**Ross University Veterinary Alumni Association Action Committee**

**Meeting Agenda**

**February 6, 2022**

**Zoom meeting**

1. **Approval of minutes:** WIVC November 7, 2022

2. **President’s report**:

Discuss Announcements:

-Mary Mauldin, Colleen Glenny resignations.

-Erik Peterson h being named as the replacement for Mary Mauldin Pereira’s position, Assistant Dean of Alumni Relations.

-Need replacement for Colleen’s position

WIVC recap Zoom Meeting 19 Dec 2022 7-8 pm (in absence of Colleen)

Everyone was present except for Brian and Dianne who had prior commitments and understandably at such short notice.

The meetings primary purpose, in the days after the WIVC, was to get everyone’s perspective on what the role of the AAC should be at the conference moving forward and overall, when dealing with alumni on a regular basis at all events. The review was to remind and make sure we have everything discussed documented while it was fresh in our heads so we can bring these thoughts to Colleen at our next regular meeting as well as getting Brian and Dianne caught up.

We had planned on letting Colleen know that we thought the event was great and that she did a FANTASTIC job. It was the best event up to date with what was made available to members and the number of people that attended. Colleen really did not have any help in reference to guidance and ran with it doing the very best she could. Being her first time on the island, It definitely was a learning experience for her and I’m sure she now understands the process better when planning for the 2024 event making it even better.

Points that we all discussed:

- The council should and could be represented better with a more effective use of the members at the event. Make the council members more recognizable from the very beginning so that people could always approach us for help, guidance, etc. Introduce the members at the opening ceremony and events, possibly wearing special shirts to the events and lectures to stand out better and be more approachable/available.

- The council members could be used more for greeting people, giving tickets out at events, providing support and guidance rather than moderating lectures.

- Moderating lectures could be done by people wanting to attend those lectures and not having a small animal practitioner doing a large animal lecture or vice versa.

-could we have a sign-up sheet prior to the conference during registration for people to moderate certain lectures.

-Student government members made available to moderate lectures.

- People may love to introduce classmates, professors, etc.

- Ask Ambassadors to sign up.

- Fill in the vacant spots afterwards.

- Have a sergeant at arms at events to keep people more attentive and quieter during the ceremony showing a little more respect when the speakers are addressing the audience as well as when awards are being presented.

- Using the QR code and ID’s more effectively at events, especially for the Catamaran trips. The boats should be filled online, and each person/family/group should be preassigned a boat ahead of time, not having to check their names on a sheet manually prior to boarding.

-The Catamaran company and Ross should both have an ample number of representatives available and hammer this out better. Get the AAC members more involved??

- People should be able to have their QR code scanned so they are accounted for and told what boat they are going on at the same time. It will stop all arguments and chaos prior to boarding.

- Sprat Net:

- No lobster….always had that choice and could pay ahead of time if that was wanted.

- Better and more choices of food.

- Better supply of food, choices ran out.

- Pizza was not that good, and it was cold.

- If there is a budget, have people pay more during registration for the conference

- Rumor there will be a separate charge for transportation to the venues in the future.

- There shouldn’t be a separate charge, just increase and burry the fee in the conference registration to avoid changing what people always understood as a service that was provided as a perk for the conference.

- Can we start celebrating class blocks/anniversaries at future conferences again. (i.e., Nejla’s Class 2014-2024)

- Can we have a “Town Hall” session at the 2023 American Pre-Veterinary Medical Association (APVMA) Symposium in Louisville, Kentucky which is being hosted by Ross Vet! The event will be held at the Galt House Friday-Sat March 24-25.

- All things discussed here in reference to the AAC members being utilized more/better, should carry over to all other events, VMX, AVMA, Western States Conventions, Ambassador events, etc.

- Again, colleen did a Great job, but how can we help her more and better!

3. **Committee Reports:**

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

Update of alumni events (Funky Brewery and Everglades excursion) being pushed due to lack of sponsorship.

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

Ross mentor program started, and some mentor/mentee pairs have been matched and have been contacted/assessed after 6 months.

* Program needs a push, not getting a lot of response.

Looking for mentor specialists (GP, Corporate, Gov., Academic)

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

4. **Dean Callanan update at WIVC:**

* Adtelum COO, Steve Beard, now appointed CEO.
* Complete org. restructure (legal, HR, marketing, etc.)
* GRE has proven to be a good indicator for student success.
* New attrition program starting, students attending program class 1 hour/week during 2nd semester.
* His primary goal remains to get a Rossie as AVMA President.

**New Business:**

* Reviewing bylaws in 2023
* Graduation will be 5/19/23
* Planned for this spring with Admissions team in both the United States and Canada is looking 2-3 Alumni Ambassadors who will talk about their experiences as Rossies and their careers.
* Saturday Feb 4 Orlando, FL 11 am – 1 pm Marriott Orlando Downtown
* Saturday Feb 18 Dallas, TX 2-4 pm Virgin Hotels Dallas
* Saturday Feb 18 Anaheim, CA 11 am – 1 pm Hilton Anaheim
* Saturday March 4 Vancouver, Canada 2-4 pm Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle
* Saturday March 4 New Brunswick, NJ 12-3 pm Hyatt Regency New Brunswick
* Wednesday March 15 Saskatoon, Canada 7-9 pm Taverna Italian Kitchen
* Saturday April 15 San Juan, PR 1-3 pm Condado Plaza Hilton

5. **Old business:**

-Empower award goal of $2500 was achieved for 2 scholarships at the WIVC

-Ross Facebook admin to have continued contact by the AAC to be reinstated and no longer be banned.

Admin group: Harvey Atherton, Christine Bunner-thomas, Scott Gaydos,

Lori Arrison-mathews and Gary Rider

6. For Next Meeting:

Date TBD

7. Adjournment: