



**PARENT NETWORK BOARD
Teleconference**

Tuesday, August 18, 2020
9:30 am – 10:30 am Pacific Time

PNB Members in Attendance: Sherie Bernardez P'22, Tracey Breazeale P'23 P'23, Marc Chaing P'20, Manoj Chitre P'18 P'21, Susan Daly P'23, Jon Frank P'21, Chesica Hall P'23, Nicole Heath P'22, Gaby Jenkins P'21, Kim Karloff P'22, Ginny Lee P'21, Amy Mehlman P'22, Kristi Mitchell P'23, Anne Sinek P'22, Rajita Singh P'23, Dan Sparks P'23, KK Streator P'18 P'21, Rick Verjee P'21, Suzanne Wallace P'23

Absent: Mayra Addison P'21, Laurie Bessey P'23, Jay Bhatt P'21, Chris Campbell P'23, Jay Cohen P'23, Jane Cohen P'23, Teresa Gagnon P'23, Sudhir Goel P'20 P'24, Nidhi Gupta P'22, Suharsh Mittal P'22, Jyoti Narula P'19 P'22, TJ Rathi P'19 P'21, Surojit Shome P'22, Jill Slanksy P'23, Balaji Venkatraman P'22

Staff in Attendance: Nick Macias-Williams, Rebecca Pelén, Evan Rutter '06, Jennifer Sandoval-Dancs, Jeannie Scalmanini, Peter Uvin

I. Welcome and Call to Order

- KK Streator called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- Ms. Streator called for an approval of the April 4, 2020 meetings minutes. Anne Sinek moved. Nicole Heath seconded the approval and the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Update on CMC Returns

- Evan Rutter '06 began by thanking the board for the work they have been doing the past summer, especially with helping to manage parent questions through the private Facebook group regarding CMC's decisions regarding the pandemic. Mr. Rutter encouraged board members to reach out to him if they had any questions or concerns, and assured the board that the Facebook space is meant for parents to discuss and voice concerns. He also encouraged all board members to take the time to read the CMC Returns website, which has a robust Q&A section and to learn about CMC's plan for the fall semester.

He mentioned to the group that CMC's administration is hard at work planning for the return of CMC's students for spring semester, which could be a hybrid model that includes online and in-person teaching.

Mr. Rutter disclosed that the College expects to have a deficit of \$16 million, depending on the number of students returning for the fall semester. CMC has looked for ways to decrease the deficit and has taken measures, including a hiring freeze, salary freezes, and cutting department budgets, to name three. Staff is actively working on connecting with students and families to answer questions or address concerns in hopes that this outreach will produce a strong yield and a healthy number of students returning. In addition, the Board of Trustees voted to freeze this academic year's tuition rates. However, in order for the College to keep operating at the highest level - tuition will not be further decreased this year. CMC's return plan regarding the spring semester can be expected in late November 2020.

IV. Board Business: Review of PNB Calendar

- Jeannie Scalmanini reviewed the 2020-2021 calendar. Meetings will be virtual this year and will be held in October, February, and April. Details and Zoom links are forthcoming.

V. Board and Volunteer Recruitment Update

- Ms. Scalmanini reported that the Nominating Committee, led by KK Streator and Tracey Breazeale is working to recruit new volunteers from the Class of '24 and transfer class. There are a few open leadership positions on various committees, and due to holding Orientation virtually, the pool of those who signed up to volunteer is smaller. The Nominating Committee has made some excellent connections,

however, and is excited to connect with these volunteers and to fill open leadership positions.

VI. CMC's Incoming Class

- Jennifer Sandoval-Dancs, associate vice president for admission and financial aid, provided an update regarding the incoming class. This year CMC received approximately 5,000 applications for admission. The Admission office sent out 708 offers of admission and there are currently 370 committed students. The top states for this incoming class are coming California, Texas, Illinois, Washington, and New York. International students are coming from China, India, Hong Kong, and the United Kingdom. The gender balance for the class is 50-50.

The Office of Admission hosted forty yield events and connected with nearly 1,400 attendees, which is no doubt helping to keep yield strong. There have been many questions from incoming students and parents about the deferment process. The Admission office notified incoming students that the deadline to inform Admission of any intent to defer was May 11. This deadline was for those who thought there may be any chance of deferment. After the College confirmed the fall semester plans, some students reached out to Ms. Sandoval-Dancs about taking a deferment. Many of those students had not met the May 11 deadline, however, and some were denied the option of deferment. In each of these cases, Ms. Sandoval-Dancs connected with each student for a discussion.

This incoming class of '24 is very connected and has participated in multiple Zoom calls. Because of these deep connections, twelve of the students who were approved for deferment ultimately decided to enroll this semester due to their desire to graduate with the Class of 2024.

Ms. Scalmanini invited board members to participate in the Admission Committee's project of reaching out to welcome the Class of 2024 and transfer families.

VII. Academic Innovations for Fall 2020

- Dean of the Faculty Peter Uvin joined the group and reported that CMC's faculty is ready to begin teaching incoming and returning students with new and innovative plans. The number of classes offered has increased to accommodate different time zones and to allow for smaller class sizes. Faculty members have partnered with other campus departments to provide support for all students, and Mr. Uvin is proud of how CMC's faculty developed and created interactive classes for students.

Many students reported that they intended on taking a leave of absence but changed their minds once they saw the fall offerings. Many professors will move into a "flipped classroom," where lectures, readings, and other materials can be completed before the actual class time. This allows students and professors to have in-depth discussions on the material during their meeting times. In addition, many professors have researched and adopted sophisticated software to engage their students.

There are minimal concerns for seniors who are completing their thesis due to the fact that thesis is done independently under the supervision of a faculty advisor. This method of connecting students and advisors works well via Zoom. Those students who are completing a thesis within the sciences, however, will have some obstacles obtaining lab data. To address this, CMC will provide increased support and avenues to obtain the data they need.

The grading policy will not change this semester; however, faculty did decide to extend the deadline for the "pass/no credit" option.

VIII. Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Sunday, October 4, 2020 9:00 a.m. pacific time

- Ms. Streator adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m. and reminded the board of the next meeting in October.