Dartmouth Alumni COUNCIL

Alumni Council Handbook

2017-2018

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Dartmouth Alumni Council

EARLY ORGANIZATION

Founder and first President, Ernest Martin Hopkins, Class of 1901, organized the Dartmouth Alumni Council in 1913.

MISSION

To sustain a fully informed, representative, and engaged exchange of information and sentiment between alumni and their College, and to enhance and inspire alumni involvement that furthers the mission of the College.

PURPOSE

- Clearing house for alumni sentiment and interchange of ideas
- Official two-way liaison between College and her alumni
- Primary forum for discussion of issues and concerns of alumni
- Initiate and sponsor activities reasonably within province of alumni activity
- Nominate Alumni Trustees *(for the eight alumni trustee seats on the Board of Trustees)*
- Maintain working relationship with Board of Trustees
- Resource for alumni providing service and talents to Dartmouth

SIZE

Originally 25 members, but incrementally expanded over the years. *(Amendments to the Alumni Council constitution were approved in November 2007, revising representation and increasing the size to 125. Additional members were transitioned onto the Alumni Council between 2008 and 2010 resulting in the composition listed below.)* The Council attempts to be representative in respect to age, geography, gender and professional backgrounds of its members, providing membership for various alumni organizations and representatives for faculty and undergraduate bodies of the College.

Class Representatives	58
Affiliated Alumni Groups	10
Members-At-Large	6
Regions/Clubs	20
Class Officers Associations	5
Undergraduates (non-voting)	4
Professional Schools (Geisel, Thayer, Tuck)	6
Arts and Sciences Graduate Program	2
Club Officers Association	3
District Enrollment Directors	1
Faculty Representative (non-voting)	1
President and President-elect	2
Chair of Alumni Awards, ALC, Nominating, Young Alumni Awards Committees	4
Current and past two AoA presidents	3
Total (maximum)	**125**

ELECTION TO COUNCIL

Alumni councilors are typically elected by the constituencies they represent. Candidates are sought:

a) who can represent legitimate interests of alumni and report back on their work as Councilors
b) who have demonstrated an active interest in Dartmouth
c) of outstanding achievement and/or special qualifications
d) who are available to attend meetings

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

Most Council work is performed by Committees:

Alumni Liaison	Executive
Athletics	Honorary Degrees
Academic Affairs	Nominating and Alumni Trustee Search
Alumni Awards	Professional Development
Alumni Service	Student Affairs
Communications	Young Alumni
Enrollment & Admissions	Young Alumni Awards

PROJECTS/INITIATIVES

Many have formed the backbone of contemporary Dartmouth history and success. Alumni Councilors have supported student enrollment, communications, recognition of alumni service, and selection of Alumni Trustees.

COMPOSITION OF A MEETING

a) Committee meetings
b) Presentation and conversations with Dartmouth leadership on key priorities and initiatives
c) Opportunity for Councilors to raise questions on behalf of constituents
d) Attend special events such as the Alumni Awards Gala
e) Social and recreational opportunities

For more information about the Council, please visit the Alumni Council Website:

http://alumni.dartmouth.edu/serve/alumni-council

The Dartmouth Alumni Council, the Association of Alumni, and the Association of Alumni Executive Committee Roles and Responsibilities

THE ASSOCIATION OF ALUMNI

The Association of Alumni is Dartmouth's alumni body. Each of Dartmouth's 80,000 alumni is a member of the association.

THE ALUMNI COUNCIL

The Alumni Council represents Dartmouth's alumni. It is the principal spokesperson for alumni and the primary forum for the exchange of alumni sentiment. It consists of 125 members representing classes, geographic clubs, graduate schools, affiliated groups, students, and others. The constituencies select their representatives through various methods, including election at reunions and club meetings. The Alumni Council's mission is "to sustain a fully informed, representative, and engaged exchange of information and sentiment between alumni and their College, and to enhance and inspire alumni involvement that furthers the mission of the College."

The Alumni Council also nominates candidates for alumni-nominated trustee seats.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ALUMNI

The Executive Committee of the Association of Alumni runs balloting for trustee elections and for the election of its own leadership. It consists of 11 members elected from and by the alumni body in alumni-wide balloting.

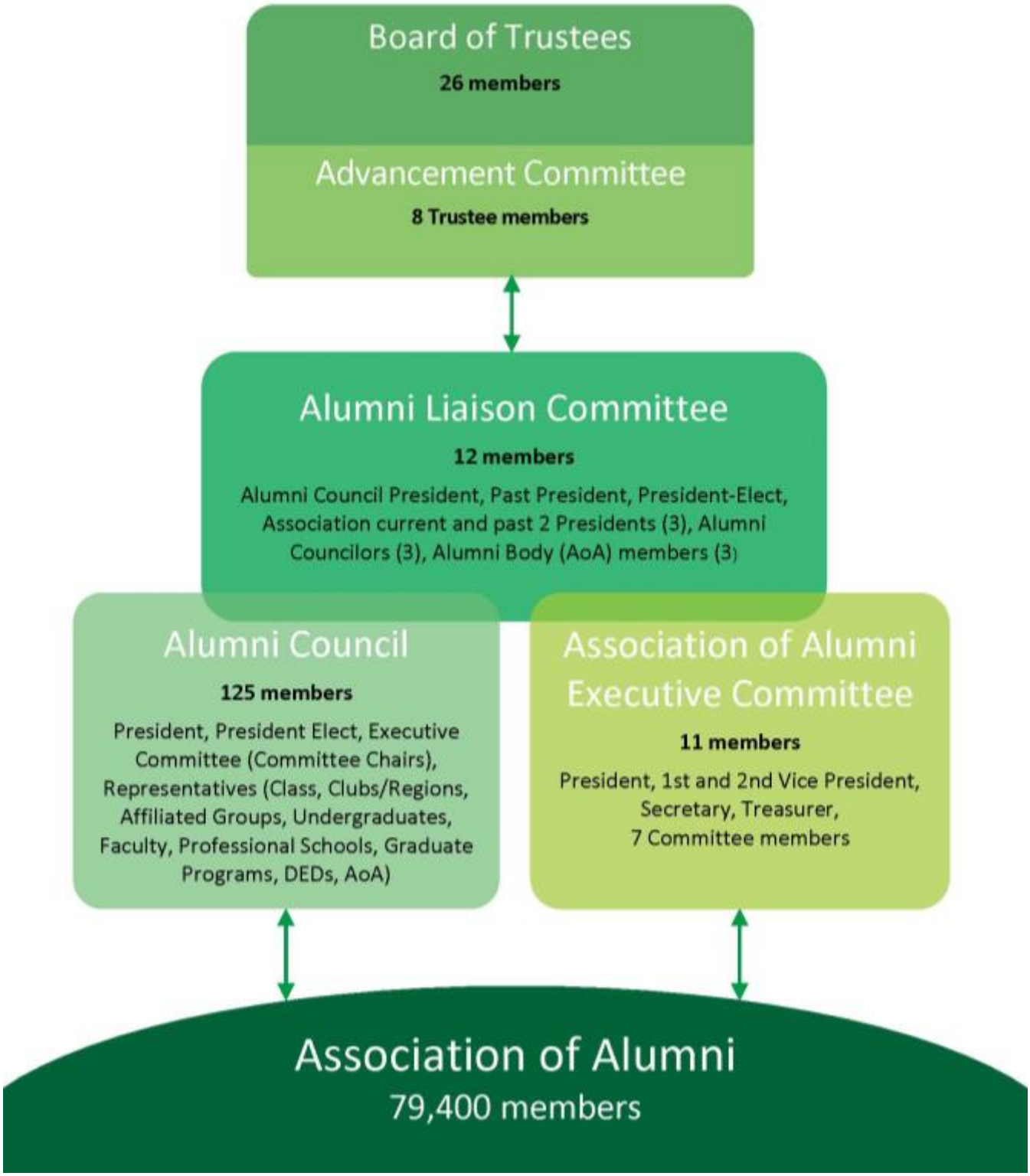
HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATIONS

The Association of Alumni was founded in 1854 and historically met once a year in Hanover for an annual meeting that was open to all alumni. Only alumni physically present in Hanover could vote in association affairs.

By 1913 Ernest Martin Hopkins, Class of 1901, recognized that the Association of Alumni was too cumbersome to represent alumni interests effectively. Acting through the association, Hopkins created the Alumni Council "to act as the official spokesman of alumni sentiment," to be the "clearinghouse for alumni sentiment and interchange of alumni ideas," to "approve or disapprove of projects put forth in the alumni name, and... [to be] the seat of authority in all such matters." The formation of the Alumni Council left the Association Executive Committee with few responsibilities. Since 1913, the Executive Committee's sole responsibilities have been to run trustee elections (during those years when such elections have occurred) and to host an annual meeting in Hanover at which the Executive Committee is elected and/or announced. With the introduction of all-media voting, alumni are no longer required to attend the annual meeting in order to cast votes in Executive Committee elections.

Dartmouth Alumni Leadership

Flow Chart | Membership



Alumni Councilor Responsibilities

1. The Alumni Councilor represents alumni by:
   a) Communicating Dartmouth priorities and initiatives to alumni
   b) Bringing ideas and concerns of alumni to the attention of the Council and College
   c) Reporting back to alumni on these matters and any other affairs of alumni interest
   d) Acting on behalf of his/her alumni constituency
2. The Alumni Councilor communicates *at least four times* to his/her constituency annually.
3. The Alumni Councilor serves usually on one Council Committee.
4. An Alumni Council class or club representative typically serves as an *ex-officio* member on the Board of Directors of his/her assigned Alumni Club or as an *ex-officio* member of his/her Class Executive Committee and performs the following:
   a) Participates in club board meetings, class executive committee meetings or class calls when possible;
   b) Attends the annual club dinner;
   c) Reports at club functions on current events at the College and Council news;
   d) contributing the same to the Class Newsletter;
   e) Answers questions of alumni;
   f) Brings ideas, problems and comments of alumni to the Council;
5. The Alumni Councilor may serve on special committees, by appointment of the Council President and Executive Committee, formed to undertake College projects (these committees may include representatives from the faculty, student body, administration, and alumni).
6. The Alumni Councilor thinks independently and deeply and works with the administration, Trustees, faculty, and students in a common effort to preserve the College's strengths and build her future.

TOOLS FOR ACHIEVING THE COUNCIL'S MISSION – "CAPITAL"

C*ommunicate* - Deliver and receive information to/ from constituencies
A*ttend* - Contribute to all Council meetings
P*repare* - Review communications delivered and prepare for Council meetings
I*nteract* - Know and be involved in College life – students, faculty, and issues
T*alk* - Use the plenary sessions to convey information and opinions, make an impact in committee sessions, contribute ideas
A*ccept* - Acknowledge differing viewpoints respectfully
L*isten* - Consider other peoples' comments

Council Communications Process

The Alumni Council's mission is to sustain a fully informed, representative and engaged exchange of information and sentiment between alumni and the College.

Alumni Councilors are encouraged to communicate with their constituents at least four times each year-ideally in advance of both the fall and spring Alumni Council meeting, and to report back afterwards.

Before the meeting:

- The Communications Committee will provide a pre-meeting template to personalize
- Request feedback and questions from your constituents
- Share what you receive with the Alumni Liaison Committee at alc@dartmouth.edu

At the meeting:

- Ask questions and take notes, if you like. Official minutes of the meeting will be posted online.

After the meeting:

- Report back to your constituents what you've learned via individual replies and the post-meeting template.

In the post-meeting communications from recent meetings, councilors who personalized their subject lines saw significantly higher open rates. Examples of custom subject lines:

- How Dartmouth has changed – 61%
- News from Hanover – 59%
- A Diverse Dartmouth – 63%

Default subject line if you don't customize: 215th Alumni Council Report for (constituency)

Councilors serve as a two-way liaison between their constituents and the College. Your job is to communicate to your constituents about what's happening at Dartmouth and bring their questions to the College. Think about your audience and what they need and want to know.

1. Make it personal and write in your own voice.
2. Provide a customized subject line.
3. Consider topping your message with an executive summary or paragraph describing your key take aways from the meeting.
4. Curate content for your audience.

5. Consider adding a photo or visual element.
6. Don't forget to CC the ALC at alc@dartmouth.edu!

Contact Meg Ramsden '87, Associate Director of Alumni Leadership, at Meaghan.Ramsden@Dartmouth.edu to process the sending of your email. Please provide your preferred email address from which you would like it to be sent along with the final draft of the email. All of the "reply to sender" emails that your constituents send will go directly to your email address that you have provided as the sender.

You may also communicate to your constituents via alternative channels such as class newsletters and class/club websites.

Forwarding Emails to the Alumni Liaison Committee

The Alumni Liaison Committee is meant to serve as a "communications hub" for the Alumni Council as they interface with the administration and Board of Trustees. With this committee in place, there is a process in which to channel the communications you receive from alumni where it will then be assessed, acted upon and used to produce the annual report at year's end. Alumni may send their comments directly to ALC@dartmouth.edu. However, when an email is sent to you, the following process has been put in place:

Communications Process with the Alumni Liaison Committee:

1. After reading email from alumni, forward to ALC@Dartmouth.edu
   a) Put in the topic bar the subject of the email from the following:
      - Academics
      - Administration/policy
      - Administration/operations
      - Admissions
      - Athletics
      - General Response
      - Governance
      - Student Life
2. Briefly respond to the sender:
   a) Acknowledge receipt of email. If applicable, note you will try to find the answer to the question at the meeting and report back
   b) Let them know it has been forwarded to the ALC
   c) Thank them for their input
3. The ALC will receive the forwarded email, review and sort them as further needed. Any specific action items will be managed by working with Alumni Relations who will make the appropriate contact with college administrators. This process could take some time.

4. Over the course of the year, the ALC will prepare their annual report, providing updates at the spring and fall meetings and a final report to be presented to the Board of Trustees in the fall after the close of the academic year.

Committees of the Alumni Council

Much of the council's work is accomplished through committees. These committees are principally composed of and headed by council members. Sometimes the work of a committee may include one or more non-members of the Council from either the alumni body or some other source. For example, appropriate staff officers at the College can serve as committee secretaries to coordinate the work of groups and provide accurate information to committee members.

Committee meetings are held between sessions of the council as may be required. An outline of the functions of each of the operating committees is included below.

Academic Affairs Committee

The Committee on Academic Affairs serves as a principal interface between the faculty and the Alumni Council of Dartmouth College such that a strong relationship is affirmed and alumni are kept informed about the curriculum and other elements of the Dartmouth academic experience.

The committee also serves as the platform for exploring intersections of the intellectual life of Dartmouth with programs or strategies that will increase engagement of alumni. The committee will work with Alumni Relations and the faculty and College representatives on the committee to identify academic opportunities to enrich the lives of our alumni as they in turn support the institution with their time and talents, with the overall goal of creating lifelong connections between faculty, students and alumni.

The committee consists of alumni councilors, the faculty representative to the Alumni Council, a representative of the Provost's office, the Dean of Graduate Studies, and a representative of the Dean of the Faculty.

Alumni Awards Committee

Each year a handful of alumni are selected to receive the prestigious Dartmouth Alumni Award, established by the Alumni Council to honor outstanding alumni. The first Alumni Award was presented in 1954 to Ernest Martin Hopkins, Class of 1901. Since then, more than 400 alumni have been honored.

The Alumni Awards Committee consists of seven former recipients of the Dartmouth Alumni Award and a staff member of the Alumni Relations Office (committee secretary). This committee seeks strong alumni candidates that meet the eligibility criteria for the Dartmouth Alumni Award and selects three to four alumni recipients each year to be honored for a combination of accomplishments in Dartmouth volunteerism, career and civic involvement.

Alumni Liaison Committee

The Alumni Liaison Committee consists of the president, the president-elect, and immediate past-president of the Council, the presidents of the Association of Alumni during their term on the Alumni Council, three current council members elected by the Alumni Council, and three members of the Association of Alumni elected by the Alumni Council. A representative of the Board of Trustees' Advancement Committee may also serve on this committee. The committee gathers feedback from alumni on topics of interest and shares this information with the Alumni Relations office, the Board of Trustees, and the senior administration.

Alumni Service Committee

The Alumni Service Committee maintains a central repository of information regarding existing service opportunities, and communicates this information to interested alumni constituencies. The committee also serves as a constructive resource for students, faculty, and administration who would like to discuss and receive informal feedback and guidance regarding service proposals. Members will facilitate the juxtaposition of service over existing College and alumni events. These will provide an avenue though which alumni professionals could volunteer their trade skills to nonprofits in need of these services. This committee will also serve as a liaison to the Club Officers Association and Class Officers Association on all matters relating to alumni service.

Athletics Committee

The Athletics Committee promotes the interests of Dartmouth alumni in athletics at Dartmouth, including varsity athletics, club sports, intramural athletics, physical education, and recreation. Specifically, the committee gathers and assesses information regarding the administration and financial support of athletics by the College, particularly the Department of Athletics and Recreation, as well as student participation in athletics; solicits input from the alumni body regarding the interests and concerns of alumni with respect to athletics at Dartmouth; communicates these interests and concerns to the department; and communicates the results of the committee's work to the Alumni Council, the administration, and alumni.

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee encourages and facilitates communication between and among members of the council and their respective constituencies regarding both the council's activities and the College as a whole. The committee also encourages and facilitates communication within the council itself, by providing tools and resources to aid constituent discourse; metrics regarding successful communication practices; training to

improve the council's overall accessibility to and from alumni at large; and a means to safeguard the council's legacy of information. The committee regularly reviews opportunities to improve council communications broadly.

Enrollment and Admissions Committee

The Committee on Enrollment and Admissions serves as a sounding board for the admissions and financial aid offices on issues such as general admissions, accepted student yield, financial aid practices, and nationwide and international trends. The committee also supports the Office of Admissions in coordinating and assessing the alumni interviewing process throughout the United States and the world.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee consists of the president, the president-elect, and the chairs of the other standing committees of the Council. The committee is chaired by the president. This committee sets the agenda for the council and plans and designs Council meetings in consultation with the Alumni Relations Office. It is also empowered to act on council business in between meetings, and is the final authority on strategic matters.

Honorary Degrees Committee

The Committee on Honorary Degrees seeks strong alumni candidates for the award by canvassing the alumni body. It then forwards three to five names to the College Committee on Honorary Degrees, which makes the final decision regarding recipients.

Nominating and Alumni Trustee Search Committee

The Nominating and Alumni Trustee Search Committee consists of the president, the president-elect, the immediate past chair of the Nominating Committee, a Council member appointed by the committee for a term of three years, and six other council members elected for terms of three years by the council. The Nominating Committee makes two nominations for the president-elect, each vacancy for at-large representatives, and other positions specified in the Alumni Council constitution. Importantly, it also makes nominations for alumni trustee as provided in the constitution. The Nominating Committee welcomes alumni trustee candidate recommendations from alumni at any time.

Orientation Committee

The Orientation Committee plans and oversees the orientation of first-year alumni councilors. Responsibilities include establishing direct mentor roles for new councilors, updating orientation materials and methods, and monitoring the effectiveness of current

orientation programs. The committee is chaired by the Alumni Council president-elect.

Professional Development Committee

The Professional Development Committee works with the Center for Professional Development and the Office of Alumni Relations to help to generate program ideas designed to leverage alumni expertise in service to other alumni and students at Dartmouth. The committee identifies and solicits appropriate alumni to participate in professional development programs; shares information about professional opportunities serving students and alumni with constituents and current councilors; promotes college programs designed to encourage alumni to hire and mentor Dartmouth students; and plans and carries out on-campus career programming for students in conjunction with Alumni Council meetings in Hanover.

Student Affairs Committee

The Committee on Student Affairs monitors and reports on all aspects of student life to both the Alumni Council and, through the councilors, to the alumni body. At each of its meetings, the committee meets and has extensive dialogue with several student leaders from both the undergraduate and the graduate student bodies regarding current "hot topic" campus issues.

Young Alumni Committee

The Young Alumni Committee engages Dartmouth's young alumni through collaborative efforts with the College, student organizations, Alumni Relations, and other Alumni Council committees to:

- Effectively address the needs of young alumni around the globe
- Provide students with support as they transition to alumni of the College
- Inspire young alumni to build a lifelong commitment to the College

Young Alumni Awards Committee

The Young Alumni Awards Committee consists of five to seven former recipients of the Young Alumni Distinguished Service Award and a staff member of the Alumni Relations Office (committee secretary). This committee seeks strong alumni candidates that meet the eligibility criteria for the Young Alumni Distinguished Service Award and place strong emphasis on Dartmouth volunteerism when selecting typically 2 recipients each year.

Report from the 214th Meeting of the Dartmouth Alumni Council

May 18-20, 2017

by C. Alec Casey '88

More than 100 Alumni Councilors representing classes, affiliated groups, clubs, and associations returned to Hanover last month for our spring Alumni Council meeting to work in committees and meet with College leadership, faculty, and students. It was a busy three days of informative sessions and lively discussion highlighted by beautiful weather and Green Key weekend commencing around us. The information below, loosely organized into bullet points, serves as a summary of the meeting. I would also invite you to view photos, browse a round-up of the conversation on social media during the weekend, and review the full meeting minutes. As always, I welcome any questions or feedback you may have.

Learning by Doing

Councilors participated in discussions with students and faculty engaged in three projects that demonstrate Dartmouth's intimate intellectual community and experiential learning opportunities at home and abroad.

- Terren Klein '17 and a team of students developed the College Pulse app, an incentive-based opinion polling tool that provides real-time data to students about their College and community.
- A team of students traveled to Washington, DC, in November 2016 to deliberate the pros and cons of interest-rate hikes with Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen through the College Fed Challenge.
- And in January, undergrads in Anthropology 70 made a major fossil discovery while excavating at a UNESCO World Heritage site at Malapa, South Africa.

We also heard several other presentations that were academic in nature:

- Director of the **Dartmouth Center for the Advancement of Learning** Lisa Baldez spoke of the evolution of teaching and learning, reaffirming Dartmouth's commitment to the teacher-scholar model. Equipping faculty members to be excellent teachers is a longstanding tradition at Dartmouth and remains at the core of the academic vision for the College. Baldez talked about how the Center for the Advancement of Learning serves as a resource to make professors better classroom teachers – especially in an era in which technology has upended the traditional format of lecture and Q&A.
- Professors Edward Miller and Jennifer Miller shared the **Dartmouth Vietnam Project**, a collaborative effort between students and faculty to collect oral histories from members of the Dartmouth community who served in Vietnam. Don't miss this video about their work.

- Dean Joseph Helble moderated a panel of faculty on how the combination of engineering and the liberal arts has resulted in national leadership for the **Thayer School of Engineering**, which turns 150 this year. Thayer is the only engineering school to require an AB before a BE and has been recognized for its focus on entrepreneurship. In 2016, Thayer made history by being the first engineering class from a national research university to achieve gender parity.
- The academic affairs committee of the Council presented the inaugural Professor John Rassias Faculty Award for exceptional educational outreach to alumni to Steve Swayne, the Jacob H. Strauss 1922 Professor of Music; and Don Pease, the Ted and Helen Geisel Third Century Professor in the Humanities, who is also Chair of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program and professor of English and comparative literature. Professor Rassias's daughter, Helene Rassias-Miles A&S '08, was there to congratulate the winners.

Strategy and Vision

President Philip J. Hanlon '77 shared his vision for Dartmouth as a distinctive experience defined by world-class faculty and students, intellectual rigor and interdisciplinary curricula, unique spirit, and magnificent setting. Among the highlights of his presentation to us were these:

- President Hanlon made it clear that Dartmouth is "hot": The **Class of 2021** will be among the most selective and accomplished class in Dartmouth's history, faculty are being recognized for their scholarship, and rankings are on the rise.
- President Hanlon took questions from Councilors pertaining to tolerance of divergent opinions and freedom of expression, House Communities, fundraising plans, and recruitment and retention of faculty of color.
- He also referenced the appointment of N. Bruce Duthu '80 as dean of the faculty – an appointment that drew strong support from some (including those who noted that Professor Duthu would have been the first Native American to serve as dean of the faculty) and criticism from others (while serving on the council of Native American academic association, Professor Duthu had signed a statement in 2013 in support of a boycott of Israeli academic institutions.) During the Council meeting, President Hanlon expressed his support for Professor Duthu, while reaffirming that Dartmouth will not support academic boycotts of any kind and remains committed to freedom of expression as a fundamental value of our community. Since the closing of the Council meeting, Professor Duthu announced he had decided to decline the appointment. In an email to colleagues, he explained that controversy had become a distraction with the potential to damage Dartmouth and undermine his ability to serve effectively as dean.

These were among the discussions we had with other members of the Dartmouth leadership team:

- Chair-elect of the Board of Trustees Laurel Richie '81 spoke with Councilors about her pride in Dartmouth and excitement to lead the **Board of Trustees**. As Board

chair, Richie hopes to increase visibility and differentiation for Dartmouth by highlighting its special character.

- Vice-President of **Communications** Justin Anderson walked the Council through a new branding strategy that builds on Dartmouth's unique location, academic focus, experiential learning opportunities, and spirit that makes the College "Distinctly Dartmouth."
- Lee Coffin, vice provost for enrollment and dean of **admissions and financial aid**, spoke about the Class of 2021 -- which had the highest yield in Dartmouth's history at 61 percent – and his strategy for increasing applications to Dartmouth from the very best students. Alumni interviewers participating in the Admissions Ambassador Program were a key component of this success.
- Vice President for Development Andrew Davidson P'20 and Advancement COO Ann Root Keith gave Councilors a look into the planning phases of the upcoming **Dartmouth capital campaign**. I'll report back on the priorities and goal when they become public, but am pleased to say that things are going well.

Recognizing Leadership

It has been said that Dartmouth is a launch pad for success, and that is clearly the case for the Honorable **Eric Fanning '90,** 22nd United States Secretary of the Army who spoke over dinner at the Hanover Inn. As the "CEO" of the U.S. Army, he was responsible for its $147 billion budget and its 1.4 million people. He is the first person to have held senior presidential appointments in the Army, Navy *and* Air Force. It was inspiring to hear his devotion to the men and women who defend our country and eye-opening to understand what a difficult job managing such huge organizations can be. His remarks focused on leadership and the role his liberal arts education at Dartmouth played in his career trajectory.

Samples of Communications to Constituents

Emails from Class Representatives

Dartmouth
ALUMNI COUNCIL

Hi,

Late last month I returned to Hanover with more than 100 Alumni Councilors representing classes, affiliated groups, clubs, and associations for our spring Alumni Council meeting to meet with College leadership, faculty, and students. We also got to enjoy Green Key weekend and beautiful spring weather.

Below are my six take-aways from the weekend, which reminded me of what makes Dartmouth special to me. I welcome your questions and feedback.

I hope to see you at reunion in just a few days and that you too will be reminded of what makes Dartmouth special to you!

Ben Schwartz '06

6 take-aways from our Alumni Council meeting that reminded me of what makes Dartmouth special

1. Dartmouth's **investment in the teacher-scholar model**. Director of the Dartmouth Center for the Advancement of Learning Lisa Baldez shared how she equips faculty members to be excellent teachers. Witnessing **enthusiastic professors like Steve Swayne**, the Jacob H. Strauss 1922 Professor of Music; and **Don Pease**, the Ted and Helen Geisel Third Century Professor in the Humanities, receive the inaugural Professor John Rassias Faculty Award for exceptional educational outreach to alumni

2. **Students who take action to have an impact**, like Terren Klein '17 who showed us his College Pulse app, an incentive-based real-time opinion polling tool, and the undergrads in Anthropology 70 who made a major fossil discovery while excavating at a UNESCO World Heritage site at Malapa, South Africa

3. **Continuous improvement** such as the new House Communities, new study abroad opportunities and multiple outlets to nurture student entrepreneurship, including Thayer's history-making moment in 2016 as having the **first engineering class at a national research university to achieve gender parity**

4. The **commitment to divergent opinions and freedom of expression** and the purposeful encouragement of dialogue among students, faculty, guests, and alumni who disagree yet seek to learn from each other

5. The **magnificent campus** that provides outlets for all types of learning from serene reflection to active engagement, with ever-strengthening facilities, such as the renovation of the Hood Museum

6. **Dedicated alumni** like you who helped achieve a record yield of 61% for the Class of 2021 through work as alumni interviewers and participating in the Admissions Ambassador Program, as well as i**nspiring alumni** like the Honorable **Eric Fanning '90,** 22nd United States Secretary of the Army who spoke over dinner at the Hanover Inn. He is the first person to have held senior presidential appointments in the Army, Navy *and* Air Force (and was the first openly gay Service Secretary)

A few other notes from our meeting:

- N. Bruce Duthu '80 was appointed as dean of the faculty – an appointment that drew strong support from some (including those who noted that Professor Duthu would have been the first Native American to serve as dean of the faculty) and criticism from others (while serving on the council of Native American academic association, Professor Duthu had signed a statement in 2013 in support of a boycott of Israeli academic institutions.) President Hanlon expressed his support for Professor Duthu, while reaffirming that Dartmouth will not support academic boycotts of any kind and remains committed to freedom of expression as a fundamental value of our community. Professor Duthu since declined the appointment, explaining that controversy had become a distraction with the potential to damage Dartmouth and undermine his ability to serve effectively as dean. The president and provost will consult with faculty members to determine next steps.

- President Hanlon reiterated his firm desire to strengthen the diversity of Dartmouth's faculty by better attracting and retaining top faculty that reflect the diverse backgrounds of the student body

PS. I invite you to view photos, browse a round-up of the conversation on social media, and review the full meeting minutes.

Dartmouth
ALUMNI COUNCIL

Report from the 214th Meeting of the Dartmouth Alumni Council
May 18-20, 2017

Last month, over 100 class, group and club representatives came together in Hanover for the Alumni Council's annual spring meeting. The points below are a mix of college highlights and my own observations from the weekend. As always, feel free to dig in to the official photos or full meeting minutes and shoot me a note with any questions or comments.

THURSDAY

We heard from groups of students and faculty engaged in particularly cool experiential learning initiatives:

- **Terren Klein '17** (YES, Mikaela and Chiara's little brother!) spoke about his incentive-based opinion polling app College Pulse, which provides real-time student data to the Dartmouth community
- A team of students traveled to Washington, DC through the College Fed Challenge and learned about the pros and cons of interest-rate hikes with Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen
- Undergrads in Anthropology 70 made a major fossil discovery while excavating at a UNESCO World Heritage site at Malapa, South Africa

FRIDAY

I took my last Tuck final in the morning (I did fine, don't worry), then met up with the larger group at a lunchtime panel on Teaching and Learning at Dartmouth:

- Lisa Baldez, Director of the **Dartmouth Center for the Advancement of Learning,** reaffirmed Dartmouth's commitment to the teacher-scholar model

- Professor John Rassias's daughter, **Helene Rassias-Miles A&S '08**, presented the inaugural award in his honor for exceptional educational outreach to:

    - Steve Swayne, the Jacob H. Strauss 1922 Professor of Music

    - Don Pease, the Ted and Helen Geisel Third Century Professor in the Humanities, Chair of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program and professor of English and comparative literature

    - Audience members were literally in tears listening to their acceptance speeches – these are professors who have clearly changed lives.

After lunch, we went to Dartmouth Hall for a "State of the College" talk from **President Philip J. Hanlon '77**. He talked about Dartmouth's increasing popularity and the strength of the Class of 2021.

The spirited Q/A session afterwards covered a variety of topics, many of which you mentioned in your e-mails to me:

- **Sustainability & Divestment:** President Hanlon spoke about the sustainability task force, which released its report and recommendations on Earth Day. Plans include targets for solid waste and food choices as well as a revamp of the college's power system. Concerning the impact of Dartmouth's investment practices on the environment, we were directed to the statement on investor responsibility on the trustees' website as "the argument is mixed."

- **Greek Life:** The college conducted a study of student influencers, many of whom were "wanted a more diverse social scene." House Communities, which offer options for extracurricular involvement, align nicely with this feedback.

- **Faculty Diversity:** "We are not where we need to be," was the statement of the day. That said, the college has increased resources for women in STEM in the past year and has instituted a bias training program for those participating in faculty search committees.

- **Student Diversity:** The New York Times graphic showing the percentage of wealthy students at Dartmouth was based on old information. In fact, 15 percent of the newly admitted class of 2021 was Pell Grant eligible. The average annual scholarship for the Class of '20 was $47,833. $95 million in Dartmouth scholarships were distributed to students in the 2016-2017 academic year.

- **Dean of Faculty:** The appointment of **N. Bruce Duthu '80** drew strong support from some and criticism from others. For context, while serving on the council of Native American academic association in 2013, Professor Duthu signed a statement in support of a boycott of Israeli academic institutions. During the Council meeting, President Hanlon expressed his support for Professor Duthu but reaffirmed that Dartmouth does not support academic boycotts of any kind. Since the closing of the Council meeting, Professor Duthu has declined the appointment. The president and provost will consult with faculty members to determine next steps.

Afterwards, we heard from a series of college leaders on their specific initiatives:

- VP of Communications **Justin Anderson** walked us through "Distinctly Dartmouth," a branding strategy that plays on Dartmouth's unique location, academic focus, experiential learning opportunities and spirit.

- **Professors Edward and Jennifer Miller** shared the Dartmouth Vietnam Project, a effort to collect oral histories from members of the Dartmouth community who served in Vietnam.

- **Lee Coffin**, vice provost for enrollment and dean of admissions and financial aid, spoke some more about the Class of 2021.

Over dinner, the Honorable **Eric Fanning '90,** 22nd United States Secretary of the Army spoke about his role as the "CEO" of the U.S. Army. He is the first person to have held senior presidential appointments in the Army, Navy and Air Force. His remarks focused on leadership and the role his liberal arts education at Dartmouth played in his career trajectory.

SATURDAY

- **Dean Joseph Helble** moderated a panel of faculty on how the combination of engineering and the liberal arts has resulted in national leadership for the **Thayer School of Engineering**, which turns 150 this year. In 2016, Thayer made history by being the first engineering class from a national research university to achieve gender parity.

- The results of the Alumni Council Election were announced:
    - President-elect: **Tee Lotson '82**
    - Nominating Committee: **Elizabeth Donohoe Cook '94 and Eric Taylor '84**
    - Alumni Liaison Committee: **Melanie Pastuck '11**

Thanks again for trusting me to represent your interests. I'll be taking some time off from Hanover this summer to intern on the My Little Pony team at Hasbro Toys, but James will be in town with an ear to the ground to keep me (and you) updated on college news.

Enjoy the start of summer and please let me know if you happen to be in Providence.

All the best,

Abbe

Dartmouth
ALUMNI COUNCIL

Dear '89s,

There's a good feeling at Dartmouth these days. On May 18 - 20, the 214th Session of the Alumni Council took place in Hanover during the start of Green Key weekend. More than 100 Alumni Councilors discussed key topics, noted as highlights or links below.

A few highlights

- **"Distinctly Dartmouth"**

The head of communications unveiled plans to celebrate what distinguishes Dartmouth among its peers: a stellar liberal arts program, teaching excellence, an idyllic location and an adventuresome spirit.

- **Extraordinary '89s Leadership**

Russell Wolff '89 completed his term as president of the Alumni Council and will stay on as head of the Alumni Liaison Committee (ALC). Jennifer Avellino '89, past president and past head of the ALC, completed seven years on the Alumni Council.

Photos: Russell Wolff '89 leads the 214th session; Past President Jennifer Avellino '89 helps honor Russell; Former Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning '90 delivers his keynote speech (official photo, right)

- **An Insightful Keynote Speech**

Eric Fanning ’90, the 22nd Secretary of the Army explained that the army is led by a civilian who oversees an organization second in size only to Walmart, with a $147 billion budget, 1.4 million people and operations in 150 countries. Back in the day, Russell Wolff ’89 hung out with Eric on the steps of Psi U.

- **A 150th birthday**

Thayer is thriving, touting gender parity, an entrepreneurial focus and strong ties to a liberal arts curriculum.

- **Key issues**

President Hanlon addressed questions from Councilors pertaining to tolerance of divergent opinions and freedom of expression, fundraising plans, and recruitment and retention of faculty of color. He also made a strong case for why Dartmouth is gaining good traction and is “hot” now.

- **Today’s talented students**

Too many accomplishments to name here, including the Dartmouth Vietnam Project, which is capturing voices of alumni who served in Vietnam.

- **More information**

View conversations on social media during the weekend, read a more complete summary, or review the full meeting minutes.

I look forward to hearing more good news from Hanover in the years ahead. As I write my last email recap for the Alumni Council, I leave you in the talented hands of Nicole Waldbaum Moser ’89 and with an even greater appreciation of our dear old Dartmouth.

Your classmate and friend,

Laura Mattson ‘89

Emails from Affiliated Group Representatives

Dartmouth
ALUMNI COUNCIL

Dear DAPAAA members,

It's been about a month since Steven Tseng and I were on campus for the 213th meeting of the Alumni Council, where the weather was perfect the first day and rainy the rest of the weekend. Needless to say, it was reason enough to stop by the Coop for some new Dartmouth gear!

Prior to Council activities, I had the chance to meet with Shiella Cervantes and several current students over at 6 Choate Road. It was a great opportunity to share life experiences with APA students from across the country, and especially to find out that two of them also graduated from Stuyvesant in NYC! One of the most memorable interactions was with a student from the Midwest who talked about exploring his Asian-American identity even as a senior. I'm grateful that Shiella, OPASA, and OPAL are at Dartmouth to support APA students from all backgrounds and walks of life.

One of the highlights of the Council was hearing from Alumni Councilors from our various affiliated groups, including our very own Steven Tseng. It was a great opportunity for the entire Alumni Council to hear about how the affiliated groups are exploring ways to connect with and support students and alumni. The only shortcoming was that the panel could've benefited from more time together.

As always, we'd like to share the highlights of the meeting with you. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out. We'll make sure the Alumni Liaison Committee gets back to you in a timely manner. Thanks always for letting us represent you.

Warmest regards,

Hoi Ning Ngai D'00

Steven Tseng D'95 T'01

(Included: The report from the 213th Alumni Council meeting by Martha Gerhan ’83

Dartmouth
ALUMNI COUNCIL

Dear BADA Family,

Fall in Hanover is still gorgeous! Tee Lotson '82 and I were happy to represent you at the 213th Alumni Council Session in October. We were among 125 Alumni Councilors who converged on the Hanover Plain for the annual fall Alumni Council meeting. Our busy weekend was focused on the theme **Dartmouth for All: Fostering an Inclusive Community**.

First Things First! Get Engaged with BADA and the College

- Nominate an active member of the Dartmouth faculty for the first **Professor John D. Rassias Faculty Award** to be awarded at the 214th Alumni Council Session in May 2017. The description:

  The Professor John Rassias Faculty Award recognizes faculty members who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to maintaining strong ties with Dartmouth alumni. Faculty members build these connections by speaking at events on and off the Hanover Plain, traveling the world with Dartmouth Alumni Travel, sharing their knowledge through online courses, and continuing to mentor and educate former Dartmouth students and friends of the College. The award is named in the memory of John Rassias, the internationally renowned William R. Kenan Professor of French and Italian Emeritus, who is remembered for his innovative and dynamic student-centered language teaching methods.

- Mark your calendars and get your alumni friends together to participate in the **3rd Annual Alumni Day of Service** on May 6, 2017.
- If you (1) work in a social impact career (e.g., nonprofit organization, education, government agency, social impact research, b corporation, corporate social responsibility) or (2) serve as a nonprofit organization board member, please submit your contact information to the **Dartmouth Center for Service**. Feel free to contact the Center if you have questions.
- Cheer on **Dartmouth Sports Teams** at a location near you!

213th Council Session Review: Diversity and Inclusion

Alumni Council President Russell Wolff '89, Tu'94 offered perspective on the theme: "Diversity is who is on the team; Inclusion is who gets to play and how the team makes them feel." The meeting featured panels and presentations to broaden our understanding of diversity and inclusivity at Dartmouth, the challenges the College faces in these areas, and the efforts it is making to improve.

- **House Communities Discussion and Tour:** Effective this fall, Dartmouth has reorganized its dormitories into House Communities, to which students are randomly assigned and with which they will be affiliated as students and alumni. We heard from two House Professors and toured two House Community social spaces (Allen House and South

House). While the Houses differ in setup, each provides a central location for study, socializing, and snacking. Living Learning Communities including the Shabazz Center will be part of the McLaughlin Cluster. Students living in Shabazz Hall will still be assigned to a House Community. **Inge-Lise Ameer, Vice Provost for Student Affairs**, summed up the intent of the House Communities: "More than a random place to sleep and do laundry, Dartmouth's new Housing Communities provide students a home base, sense of place, and a feeling of continuity." This new residential life model is a key component of the Moving Dartmouth Forward Initiative and will also create deliberate opportunities for faculty-student interaction beyond the classroom. Read about the opening celebrations and view a welcome message from the House Professors to get a feel for this update to the Dartmouth Experience.

- **First Year Student Enrichment Program:** Director **Jay Davis '90** introduced this pre-orientation program which builds community and norms struggle for those who are the first in their family to go to a four-year college. We listened to and asked questions of a student participant in Dartmouth's support and mentoring programs who shared that "meeting [her] first year mentor was like looking in a mirror at [her] future self."
- **Diversity of Political Thought in America and at Dartmouth:** Three faculty members representing a range of perspectives participated in this lunch panel, moderated by **Jennifer Avellino '89**. Andrew Samwick, Leslie Butler, and Sonu Bedi spoke about the new dynamics in the United States and how Dartmouth faculty encourage a variety of perspectives in the classroom.
- **Communities for All: Conversation with Alumni Leaders:** Our own **Tee Lotson '82** was among Alumni Council representatives from selected alumni communities (BADA, Dartmouth Asian Pacific American Alumni Association, the Dartmouth Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Alumni/ae Association, and Women of Dartmouth) who participated in a panel discussion centered around building inclusion and collaboration across classes and clubs through intentional co-programming and mentoring.
- **Competing Beyond Our Differences: A Conversation with Student Athletes**: Four student athletes participated in this panel discussion focused on how diversity is an asset on teams. The students described the powerful bonds built through teamwork, while providing a view into their schedules and unique challenges as NCAA Division I student athletes competing for a strong academic institution.

More Alumni Updates!

President Philip J. Hanlon '77 and **Michael Mastanduno**, **Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Nelson A. Rockefeller Professor of Government**, spoke about the competitive academic environment, the niche Dartmouth occupies with a research faculty also dedicated to teaching, and the increasing value of a strong liberal arts education. President Hanlon also discussed the new House Communities, experiential learning initiatives, the Inclusive Excellence initiative, and the creation of the Arthur L. Irving Institute for Energy and Society.

For their contributions to Dartmouth, we celebrated this year's recipients of Alumni Awards at dinner on Friday night and enjoyed video tributes on their leadership and impact.

2016-17 Dartmouth Alumni Award

Philip C. Kron ’60, Tu’61

Charles E. Haldeman Jr. ’70

Margaret (Meg) N. Sommerfeld ’90

2016-17 Young Alumni Distinguished Service Award

Maia Josebachvili ’05

Shounak Simlai ’05, Th’07

We met new **Vice Provost for Enrollment and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid** Lee Coffin, who joined Dartmouth this summer after a 13-year career at Tufts. Coffin commented that he has dedicated his career to shaping a multifaceted undergraduate community from a wide array of backgrounds and perspectives and is thrilled to continue to do so at Dartmouth.

On Saturday morning, **Chair of the Board of Trustees Bill Helman ’80** and **Trustee S. Caroline Kerr ’05** addressed the Council on topics including divestment from fossil fuels, diversity in the tenure process, and the Inclusive Excellence Initiative.

Catherine Craighead Briggs ’88, Chair of the Dartmouth College Fund Committee updated us on DCF initiatives, the DCF’s critical role in providing financial aid to students, and the importance of collaboration between fundraising and engagement volunteers. *Big Green Fact:* DCF was formed by the Alumni Council in 1904 when Dartmouth Hall burned down.

There’s more! Read the full meeting minutes, view photos and our Storify, and check out #DartmouthAC on social media.

Now more than ever, there’s a need and opportunity for us to create and leverage our BADA connections as we work to make each other and the College stronger. If you have any feedback about this update or other College matters, please reach out to Tee or me. Have a safe and joyful holiday season!

Sincerely,

Brandi Johnson ’01 - Academic Affairs Committee

Adrienne “Tee” Lotson ’82 - Nomination and Alumni Trustee Search Committee; Professional Development Committee; Honorary Degrees Committee, Vice-Chair

Email from Professional School Representative

Dartmouth
ALUMNI COUNCIL

Report from the 214th Meeting of the Dartmouth Alumni Council
May 18-20, 2017

Greetings from your Thayer Alumni Council Representatives! Following is a summary of the 214th meeting of the Dartmouth Alumni Council we attended on May 18-20. We were lucky enough to be on campus during a beautiful Green Key weekend, only a couple weeks after a great weekend celebrating Thayer's 150th Year.

Takeaways and highlights of particular interest to engineering alumni are:

- Dartmouth has put a lot of effort around branding and marketing and has developed a very cohesive and compelling story, and making engineering classes accessible to all Dartmouth students is an integral part of that Dartmouth story

- Thayer has a great story to tell, as was evident by Dean Helble and three engineering professors' presentation on Saturday during Alumni Council

    - Dean Joseph Helble moderated a panel of faculty on how the combination of engineering and the liberal arts has resulted in national leadership for the **Thayer School of Engineering**, which celebrates 150 years this year. Thayer is the only engineering school to require an AB before a BE and has been recognized for its focus on entrepreneurship. In 2016, Thayer made history by being the first engineering class from a national research university to achieve gender parity.

- Sustainability is a frequent topic of interest for Thayer alumni – Thayer alumni are well-positioned to have a voice on sustainability planning for the college based on feedback we've received and professional interests – if you are interested in helping to coordinate that voice either through existing channels (listed below) or other means, please let us know

    - President Hanlon's recent communication on the Dartmouth Sustainability Roadmap

    - DACA is Dartmouth Alumni Climate Action Google group – subscribe to the DACA listserv by emailing DartmouthAlumniClimateAction@googlegroups.com

    - Join the Dartmouth Green Alumni Linkedin group

    - Dartmouth Sustainability Office updates

- Our guest speaker on Friday evening was Eric Fanning '90, 22nd United States Secretary of the Army - As the "CEO" of the U.S. Army, he was responsible for its $147 billion budget and its 1.4 million people. He is the first person to have held senior presidential appointments in the Army, Navy and Air Force. It was inspiring to hear his devotion to the men and women who defend our country and eye-opening to understand what a difficult job managing such huge organizations can be. His remarks focused on leadership and the role his liberal arts education at Dartmouth played in his career trajectory.

- Issues on the minds of your fellow engineering alumni: Before each meeting our constituents are encouraged to contact us with questions and concerns – here's a sampling of what we received. Keep these coming please!
    - Fossil fuel divestment and renewable energy investment on campus, and questions about the new Irving Institute
    - Increasing tuition costs and how that impacts prospective Thayer students specifically
    - Alumni contributions to Thayer are not credited towards class giving in terms of participation or total dollars – Dartmouth advancement is aware of the problem and considering options

Best wishes,

Amber Bryant D'12 Th'12

Carrie Fraser D'86 Th'87

(Included: The report from the 214th Alumni Council meeting by Alec Casey '88)

Dartmouth
ALUMNI COUNCIL

Dear Fellow Tuck Alumni,

We hope you are enjoying the start of summer! We are writing to report back on our Alumni Council meetings that took place in May. Below, please find a summary of the meetings. For additional information, please review the full meeting minutes, browse a round-up of the conversation on social media, and check out some of the photos. As always, we welcome your comments.

Strategy and Vision

As is customary, we heard from **President Philip J. Hanlon '77**, who, this spring, shared his vision for Dartmouth, stressing the distinctive experience that the College offers through its world-class faculty and students, intellectual rigor and interdisciplinary curricula, unique spirit, and magnificent setting. The latter is an aspect of the College that he, **Justin Anderson**, Vice President of Communications, and **Lee Coffin**, Dean of Admissions, plan to emphasize moving forward. Justin Anderson revealed Dartmouth's new branding strategy that builds on Dartmouth's unique location, academic focus, experiential learning opportunities, and spirit that makes the College "Distinctly Dartmouth." Vice President for Development **Andrew Davidson P'20** and Advancement COO **Ann Root Keith** gave councilors a sense of the progress and planning underway for the upcoming Dartmouth Capital Campaign. And, Lee Coffin reported on the Class of 2021 -- which had the highest yield in Dartmouth's history at 61 percent. Alumni interviewers participating in the Admissions Ambassador Program were a key component of this success.

Councilors asked questions related to the tolerance of divergent opinions and freedom of expression, House Communities, fundraising plans, and recruitment and retention of faculty of color. A central topic was the appointment of N. Bruce Duthu '80 as dean of the faculty – an appointment that drew strong support from some (including those who noted that Professor Duthu would have been the first Native American to serve as dean of the faculty) and criticism from others (while serving on the council of Native American academic association, Professor Duthu had signed a statement in 2013 in support of a boycott of Israeli academic institutions.) During the Council meeting, President Hanlon expressed his support for Professor Duthu, while reaffirming that Dartmouth will not support academic boycotts of any kind and remains committed to freedom of expression as a fundamental value of our community. Shortly after the Council meeting, however, Professor Duthu announced his decision to decline the appointment. In an email to colleagues, he explained that controversy had become a distraction with the potential to damage Dartmouth and undermine his ability to serve effectively as dean.

Recognizing Leadership

A highlight of the meeting was hearing from the Honorable **Eric Fanning '90,** 22nd United States Secretary of the Army who spoke over dinner at the Hanover Inn. As the "CEO" of the U.S. Army, Eric was responsible for its $147 billion budget and its 1.4 million people. He is the first person to have held senior presidential appointments in the Army, Navy *and* Air Force. It was inspiring to hear his devotion to the men and women who defend our country and eye-opening to understand what a difficult job managing such huge organizations can be. His remarks focused on leadership and the role his liberal arts education at Dartmouth played in his career trajectory.

Learning by Doing

Councilors enjoyed learning directly from students about their experiential learning opportunities at Dartmouth. For example, we learned how undergrads in Anthropology 70 made a major fossil discovery while excavating at a UNESCO World Heritage site at Malapa, South Africa; how a team of students met Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen and competed in the College Fed Challenge in Washington, D.C., and how many students have launched entrepreneurial ventures, such as the College Pulse app, an incentive-based opinion polling tool that provides real-time data to students about their College and community. Councilors attended students' classes as well.

On the faculty side, we heard from Lisa Baldez, Director of the **Dartmouth Center for the Advancement of Learning**, who spoke of the evolution of teaching and learning and reaffirmed Dartmouth's commitment to the teacher-scholar model. Professors Edward Miller and Jennifer Miller shared their work on the **Dartmouth Vietnam Project**, a collaborative effort between students and faculty to collect oral histories from members of the Dartmouth community who served in Vietnam (for more information, see this video). Dean Joseph Helble and several engineering faculty shared the impressive work underway at the **Thayer Engineering School**, which has been recognized for its success in cultivating entrepreneurship. Thayer is the only engineering school to require an AB before a BE and, last year, made history by having the first engineering class from a national research university with gender parity. We were treated as well to the inaugural presentation of the Professor John Rassias Faculty Award for exceptional educational outreach. This year, the award went to Steve Swayne, the Jacob H. Strauss 1922 Professor of Music as well as Don Pease, the Ted and Helen Geisel Third Century Professor in the Humanities, Chair of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program, and professor of English and comparative literature.

Close

On our final morning together, we heard the reports from all of the Dartmouth Alumni Council committees, including the Alumni Service Committee, where yours truly gave a presentation. Thanks to all of you who participated in the Day of Service this year and for the service you do all year long! And, as is customary, we closed out the meetings with a dialogue with a member from the Board of Trustees – this year, with Chair-elect of the Board of Trustees, **Laurel Richie '81**, who spoke with councilors about her pride in Dartmouth and her aspiration to increase the College's visibility and differentiation.

We hope these notes are helpful to you and welcome your thoughts. Next academic year, I will roll off the Dartmouth Alumni Council as your Tuck representative and Karyn Calcano will take my place, working with Bart. I will continue to serve another year on the nominating committee for the Board of Trustees, but Bart and Karyn will be your point Tuck reps to the Dartmouth Alumni Council starting this Fall. It's been a pleasure representing Tuck, and I wish you all a terrific summer!

Best wishes,

Monica Claman Higgins D'86 T'90 and Bart Osman D'90 T'96

Email from Regional Representative

Dear Philadelphia Alumni,

I am reporting back on the Alumni Council Meeting last month May 18-20 in Hanover. In the scheme of things, Hanover is always a great place to be. But with the No. 1 pick in the NBA, and the No. 2 pick in the NHL, Philly is pretty good too – glass half full. Anyway, spring had finally come and the campus was buzzing especially as it was Green Key Weekend. I was not able to attend the entire meeting and refer you to an excellent meeting summary provided by a council colleague below, following my "brief" comments.

Permit me to share some thoughts and observations which I think you will find interesting:

Student Sessions

While I always find the presentations by the administration and faculty very enlightening, the sessions with students are always special. This meeting I was able to have three such opportunities: 1) attending the dinner discussion group with anthropology students who went on a "dig" in South Africa, 2) sitting in on a class of my choice and 3) meeting with a group of student athletes to discuss careers (Athletic Committee).

1. <u>Experiencing Human Origins in South Africa</u>

   This dinner discussion was a verbal and slide presentation by four students (accompanied by their Professor Dominy) who applied to take Anthropology 70 last fall term. Part of the course was that they would be able to participate in a course "extension" research activity which consisted of 3-week excavation trip to South Africa during winter break. Fall term ends at Thanksgiving. Twelve students made the trip along with two professors, visiting various excavations sites and cities in South Africa. Two students discovered parts of a pelvis of an early human dating back two million years ago. Each student wrote a research paper. The students could not have been more enthusiastic about their trip and work. There was a terrific Q&A with the students and Professor Dominy. I wish I had gone on a dig as an undergrad. More on this trip is on a link in the meeting summary below.

   An important thing to point out is that this course research extension into winter break was funded by the College. To date, only three departments have been granted funding to schedule winter term research trips (experiential learning). Anthropology 70 does not have the funding to do the trip again next year. So, while the winter break research opportunity model seems ideal, it is my understanding that there does need to be more funding available to make it sustainable for Anthropology and to expand it to other departments.

2. Government 5 – International Politics (Prof. William Wolforth)

I did not know it but the class I chose to attend was having a guest speaker: Eric Fanning '90 (22nd Secretary of the Army). Eric was the keynote speaker at the dinner Friday night. It was great to hear Eric in a casual small class setting and to listen to the Q&A with the students. Eric has always been a civilian and was appointed in the Obama administration. With the new administration, he is no longer Secretary. Basically, his position was the equivalent of being "CEO" of the Army. He was not involved in making policy but he advised whether policy could happen logistically and was responsible for the logistics once policy was decided. Eric was a very impressive individual.

3. Athletic Committee and Careers

It is very rewarding for several alumni to talk with a dozen students, sharing your career paths, sharing your thoughts about their internships and possible careers and emphasizing the unparalleled Dartmouth alumni network.

Hanlon Session

President Hanlon covered several topics in his presentation all of which are covered in the meeting summary, however I would like to emphasize or expand on a couple of them.

1. Your Feedback Matters

President Hanlon gave his remarks which were followed by the usual Q&A. Numerous alumni councilors made it quite clear that many of their constituent alumni had expressed strong opposition to the appointment of N. Bruce Duthu '80, Professor of Native American Studies, as new Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. The opposition was because Duthu had signed a statement in 2013 in support of a boycott of Israeli academic institutions. President Hanlon engaged in some very serious discussion with the alumni councilors.

Whatever happened, Professor Duthu announced he was declining the appointment the following Monday. On Wednesday June 21, a new Dean of Faculty was appointed. She is Elizabeth Smith, Professor of Biological Sciences, and will succeed Dean Michael Mastanduno on July 1.

2. Class of 2021

The class of 2021 is record breaking in several ways. The yield (number of students accepting offers of admission) was a record 61%. This compares to Class of 2020's 53% and the previous record of 54% set by the class of 2018. Previous years hovered around 50%. Average SAT scores increased over last year by 17 points in verbal to 734 and 21 points in math to 744. The class will be the most globally diverse and largest with 1,279 students.

Dartmouth's increased yield may be attributed to several factors including its attractive blend of a liberal arts college and a small research university, Dartmouth specific essay questions on the application, more dynamic Dimensions of Dartmouth revisit weekends in April before students make their decisions and alumni interviewing (Admissions Ambassador Program).

Philadelphia notes:

- Dartmouth Club of Philadelphia – view the website here for events in our area.
    - Phillies tailgate/game – Sunday, August 13 (another likely No. 1 pick – in MLB this time)
    - Dartmouth at Penn football tailgate/game Saturday, September 30
- Dartmouth Sports Teams may be competing near you soon! Check games schedules easily online and click onto your favorite team's page to access their schedule.

This meeting was the last of my 3-year term as alumni councilor for the Philadelphia area. It has been a pleasure and I hope you enjoyed reading to the extent you could. Being an alumni councilor is a terrific opportunity to become re-engaged with Dartmouth first hand. I highly recommend it to everyone. **Bob Serenbetz '66** will become our Philadelphia area alumni councilor beginning in October 2017.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Best regards,

Al Austin '75

(Included: The report from the 214th Alumni Council meeting by Alec Casey '88)