



# PARENT NETWORK

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## CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

Parent Network Board Meeting  
Saturday, April 4, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. (Pacific)

**PNB Members in Attendance:** Ghada Aluzri P'17 P'20, Sherie Bernardez P'22, Jay Bhatt P'21, Tracey Breazeale P'23 P'23, Michelle Cash P'20, Marc Chiang P'21, Jay Cohen P'23, Jane Cohen P'23, Susan Daly P'23, Jon Frank P'21, Teresa Gagnon P'23, Sudhir Goel P'20 P'24, Nicole Heath P'23, Gaby Jenkins P'21, Tarun Jotwani P'20, Cathy Kenworthy P'20, Ginny Lee P'21, Alicia Lloreda P'20, Kristi Mitchell P'23, Suharsh Mittal P'22, Donna Novitsky P'20, Michele Sileo P'20, Anne Sinek P'22, Rajita Singh P'23, Jill Slansky P'23, Dan Sparks P'23, KK Streator P'18 P'21, Rick Verjee P'21, and Suzanne Wallace P'23

**Guests in Attendance:** Kristi Frei-Herrmann P'22, Sarath Kakani, Jeff Kent P'24, Lisa Kent P'24, Julie Punishill

**Absent:** Mayra Addison P'21, Bengi Atun P'20, Kristin Baker P'20, Jim Burgess'84 P'20, James Burke P'20, Manoj Chitre P'18 P'21, Nidhi Gupta P'22, Bill Jacob P'20, Kim Karloff P'22, Lisa Love P'20, Amy Mehlman P'21, Jyoti Narula P'19 P'22, TJ Rathi P'19 P'21, Linda Singh P'20, Balaji Venkatraman P'22, Linda Willard P'23, David Zhu P'20

**Staff in Attendance:** Ursula Diamond, Jenna Gough, Nick Macias-Williams, Rebecca Pelén, Evan Rutter '06, Jeannie Scalmanini, Kerry Steere, Conni Terry, Diana Turner-Graves '98, Ray Watts

- I. Call to Order and Welcome:
  - Ms. Streator called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - Ms. Streator moved to approve the minutes from the February board meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- III. Thank You to Outgoing Members
  - Ms. Streator took a moment to thank the outgoing members for their years of service to the Parent Network Board and the College.
- IV. College Update
  - Mr. Rutter updated the board on the latest regarding the COVID-19 response from the College. Once it became apparent that the College could not appropriately quarantine students and following the advice of health experts, the College made



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the difficult decision to close the campus. The Dean of Students office as well as other members of the staff helped students secure flights and helped them pack and store their items when necessary. Currently there are fifty students who have been approved and who are living on campus in the student apartments. These students receive support from the Dean of Students, the IT department, and the Bon Appetit dining services. Spring break was extended for a week to give faculty, the IT department, and students enough time to prepare for the transition to online learning.

The College is prorating the cost of room and board and will notify students once the refunds are ready. For more information on CMC's response to the COVID-19 crisis, visit: <https://www.cmc.edu/covid-19/main>.

The CMC community is also encouraged to attend an array of virtual events. A listing of all events can be found on the [website](#). Ms. Streater asked if the College has discussed whether to allow students to come back for the fall semester. Mr. Rutter explained that the College is on track to allow students to return in the fall, but will monitor the situation closely before making a final decision.

#### V. Dean of Students Update

- Ms. Turner-Graves updated the board on the resources students have access to during their transition to online learning. Students can virtually access the Quantitative Computing Lab (QCL), the Center for Writing, Success Consultants, and the entire Dean of Students (DoS) staff. DoS will also help students obtain medical and wellness support should they need it. Every CMC student has access to [Campus.Health](#), where they can get an assessment of their situation virtually. DoS will also work to engage with students by hosting a series of student-focused events such as Thesis Surge. For Thesis Surge, DoS is collecting videos from the CMC community that will help encourage students.

Commencement has been postponed to a later date, which will be announced as soon as possible. The College will make sure that students and families have plenty of time to plan their trip back to campus. If there are families who cannot afford to return to campus, the College will be able to help them. Students are currently weighing the pros and cons of taking classes for pass/credit, and the student government will soon present the Dean of the Faculty a proposal about



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this topic. The College is also focusing on the [Crisis Response Fund](#), which helps the College respond quickly and strategically to the needs of students.

#### VI. Soll Center for Student Opportunity Center Update

- Ms. Diamond and her staff at the Soll Center have implemented new methods to connect with students that make sense in these times. They have three priorities: employer relations outreach, senior outreach, and internship outreach. Members of their staff were quickly in contact with employers who have been on campus in the last six months. Early results suggest that large and medium size employers are operating mostly as business as usual. They are still recruiting, extending offers, and honoring offers that have been extended to students. Smaller employers are more cautious, since they may not have the infrastructure to support new hires and interns.

The staff has also been very successful in connecting with CMC seniors, and have connected with 79% of the Class of 2020. From the senior class, 56% have offers and are moving forward. About 44% are still looking for a job. The Soll Center has given seniors specific talking points for conversing with an employer, and are encouraging the class to look for employment with large and midsize employers. Ms. Diamond is confident they will be able to connect with all seniors.

The third priority, internships, has updated guidelines that are inline with the State Department travel regulations. Many students need to pivot and look for internships that are domestic (in their country of residence) instead of the international internship they had previously secured. Many internships have transitioned online, like the Appel Fellowship. The Soll Center has also reached out to the Institutes on campus and many of their internships have also transitioned to remote internships. The Sponsored Internship & Experiences program will continue to offer funding for companies that are not able to pay their interns.

The 5Cs are working together and all available positions are posted to Handshake, which is available to all students in The Claremont Colleges. Ms. Diamond will continue to have weekly meetings with her peers at the other institutions.

#### VII. Committee Updates



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- *Jil Stark '58 GP'11 Parent Volunteer of the Year Award:* Congratulations to Michelle Cash P'20, this year's recipient of the Parent of Year Volunteer award.
- *Parents Fund Committee:* Mr. Macias-Williams thanked the board for their continued support of the Parents Fund. The Office of Annual Giving has suspended all spring solicitation and will now focus on the CMC Crisis Emergency Fund. This fund will provide support to CMC students such as healthcare and costs for necessary technology as students transition to online learning.
- *Communications Committee:* Mr. Verjee reminded the board to review the CMC Virtual Events on the events tab in the CMC Parent and Families Facebook private group. All parents and family members are invited to attend the virtual events. For a full list of events, please visit: <https://online.cmc.edu/events/alumni-events-page>.
- *Admission Liaison Committee:* The Office of Admission will connect with the committee for a call on Tuesday, April 7 to discuss their plans to connect virtually with admitted students and families. Ms. Bernadez invited the board to help with the outreach program to help the Office of Admission to reach their yield goals for the Class of 2024. The outreach can be done via a phone call or email.
- *Nominating Committee:* Ms. Sileo presented the following slate of officers for the 2020-2021 year for the approval of the board. The board approved the nominees unanimously.

1. <b>President</b>	Nicole Heath P'22, Anne Sinek P'22, Marc Chiang P'21
2. <b>Programs</b>	
Susan Wallace P'23, Jon Frank P'21	6. <b>Nominating Committee Vice Chair</b>
3. <b>Parents Fund</b>	Tracey Breazeale P'23 P'23
4. <b>Communications</b>	7. <b>Admission Liaison</b>
Rick Verjee P'21, Linda Willard P'23	Sheri Bernardez P'22, Gaby Jenkins P'21
5. <b>Careers</b>	8. <b>CMCAA Liaison</b>
	Manoj Chitre P'18 P'22



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9. **Jil Stark'58 GP'11**  
**Award Chair**  
Nicole Heath P'22

Jyoti Narula P'19 P'22

10. **International Board**  
**Engagement**  
**Coordinator**

### VIII. Adjournment

- Ms. Streator adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.