



MWCC Alumni Network Meeting w/President Vander Hooven – April 18, 2017

PRESENT:

- President – Mark Geoffroy
- Vice President – Lawrence Nfor
- Secretary – Briana Nobrega
- Board Member – John Day
- Board Member – Philip DeCharles
- Board Member – Marianne Geoffroy
- Board Member – Karen Greenwood
- Board Member – Kathy Matson
- MWCC President – Jim Vander Hooven

ABSENT:

- Treasurer – Vacant
- Board Member – Adesholla Gionet
- Board Member – Amanda Landry
- Board Member – Stacey LaPlante
- Board Member – Phillip Stan
- Alumni Liaison – Joanne Davidson
- Alumni Liaison – Carrie DeCosta
- Alumni Liaison – Renee Eldredge
- Alumni Liaison – Karl Hakkarainen
- Alumni Liaison – Elizabeth Reiser

Discussion (2:30pm)

1. Who We Are

- President Vander Hooven introduced himself to all members (NOTE: he prefers to be called Jim).
- Mark gave an overview of the Alumni Network, our mission, our vast representation of decades and how each of the board members has an affinity for the college
- Jim noted that many two year colleges don't even attempt to develop an Alumni Association and is glad to hear that our current group is active and ready to do more.

2. What We Do

- Jim reviewed the list provided and noted that while raising money for scholarships is extremely important, it perhaps should not be our number one priority. In his opinion, we should really focus on career advice, mentorship, connecting students/alumni with resources, etc. Basically, focus on the areas that will have a greater impact on alumni and hopefully get away from people assuming that a monetary ask will be coming once they hear the name "Alumni Network".
- As a group we tossed around a few ideas such as handing out car decals for orientation and then again at graduation (the ones at graduation having the "proud alumni" logo on them).
- Another idea that surfaced was the idea of a mentor network. Connecting a graduate with an alumni who shares the same career field to help them focus on landing a job and getting started in their career. (Similar to what Simmons College offers their alumni.)

- We expressed a desire to have a better daily presence on campus, without relying on those who work here (though it might be nice to somehow note that many of our staff are MWCC alumni).

3. Next Steps

- Jim is very supportive of the Alumni Network and is open to hearing our ideas
- He would like us to develop a proposal for an enhanced on-campus presence which reviews the costs and benefits of implementing such structure.
- He also would like to be invited to our monthly meetings. He may not be able to attend all of them, but he might be able to pop in from time-to-time.

4. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 2:55pm