



MEETING NOTES – OCTOBER 11, 2022

5:00 p.m. – Cocktails and Conversations – Si Commons

5:30 p.m. – Tour of campus, highlighting the newly-opened J. Anthony '57 and Donna M. Dill Center for Academic Success, the future home of the Student Media Center; and visioning the work ahead in the SLUH Chapel renovation project.

6:00 p.m. – Dinner

6:15 p.m. – Board Updates

- **Welcome and New Attendees**

Tom Erman

Alumni Board President Tom Erman welcomed the gathered members, with a special emphasis on gratitude for the chance to be together after the difficulties of the past few years.

- **SLUH Update**

Alan Carruthers

SLUH President Alan Carruthers provided an update of the school as the first quarter comes to an end.

- Admissions is strong, especially in light of the challenges facing the region. We have almost 1,000 students this year, which is up over recent previous years. Open House is Nov. 6 and board members are encouraged to spread the word to anyone with a 5-8th grade son considering high school.
- Fr. Ian Gibbons, SJ, looks forward to a welcome sabbatical next year after six years of service as Principal. Our search is underway and we have some tremendous candidates that have applied already.
- The Go Forth campaign – suggested by our consulting firm to be in the \$45 million range – is fully funded and will exceed the original \$70 million target. Endowment growth and facility improvements are among the most-impressive outcomes from this transformative campaign.
- Fall sports have about a month to go in their seasons. Soccer and Cross Country have had particularly strong years although each team is excelling. Football closes out their regular season this Friday at home against Rockhurst; all are welcome!
- SLUH had 12 National Merit finalists; we are the only MCC school to have any students recognized for this achievement.



- **Alumni Board Needs**

John Penilla

Please see the Form online at sluh.org/alumni/volunteer/alumni-board to indicate some ways that you might be able to help serve the school this year.

Of particular note is the importance of St. Louis U. High Day, Nov. 10-12 this year. Last year we had more than 1,000 gifts and our goal this year is to increase by 18%. With the help of alumni board ambassadors – our SLUH Day Blue Crew! – these days of giving have reached incredible heights. We need each class to be well represented and help spread the word about this important mission. Your efforts can be successful in many different ways: some classes gather in-person and split up the list; others split the list virtually and keep in touch over the 50 hours; some classes have found success with multiple emails to all classmates with reminders and progress reports. No matter how you get involved, we need your help to be successful. Additional details will be coming soon, but early giving starts on November 1 so be ready!

- **Alumni Awards & Advancement Staffing Status**

T. Erman

The **Backer Award**, the **John J. Divine**, **SJ Alumni Service Award** and **The 1540 List** are all honors the school bestows upon alumni for their outstanding work. The school is currently seeking nominations for each of these awards to be given in the spring (2023) semester. Please visit sluh.org/awards to learn more about the awards and to nominate worthy candidates.

The Advancement Office, like many other organizations, is facing staffing difficulties. Despite these challenges, they continue to thrive in hosting event and raising necessary funds to support the mission. The Alumni Relations Coordinator position is currently posted online ([link here](#)); if you know of a good candidate, please pass along the information to him or her. Filing this position is critical to helping maintain and grow the Alumni Board's reach.

Vice President, Advancement, Sean Agniel '96 concluded the meeting with prayer.