

**Wellesley Class of 2005 15th Reunion Meeting**  
**Online Meeting held via Zoom with telephonic option**  
**June 7, 2020. 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**  
Minutes prepared by Lauren Vitale, Class Secretary

**Attending:** Liz Nesoff, Alison Buchbinder, Karen Seo, Lauren Vitale, Erin Flannery Keith, Ali Yannias, Meri Smith, Kimberly Heustis, Lauren Collalto, Amanda Vigneau, Lindsay Y. Burr, Jen Dietz, Annette Adamska, Brenna Vredeveld, Cecilia Gerard, Jerri Chen, Mira Patel, Monica Hunt, Nida Mirza, Valery Federici, Wendy Leutert, Karen Barasch

**I. The class meeting was called to order by Liz Nesoff, Class President**

**II. Liz Nesoff welcomed all Class of 2005 members in attendance**

**III. Introduction of Class Officers**

- a. Liz Nesoff presented the slate of Class of 2005 officers who were nominated to serve from 2020-2025 and each person introduced themselves. The slate of officers are as follows: Liz Nesoff, President; Alison Buchbinder Vice President; Karen Seo, Treasurer; Lauren Vitale, Secretary; and Erin Flannery Keith, Wellesley Fund and Class Giving Representative.
- b. Liz Nesoff thanked Lauren Collalto, Vice President, and Ali Yannias Walker, Secretary, the outgoing Class of 2005 officers as well as Karen Seo, Treasurer and Erin Flannery Keith, Wellesley Fund and Class Giving Representative, and the Class Officers who will be continuing to serve. Liz will also be continuing to serve as President.
- c. Liz Nesoff reminded everyone that the election of our new class officers is being held virtually this year and voting is open through 11:59 p.m. EST on June 7, 2020.

**IV. State of the Class**

- a. Karen Seo led a review of the Class of 2005 treasury and lifetime memberships
  - i. Before we started fundraising for our 10<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2015, we held 2.5 shares in the Class Life membership pool, earning ~\$70 per year in interest income. As of June 2020, the Class of 2005 held 22.617 shares in the Class Life membership pool yielding \$731.66 for our FY20 distribution income. In 2015 we had fewer than 10 Lifetime members. As of June 2020, there are now 54 Lifetime members. Every year since our 10<sup>th</sup> reunion, we have earned ~\$700 in interest income from Lifetime Memberships. Our Treasury balance has increased from \$1,301.19 in 2015 to \$6,667.43 as of June 2020.
- b. Erin Flannery Keith led a review of the Class of 2005 annual giving report
  - i. Erin discussed the annual tradition of contributing to the College. Our participation is important and shows that we care about the College and the current students. Contributions can be designated for certain purposes such as the emergency relief that was recently provided to help current students travel home in light of the public health pandemic. Emergency relief was also provided to help the College and students transition to remote learning. For example, 75 laptops were purchased for students and funding was provided for remote internship opportunities for current students. We anticipate that the need for giving and financial aid will increase in light of current circumstances. Donations to the Wellesley Fund will have an immediate impact. It is important to participate and donate any amount, even a small amount. Donations also help to keep Wellesley's ratings high, which helps all of us in the long run.

- ii. Liz Nesoff encouraged classmates to participate in Class Giving Challenges. These are the result of advocacy by our board and class officers with the College and other classes. Liz and Erin encouraged classmates, if they are able, to contribute in response to the current challenge, which ends on 6/30/2020.
  - iii. Classmates were also encouraged to become an Evergreen Class Lifetime Member with a gift of \$250.00 or more. Evergreen donations allow our Class to purchase shares in the College endowment, yielding dividend income for us every year: <https://wellesleyedu.finalsite.com/class-of-2005/support/2005-lifetime-members>
- c. Liz led a review of the Class of 2005 Social Media presence
- i. The Class of 2005 Instagram account launched in 2015, and it now has 295 followers, which represents good engagement from our class. Lauren Collalto was thanked for her help in developing the page, and Liz was thanked for her help in running the page. Follow us here: <https://www.instagram.com/wellesley2005/>
  - ii. The Class of 2005 Facebook page now has 277 followers. Friend us here: <https://www.facebook.com/WellesleyCollegeClassof2005/>
- d. When it is safe to do so, Liz Nesoff encouraged classmates to plan mini-reunions and utilize the mini-reunions guide which is available on the Class of 2005 website: [https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1578951938/wellesleyedu/bzstazsqpj2bqditx48/mini-reunion\\_v21.pdf](https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1578951938/wellesleyedu/bzstazsqpj2bqditx48/mini-reunion_v21.pdf) Liz also offered to facilitate remote mini-reunions by coordinating use of the WCAA's Zoom account.

## V. Report on Reunion 2020

- a. Alison Buchbinder, Reunion Record Book Chair, reported on the progress of our Record Book, which will be produced electronically. The information and photos that classmates provide will be compiled into the Record Book and made available for free to every member of the class through a password-protected page on our class website, [2005.alum.wellesley.edu](https://2005.alum.wellesley.edu). Alison and Kim Heustis, Record Book Volunteer, have been compiling the Record Book submissions to date and coordinating the Record Book layout. As of the date of the meeting, 30 entries have been submitted. In light of the public health pandemic and current circumstances, the deadline for submissions will be extended a few more weeks and another email will be circulated to encourage classmates to submit an entry. Class of 2005 members can send their record book submissions to this link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdQzfH1bvG7E8krDqXNEtQI7juugt3XAEWtYVF6wFQZ9GP4NA/viewform> Alison and Kim were thanked for their hard work on this project.
- b. Lauren Vitale, Reunion Chair, and Liz Nesoff, Class President and Insignia Chair, provided an update on reunion activities. Liz and Lauren reiterated that the College did not come to the decision to postpone in-person reunion activities lightly, and we are actively working with the College and our volunteer team to explore possibilities going forward. We will keep our classmates updated, and in the meantime encourage classmates to view the “Only to Be There” content hosted by the College: <https://www.wellesley.edu/alumnae/events/onlytobethere>

## VI. New business

- a. Liz Nesoff held a moment of silence for Rebecca Adelman, our Class of 2005 classmate who passed away in April of 2020. Liz encouraged classmates to view the beautiful tribute piece written by fellow classmate, Beth Merfish on the Class of 2005 website: <https://alum.wellesley.edu/class-of-2005/~board/2005-news/post/in-memoriam>
- b. Other activities/days of service possibilities

- i. Liz Nesoff moderated a class discussion on racism, inclusivity, and accountability. Our classmates suggested various resources as well as potential steps we can consider taking as a Class and as individuals to reflect, to learn, and to take action. Liz requested that any classmates with suggestions or resources on how we can continue to educate ourselves share them at: [wellesley2005@gmail.com](mailto:wellesley2005@gmail.com)
  - Ali Yannias suggested that we consider raising money to make an appropriate donation of support.
  - Lindsay Y. Burr offered to help facilitate conversations around race, privilege, and conflict. Our classmates expressed interest in attending and participating in those conversations. Lindsay offered to share additional resources with the Class.
  - Annette Adamska asked us to consider how we create appropriate spaces for these discussions and what actions to take so that we do not inadvertently create harm through good intentions. Annette also offered to share resources with the Class.

c. How can the Class of 2005 support you?

- i. Liz Nesoff moderated a class discussion on ways the Class of 2005 can support its members during this difficult time when many are impacted by racism, the public health crisis, unemployment or underemployment, and other issues.
  - Lindsay Y. Burr offered to share resources for those navigating unemployment, as she facilitates similar conversations through her work.
  - Val Federici, who launched a leadership and life coaching small business, offered to serve as a resource for those who want to increase their sensitivity around racial inequality.
  - Lauren Collalto, who has developed a customizable networking app, offered to share it with our classmates for free.
- ii. Liz Nesoff asked that any other Class of 2005 siblings with small businesses they want to promote, or resources they want to share, reach out to us on email at [wellesley2005@gmail.com](mailto:wellesley2005@gmail.com) or via social media. See <https://www.instagram.com/wellesley2005/> and <https://www.facebook.com/WellesleyCollegeClassof2005/>.
- iii. Liz Nesoff encouraged our classmates to utilize the Hive as a career resource and another way for the College to support you. For instance, if your research or work needs the support of an intern, you may want to consider posting internship opportunities on the site. The College currently provides a \$600 stipend for student internships through the Hive. See: <https://hive.wellesley.edu/>

## VII. Open time for questions and announcements

- a. Lauren Vitale, the Reunion Chair, thanked all of our 15<sup>th</sup> Reunion Volunteers who have stepped up during this unusual time while we work with the College on navigating our next steps, including Alison Buchbinder, Record Book Chair; Kim Heustis, Record Book Volunteer; Logan Schmidt, Social Hour Chair; Tamay Shanon, Social Hour Chair; Meri Smith, Stepsinging and Parade Marshal; and Liz Nesoff, Insignia Chair. Ali Yannias asked if there are other volunteer needs and Lauren thanked Ali for asking. We will keep everyone posted as we work with the College and we welcome help and participation from the Class. Liz thanked Lauren for her service as Reunion Chair. Ali thanked Liz for her service as Class President.

## VIII. The class meeting was adjourned by Liz Nesoff