



# PARENT NETWORK

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## CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

### BOARD MEETING

Sunday, February 19, 2023

**Present:** Allison Aldrich P'24, Carmen Amaya P'25, Kavitta Bedi P'24, Tracey Breazele P'23 P'24, Annette Brissett P'25, Chris Campbell P'23, Jane Cohen P'23, Jay Cohen P'23, Lori Fujimoto P'24, Kristan Goldfein P'24, Marsi Gorman P'24, Chesica Hall P'23, Steve Kapner P'22, Bobby Lee P'24, Robin Lee P'24, Kristin Merk P'24, Annette Messemer P'25, Kristi Mitchell P'23, Julie Punishill P'24, Marisol Rivera Thurman P'24, Jill Slansky P'23, Cecilia Son P'25, Lauren Sundstrom P'25, Lisa Thomas P'25, Marisol Rivera Thurman P'24,

**Absent:** Jay Bhatt P'21 P'24, Susan Daly P'23, Teresa Gagnon P'23, Suhir Goel P'20 P'24, Bridget Hoffman P'24, Amy Mehlman P'21 P'25, Susana Pardo P'25, Rajita Singh P'23, Lisa Therron P'24

**Guests:** Dalhia Jabro P'26, Susan Kim P'25, José Najas '25, Pallavi Raju '26

**Staff:** Diana Turner-Graves '98, Rebecca Pelén, Evan Rutter '06, Jeannie Scalmanini, Ray Watts

### Welcome

Ms. Allison Aldrich called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. in Freeberg Forum, Kravis Center.

### Approval of October 1, 2022 Minutes

Ms. Aldrich called for a motion to approve the Parent Network Board meeting minutes for the October 1 meeting. Ms. Tracey Breazeale moved to approved the minutes and Ms. Julie Punishill seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

### Campus Update

Mr. Evan Rutter informed the board that Family Weekend 2023 would expect 900 guests, which would make it the second highest weekend to date. The College is currently in the final year of the most ambitious campaign it has undertaken. The campaign, know as the ***Campaign for CMC: Responsible Leadership***, aims to fund the new Kravis Department of Integrated Sciences, the Robert Day Sciences Center, and the Roberts Campus. Mr. Rutter also encourage board members to attend the wide variety of events offered all over the country throught the chapter programs. CMC will host receptions and other activities in cities like Charlotte, N.C., Miami, FL., and Alanta, GA. These events offer an opportunity for parents to meet with other parents as well as alumni of the College. Mr. Rutter was happy to report that CMC's Rose Parade Float for the 2023 Tournament of Roses Parade was awarded the Golden State Award. This is awarded to the float with the best depiction of Southern Californian life. The CMC community had a wonderful time seeing the float glide down Colorado Boulevard. Finally, Worldmeet will take place in Reyjavik, Iceland and the theme of the weekend will be climate change and environmental sustainability. The weekend will also feature local leaders, local politicians, Professor Ran Libeskind-Hadas, and President Hiram Chodosh.

### Parent Network Board Overview and Status

Ms. Jeannie Scalmanini provided an overview the status of the Parent Network Board today. The board is different from other parent volunteer boards at other institutions as the giving component is just a small piece. There is no set dollar amount to gain access to the board. The board has thirty-four members and

looks to increase this number by adding parents of the Class of 2026. The goal is to have forty board members by the end of the academic year. At the moment, the Class of 2023 makes up 33%, the Class of 2024 makes up 42%, and the Class of 2025 is 24% of the Board. Recruitment has changed in the last few years as the Nominating Committee waits until the second semester to invite new members from the first-year class. This allows parents time to learn about CMC and campus resources. New members for the Class of 2026 are expected to be welcomed by the April 2023 board meeting. Geographically speaking, the board has thirty-one members in the United States and three members internationally (India, Hong Kong, and Germany). Within the United States, California has the highest number of members with eight board members and followed by New York with four members. A great balance exists in the regions with eleven members in the east, ten in the west, six in the south, and three in the Midwest.

## **Committee Updates on Goals and Progress**

### *Admission Liaison Committee*

Ms. Jill Slanksy reported that committee has begun its welcome call campaign for ED2 and will begin the welcome calls for Regular Design in April. She invited other members to join the calling campaign and connect with new CMC families.

### *Career Development Committee*

Ms. Kristi Mitchell informed the board of the success of the Mock Interviews Program which saw fourteen parents interview and advise CMC students on their interviewing skills. She thanked the parents who participated in that program. She also spoke about the success of the Parent/Student networking session that occurred earlier on Saturday, February 18. The session provided students with an opportunity to connect with parents across different industries. Ms. Mitchell hopes to add more technology, like QR codes, which would make it easier for students and parents to take down contact information.

### *Communications Committee*

Mr. Jay Cohen reported that the newsletter, CMC Parent News, has been consistently receiving high open rates. The last two editions received 70% and 62% open rates from the parents community. Mr. Cohen thanked the committee members for writing articles that provide important information. Topics have ranged from helping your student find a job after college, creating community in your local area, to insight on how students spend their summers interning with various organizations all over the world.

### *Nominating Committee*

Ms. Breazeale welcomed four new board members to the PNB. They are Ms. Annette Brissett P'25, Ms. Marsi Gorman P'24, Ms. Cecilia Son P'25, and Ms. Lauren Sundstrom P'25. Ms. Breazeale and the committee are working to identify ten more parents from the Class of 2026 to invite onto the board.

### *Parents Fund Committee*

Ms. Lori Fujimoto informed the board that as of January 31 the Parents Fund has raised \$500 thousand dollars for its \$1 million dollar goal for the academic year. 557 families have donated to the fund so far. Within these families the Class of 2025 has 150 donors and is followed by the Class of 2024 which has 90 donor families. She reminded the board to please make their gift of any amount before the end of the fiscal year, which is June 30. Currently, 77% of the board have donated to the Campaign. The goal is to have 100% of participation from the board.

### *Programs Committee*

Ms. Chesica Hall, along with Ms. Robin Lee and Mr. Bobby Lee, reported that the committee is excited about the line-up and attendance for Family Weekend. She thanked the committee members

for their insightful feedback and ideas. This year, Family Weekend featured a new session which highlighted the student-athlete experience and showcased student organizations. She encouraged the board to send any ideas to the committee so they can be incorporated into the Weekend's schedule in the future.

### **Peer Health Ambassador Program (40 minute mark)**

Ms. Diana "DT" Graves '98, José Najas '25, and Pallavi Raju '26 presented on the new Peer Health Ambassador program. CMC adopted the socio-ecological model of behavioral well-being and self-authorship, which considers society, community, relationships, and the individual as important factors that make up the well-being of a student. The Peer Health Program began in the fall of 2022 and launched in the spring of 2023. Students who are part of this program are extensively trained within the NASPA Peer Educator program, and continue to meet every week to hone their skills, and practice with different types of scenarios they may encounter. Each peer health ambassador (PHAs) is assigned an area where they become experts and can provide specific help to their classmates. They host office hours and create interactive programming that their peers can attend for an opportunity to learn healthy habits. The four main focus areas for the PHAs are mental health and emotional well-being, alcohol and other substances, sexual health and healthy relationships, and nutrition and body image. PHAs gain important life skills as they participate in this program. For example, they learn about project management, marketing strategies, and event planning. They also develop and refine their communication skills as they need to research and relay important information to their peers. The program hopes expand in the next academic year and strengthen the student community's well-being and mental health.

### **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Ms. Aldrich thanked Ms. Graves, Mr. Najas, and Ms. Raju, for their insightful presentation. The next meeting will be held during Inside CMC Day, on April 22, 2023.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Aldrich thanked all the board members for their volunteerism and ended the Parent Network Board meeting at 12:55 p.m.