**RUSVM Alumni Association Action Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**February 9, 2022**

**Teleconference**

A quorum being present, the AAC Meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm.

Members Present: Mark Salemi, Nejla Azima, Nisha Sanathara, JP Carew, Mickey Axelband, Dianne Rey, Alexandra Quarti,

Members absent: Kimberly Riker, Brian Husbands

Guests preset: Colleen Glenney, Mary Mauldin

1. **Approval of minutes:** None to approve as this was the first meeting of the year.

2. **President’s report:** None to approve as this was the first meeting of the year.

3. **Committee Reports**: All Committees will keep its current members and chairs.

**Events and Chapters Committee:** Mickey, Dianne, JP Mickey is chair.

**Leadership Committee** Mark, Alex, Kim Alex is chair.

**Engagement and Awards Committee:** Nejla, Brian, Nisha Brian is chair?

4. **Old business:** No old business to discuss as this was the first meeting of the year.

5. **New Business:**

- Survey results with the question, do you like your current committee or would you like to move to another? All in favor in stating as previous years.

-Everyone agrees to switch meetings to 8 pm EST vs 7pm to accommodate peoples work schedules. Expect meetings to be held on the first Wednesday of each month unless otherwise announced.

- Next meeting to be held on March 2, 2022 at 8:00 pm EST.

-Discussed meeting structure and procedure moving forward:

At each meeting - Whoever chairs the committees will report any new business and what that committee is working on as discussed at the previous meeting.

When setting goals – need to set firm deadlines and follow through to meet those goals.

-Question on filling the void on the council left from Moses’ vacant seat. Entire council is ok with leaving the council at 9 members, leaving it at an odd number so that Colleen and Mary do not have to act as a tie breaker in votes.

If need be and we decide to go back to 10 members, we can revisit applications from last summer.

-In reference to the Council getting together in person before the WIVC in November and potentially at the Graduation weekend in May, the only scenario is going to be at the WIVC due to university-wide budget cuts.

Colleen and Mary will update with any changes.

-WIVC is scheduled to proceed with sponsors being acquired and all speakers are in place.

-With present need of looking for new ways to connect and engage with alumni, JP and Alex are going to consult with each other and compare their corporate Mentorship Programs to help promote an enhance the present Ross program. To be reported on at next meeting.

Council members aggree that with JP and Alex being from different committees working on mentorship, it demonstrates that all committee efforts are not set in stone as certain projects may and will overlap.

-Due to the changing culture of new generations, professionalism at the school and after graduation was discussed where students and graduates need to better promote veterinary medicine in the workplace and improve the publics perception. The school is addressing this current situation

on the island and hopefully through Mentorship and reaching out through e-mails, monthly newsletter and social media we can further get that point across.

-In reference to a need for a heightened Social Media Presence, the Engagement and Awards Committee will strive to have at least once weekly posts to the Alumni Facebook page. With the help of all other members of the council, it is possible to do more, another example of overlapping of

committees. Possibly submitting 4 posts at the beginning of each month with scheduled release dates once weekly. If anyone has anything or finds/sees subject matter, please forward to Nejla and Nisha.

-Was decided that the AAC $2500 Empower Scholarship will cycle once yearly to start, in the Spring of each year. Will revisit to possibly do more often in the future pending its success. Covered by **Events and Chapters** and **Engagement and Wards Committees**.

Susan Rasmus [susan.rasmus@adtalem.com](mailto:susan.rasmus@adtalem.com) to be contacted to discuss ways of generating funds.

-Virtual Career Fair scheduled for Saturday April 2,2022 10-4 pm was originally opened for individually owned practices and no corporations to attend. It was then decided on that it will be opened to individual corporate practice partners.

6. **For Next Meeting:** Wednesday March, 2, 2022 8 pm EST

-Further discuss WIVC, possibly get more ideas on things to schedule to fundraise for the Empower Scholarship.

-Update on Rosey Cameron Smith artwork for the 40th Anniversary. Ms. Smith is asking for ideas that span the years.

-JP and Alex to report on Mentorship Program.

-Nejla and Nisha to report on Social Media posts.

7. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Salemi

Mark Salemi, Acting Secretary