activities and responded to questions from the Assembly. She celebrated the fact that Homecoming 2022 (October 28-30) will be returning to a largely in-person format for the first time since 2019, with some hybrid components. The traditional Tricolour Guard reception and dinner will be held Homecoming weekend. There is also the possibility of a playoff football game, pending results of the regular football season. Registration is going very well, with over 60 reunion classes registered to celebrate anniversaries this year, some during Homecoming weekend and others to be held on different weekends throughout the fall.

Karen provided an update on Principal's Strategic Framework and associated events. A hybrid kickoff event was hosted by the Queen's Alumni Toronto Branch on March 31, and another was recently hosted by the Ottawa Branch. Additional events are scheduled for late May and June. Karen encouraged Assembly members to participate in these rollout events and actively engage in discussions on the future of the university. Karen also advised that she and Principal Deane have travel

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planned to Calgary and Vancouver, and Karen has additional trips planned through the fall and into next year. She is excited to engage with members of the alumni community in-person once again.

Karen provided a high-level overview of philanthropy results for Queen's over the past year. At close of Fiscal Year 2021-22, Queen's raised just under \$64M. Cumulative result after two years was \$175.1M, which is 44% of the five-year target for philanthropy. She expressed sincere gratitude on behalf of faculty, staff, and students who, thanks to these gifts, will be able to move forward with important work and truly make a difference in the world.

Jackie Lewis asked if the final annual dinner hosted by Kim Sturgess which was planned for 2020 but cancelled due to the pandemic will be part of the upcoming Calgary trip. Karen advised that a resurgence of this dinner is not currently planned, but that she intends to bring this conversation up with Ms. Sturgess to see if there is interest in reconsidering for this year.

Lisa Hood asked what Fall 2022 will look like on campus for Queen's. Karen confirmed that classes will be returning fully to in-person format. The university is committed to continuing with in-person learning going forward, within the government guidelines and direction to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for all. Colin also mentioned that in-person ceremonies for Convocation are also returning in Fall 2022, which is exciting to see.

George Jackson asked for an approximate breakdown of giving from FY 2021-22. Karen advised that, of the \$64M raised, \$5-6M was annual giving; less than \$3M were legacy gifts; and \$38M came from eight donations.

Bruce Miller asked about reunions being planned over multiple weekends rather than all being held over Homecoming weekend, and wondered whether this may detract from the traditional Homecoming experience for some classes. Karen advised that it is certainly an ongoing conversation and, while it is not unusual for some classes to choose different weekends outside of Homecoming, this year is also quite unique. More alumni are anticipated to return to campus than we might typically see due to the hold on in-person reunions over the past two years.

Alvin Hew asked if there are any plans for Queen's leadership travel to Asia. If physical travel isn't feasible, it would be great for leaders to have at least a virtual presence in these regions. Karen advised that the Office of Advancement is currently looking at travel plans for Fall and Winter 2022, with a review of travel beyond that to follow. Asia and other key international regions are not currently in the immediate plans for in-person visits but are being considered as we safely resume international travel going forward.

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Colin asked if there are other plans in place beyond international travel to support Queen's global presence and profile as part of the Principal's Strategic Framework. Karen noted that the Queen's Globalization Strategy was presented just this week. Further plans will be guided by this report, which focuses not only expanding the university's influence on the global stage but also bringing global aspects and considerations into the Queen's experience. It will also guide alumni engagement activities to support the broader university globalization strategy going forward.

6. Breakout Groups

Meeting participants were given 10 minutes in smaller group sessions to allow individuals to connect and get to know each other better. Typically, these opportunities would be facilitated naturally through an in-person AGM, but with the virtual delivery of this year's AGM such occasions have regrettably been limited.

7. Adjourn

Colin asked if there was any additional business to be raised; there was none. Colin then asked for a motion to adjourn the 2022 Annual General Meeting of Alumni Assembly. Moved by Aliyah Hollingsworth and seconded by Julia Reid.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.