

**Wayland Academy  
Alumni Board Meeting Notes  
8/11/21 by Zoom**

*Alumni who Attended:* Tami Carpenter '88, Aaron Ganske '13, Anna January '08, Nick Ostermann '13, Megan Petersen '11, Connor Pierson '13, Sam Radford '06, Michael Vaubel '12

*Staff who Attended:* Carrie Ahlborn, Seth Ahlborn, Mandie Zopp

*Alumni Unable to Attend:* Cassaundra McLeod '08, Kun-ho Yoon '07, Walter Burtis '08, Laura Bachmann '10, Jordan Esten '02, Edgar Ezerietis '08, Aaron Ganske '13, Austin Fiegel '10, Lee Marcheschi '99, Mary Miller '08, Scott Posnanski '86, Katie Shank '08, Darcy Trapp Silver '03, Rebecca "Becky" Tyson '07, Eric Vaubel '14

- I. **Alumni Board President Anna January** called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm, welcomed everyone, and thanked the group for their time. She announced that her last Board of Trustees meeting will be October 7-8, 2021 and that she will be stepping down as President. If anyone is interested in serving as President OR if you know of someone who would be interested, please let Anna or Mandie know ASAP.
- II. **Guest - Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Innovation, Seth Ahlborn** – Oversees all academics, the mentor program, student success program, college counseling, the library, and the registrar. He reported four main goals for the 21-22 academic year:
  1. Meet students where they are
  2. Continue to be student-centered in all that we do
  3. Increase the personalized communications with parents regarding their student's Wayland experience
  4. Continue to work with faculty on their professional development and connections with students

The Alumni Academy Committee (chaired by Nick O.) will be working with Seth to talk about how the Alumni Board and alumni in general can better serve students and how we can increase the connections for career counseling and education about career paths. Connor volunteered to help with the committee work particularly with Career Chats.

- III. **Alumni Engagement/Advancement** – Mandie reported that in FY21 we had 19 virtual programs where 554 alumni participated. For FY22 our goal is to have one virtual program a month but have 12-15 in person programs or gatherings. One of our overall goals is to work smarter about events – so we are partnering with admissions and the Head of School's Office with regard to sharing travel – and with the Parents Council and community members to have more volunteer help at events.  
**MEGAN VOLUNTEERED TO HELP IN St. PAUL/MINNEAPOLIS.**

- IV. **Homecoming – October 8-10, 2021** – We hope that as many Alumni Board members, Trustees, and alumni volunteers can join us! We plan to increase the visibility of the Alumni Board at Homecoming AND to increase the number of volunteer opportunities for our Alumni Board members to meet as many alumni as possible (Registration, help introduce people, etc.)
- V. **Young Alumni Award** – Alumni Board members will be receiving the biographies and criteria for the Young Alumni Award by email. Michael V. asked a great question – What does it mean to get the Young Alumni Award – see below. Current candidates include:
  - a. **Anne Rauschert Raisor '11**
  - b. **Randal Harris '13**
  - c. **Sophie Willihnganz '15**

### **Young Alumni Award**

The Young Alumni Award acknowledges those who have made an outstanding impact within ten years of their Wayland graduation. Previous winners have included:

2020 Austin Fiegel '10; 2019 Maggie Jo Sanderson '15  
 2018 Walter Burtis '08 and Anna January '08  
 2017 Kunho Yoon '07; 2016 Megan Petersen '11  
 2015 Nick Derr '10; 2015 Laura Thompson '05

- VI. **Prospective Alumni Board Members** – Anna shared that a full position description of an Alumni Board member is being developed so the following people can get information about what it means to be a Board member. For the October meeting, interested parties need to send their resume, a statement of interest, and what committee they'd like to participate in. Potential candidates include:  
 Alex Derr '12 – Nick and Connor reached out – Connor said didn't get a response so probably not.  
 Hilary Disch '01 – Darcy was reaching out  
 Maggie Sanderson '15 – Nick was reaching out – no response yet  
 Adam Banvavides '08 – Walter was reaching out – IN PROCESS  
 Sharon D'Arco '70 – Anna is reaching out  
 Sean McClure '01 – Darcy is reaching out – IN PROCESS  
 Chelsey Seippel '01 -- Anna is reaching out  
 Serena Wolfe '07 – a call is in  
 Beth Ratajczak '96 – YES – ALL IN!  
 Tim Assmann '12 – interested! Wants to see how he can get involved! In Germany??
- VII. **Alumni Board Meeting during Homecoming** – on Sat. Oct 9 – time to be determined.
- VIII. Meeting Adjourned at 6:11 pm.