Yale Alumni Fund
Meeting of the Board of Directors
February 6, 2023
All Alumni Fund Volunteers Invited
Virtual

Board Members Present

Chair: Brett Zbar ’94
Vice Chair: Richard Roberts ’86, ’89 JD
Elaine Pincus Akst ’97
Eric L. Allen ’76
Robert E. Allison ’67
Stephen Barrett Amdur ’01
Ann Itakura Aversa ’87
Martha Burson Bangiola ’11, ’18 MBA
Heaven Berhane ’18 MDiv
Stephen Calkins ’72
Anne Casscells ’80
Lise Pfeiffer Chapman ’81 MBA
Billy Cheung ’99
M. Kemal Ciliz ’95 MA
Christopher A. Cole ’87
Jackson F. Cole ’20
Bridget M. Cota ’09 MSN
Fred Douglis ’84
Romy Drucker ’07
Michael Coleman Duddy ’85 MArch
R. Kemerer Edwards ’49
Rebecca Allen Ehrhardt ’90
Danielle B. Ellison ’15
William E. Ellison ’18
Thomas K. Emmons ’69
Charles N. Farmer ’66
Christopher M. Faulkner-MacDonagh ’01 PhD
Julie Applebaum Flynn ’88
Elizabeth S. Garrabrant ’09 MA
Thomas M. Ginakakis ’09
Brian D. Hammerstein ’85
Samantha Warshauer Heffner ’02
Neil Hohmann ’91
John Francis Homan, IV ’02 MEM
James A. Jones III ’66
Carol M. Lee ’79
Robert L. Lin ’82
Ephram Lloyd Lustgarten ’00
Marianna Cuomo Maier ’19
Paul S. Mandell ’98 JD
Elisabeth N. Martin ’83 MArch
Maria Paola Nastri ’98 PhD
Minh Alexander Huy Nguyen ’15
Mallet Njonkem ’18
Margo Wolf O’Donnell ’90
Neeta Ogden ’94
Renee H.L. Ong ’21
Amy Oshinsky ’77
Jessica Nicole Paindiris ’05
Rahul R. Prasad ’87 PhD
Shady M. Qubaty ’20
Rachel M. Rajaseelan ’15
Charlene Requerme Ramos ’13
Tanya Rivero Warren ’95
Daisha Roberts ’22
Shana Katz Ross ’00, 06 MBA
Ellen Ryan ’77
Stephen K. Scher ’56, ’66 PhD
William J. Shikani ’10
Andrew D. Sipes ’85
Jamie Stern ’72
Paul Stroble, Jr. ’82 MDiv
Krysten S. Thomas ’18 MPH
Travis A. Torrence ’05 JD
Evangeline Wyche Tross ’78
Laura Vrana ’11
Gene Wang ’99 PhD
Hannah E. Weisman ’20
Jill R. Wright ’95
Sarah Yoo ’18
Justin S. Zaremby ’03, ’07 PhD, ’10 JD
Gregory J. Zorthian ’75
Board Members Absent

Cansu Arslan ’19 MBA  
Amy Atkeson ’95, ’99 MD  
Marvin B. Berenblum ’56  
Sarah Better ’19  
Mary Gottshall Bowers ’01  
Anne Wilson Brown ’85  
Jacob W. Buchdahl ’94, ’97 JD  
Tara A. Campbell ’20  
Xinyi Mei Chen ’22  
Eugenie F. Cheney ’02  
Rudy Cordero ’23  
Stephanie Machele Davis ’12 MPH  
Lily Dorstewitz ’24  
JP Drechsler ’16  
Kelly Dolan ’22  
William C. Fishel ’09  
Sarah Flynn ’24  
Julia Fuller Nakayama ’89  
Alison Poorvu Jaffe ’81  
Torianto S. Johnson ’20 MAR

Andrew R. Karlin ’08  
Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet ’97 PhD  
Katherine Philip Kaufman ’10  
John Kai Lassen ’64  
Daniel G. Kilpatrick ’03  
Caitlin Lee ’23  
Michael W. Lei ’14  
Paul Leong ’99 MD  
Megan K. McHale ’17  
John F. McKissack ’20  
Lauren Polo Patnaude ’03  
Merz K. Peters ’55  
Haley Prince ’23  
Simon Rabinowitz ’23  
Allison Rabkin Golden ’12, ’21 JD  
Eleanor Schoenbrun ’25  
Jovan M. Tafoya ’21  
Linda Thach ’22  
Gregory Thomas Wolf ’92  
Alyssa J. Yoon ’21

Staff Present

Davonna Approvato  
Bridget Austin  
Amanda Baker ’00 MusM  
Caitlin Beardsley  
Nora Bok  
Fiona Boucher  
Gloria Caprio  
Jenny Chavira ’89  
Mary Beth Congdon  
Rick Davis  
Devyn Evans  
Diana Evans  
Eugénie Gentry  
Mathwon Howard  
Katherine Ingram  
Debby Jagielow  
Jim Kenny  
Davonna Approvato  
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Katherine Ingram  
Debby Jagielow  
Jim Kenny

Susan Kigamwa  
Rob Kraft  
Sandra Livramento  
Nneka Maiurro  
Brian Nekoloff  
Heather O’Connell  
Gina Perricone  
Lanie Lipsher  
Sarah Pinto  
Mike Regan  
Joanna Roche  
Ann Rumberger  
Jane Rushmore  
Cindy Sacramone  
Chris Seager  
Mike Sembos  
Sharon Shatas

Ex-Officio Present

J. Weili Cheng ’77, Executive Director, YAA  
Jocelyn R.H. Kane, Managing Director, Yale Alumni Fund
Joan E. O’Neill, Vice President for Alumni Affairs and Development
Jennifer Madar ’88, Vice Chair, YAA Board of Governors

Ex-Officio Absent
Joseph C. McNay ’56, Former Chair, Nathan Hale Associates
Stephen C. Murphy ’87, Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer
Ira and Bonnie Siegel P ’15, P ’23, Chairs, Parents Fund

Former Chairs Present
William M. Folberth ’66
Marla Grossman ’90
Thomas S. Leatherbury ’76, ’79 JD
Bobbi Mark ’76
Randolph M. Nelson ’85
Nancy A. Stratford ’77
John M.R. Thomas ’80
Michael B. Tom ’83 MD

Former Chairs Absent
Marvin J. Deckoff ’53
Robert K. Hopkins ’86 MBA
David B. Singer ’84
George M. Levin, Jr. ’66
Howard H. Newman ’69, ’69 MA
Theodore T. Jones ’57
William H. Wright II ’82
Welcome

Jocelyn Kane opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the February Board meeting and introducing Board Chair, Brett Zbar.

Chair’s Remarks

Brett welcomed all attendees and recognized staff leaders and Former Chairs in attendance.

Staff Leaders
Joan O’Neill, Vice President for Alumni Affairs & Development
Mathwon Howard, Associate Vice President for Development
Weili Cheng, YAA Executive Director
Eugénie Gentry, Associate Vice President for Development and Director of the Campaign

Former Chairs
William M. Folberth ’66
Marla Grossman ’90
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Randolph M. Nelson ’85
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John M.R. Thomas ’80
Michael B. Tom ’83 MD

Brett thanked staff before asking for a moment of silence to remember Alumni Fund volunteers who have passed away since the last meeting.
Peter Arnold, Class of 1951, School of the Environment, Annual Fund Agent
David Banker, Class of 1954, Davenport College, Alumni Fund Class Agent
William Cave, Class of 1967, School of Medicine Alumni Fund Agent
Roger Dalton, Class of 1958, Pierson College, Alumni Fund Class Agent
James Donnell, Class of 1958, Divinity School, Annual Fund Agent
Louis Gimbel, Class of 1951, Jonathan Edwards College, Alumni Fund Class Agent
Gordon Hall III, Class of 1954, School of the Environment, Annual Fund Agent
Terry Rothermel, Class of 1960, Saybrook College, Alumni Fund Chair of Agents
Charles Upson, Class of 1955, Saybrook College, Alumni Fund Class Agent

Executive Committee

Brett explained the Board’s purpose and the expectations of members before giving committee updates.

The executive committee oversees work group progress and is in touch with Alumni Fund leaders regularly. The Vice Chair and Chair represent the Alumni Fund through ex-officio roles on the YAA Board of Governors, the University Council, the Board of Trustees committee on Alumni Affairs and Development, and the Campaign Committee.

Board members are ambassadors for Yale and leaders in their Yale networks and are expected to share what they learn at board meetings widely. They are mentors for other volunteers. The board include volunteers across all decades, from Yale College and from the Graduate and Professional Schools.
Chairs Goals

Brett reintroduced his two primary goals to strengthen the work of the Alumni Fund. Support the For Humanity Campaign and strengthen our commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging. This campaign will make fundamental and permanent changes for the university and for the world. A new work group will focus on For Humanity events. We continue to recruit young, diverse volunteers as well as compile the slate of board members each year and a new DEIB work group will be added. Sounding Board events give board members the opportunity to connect with campaign leaders and learn about campaign objectives and accomplishments. Our next event will be held in March and feature campaign co-chair Nancy Marx Better in conversation with Tanya Rivero Warren. Brett introduced Jocelyn Kane to give a campaign result update.

Campaign Results

The Fund is on track to meet its overall campaign goals. Progress is strong and remains above the straight-line projection. We have raised over $207 million, which is nearly 60% of our goal, putting us on track to remain above our straight-line projection. To date, we have received 25,884 gifts and are now at nearly 220,000 gifts toward our campaign goal of 350,000.

Current Results

As of December 31, we have received $25 million cash from over 20,000 donors. We received $17,654,375 from 13,665 donors in November and December.

Current Results by School

The Alumni Fund overall results include Yale College, the Yale College Parents Fund, the Graduate School, and 12 professional schools and once they begin an annual giving program, the Jackson School. There was a huge effort to renew donors in December. Group texting was coordinated by our office for the graduate school, the divinity school, public health, music, and the med school. Over 2,500 texts were sent that day. Nearly 100,000 pieces of mail were sent in December and several schools facilitated challenges to boost their results. Jocelyn then turned it over to Vice-Chair, Richard Roberts.

Vice Chair’s Remarks

Richard reminded everyone of our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging expectations created in 2021 and which are distributed annually to our volunteers before turning it over to Lise Chapman and Tanya Rivero Warren.

DEIB Committee

Lise Chapman and Tanya Rivero shared what resonated with them about this work group. This group of 33 members represent classes ranging from 1949 to 2021 and include both Yale College and graduate school alumni. They shared that their committee would begin efforts by contacting a diverse group of nearly 400 alumni to recruit new Alumni Fund agents. Training sessions were held recently, and efforts will continue throughout the Spring. The meeting was then turned over to Paola Nastri and Will Shikani.

For Humanity Events Work Group

The objective of this work group was to create a concept for supplemental Alumni Fund events to complement the larger For Humanity: Illuminated events scheduled to take place in various cities during FY23 and beyond. Each member is working within a sub-committee focused on the city in which they are most closely tied. Cities of focus are Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York City and
Chicago. In-person events are planned in New York City, Los Angeles and San Francisco with a virtual event focused on AI and Science Fiction authors to complement the Chicago Illuminated event this spring. The meeting was then turned over to Samantha Heffner.

**Nominating Committee**
The Nominating Committee has helped to build a more robust pipeline of diverse and young volunteer leaders through personal agent recruitment during the fall semester. This year’s ten-member committee is led by Samantha Heffner and Jill Wight. During their first round of agent recruitment outreach this fall, they personally emailed and called nearly 200 young and diverse alumni to be Alumni Fund agents. Through this engagement work, they are gathering important information about these alumni that will be used for future engagement strategies. Onboarding of new young and diverse Alumni Fund agents is already underway in classes that needed more agent representation.

**Call for Nominations**
Each year, the Nominating Committee determines a slate of new and returning board members. Samantha Heffner asked for a call for nominations to the Board of Directors. The link to the online nomination form will be emailed to all volunteers this week and was posted in the chat. Submit recommendations and encourage others to do so by March 1st. Jocelyn Kane and Samantha Heffner are contacts for questions. Samantha turned the meeting over to Jocelyn Kane.

**Managing Director’s Remarks**
Jocelyn facilitated a question-and-answer session before spotlighting Brett Zbar and the 2022 Chair Awardees:
- Virginia Dominguez ’73, ’79 PhD
- Jonathan Jacobson ’93 MBA
- James Jones ’70 PhD
- Laura Vrana ’11
- David Waterbury ’58
- Sarah Yoo ’18

A video was shown featuring photos and information about each awardee. Brett Zbar then gave his final congratulations to the awardees and added that that James Jones was just awarded the 2023 Wilbur Cross Medal by the Graduate School. Joan O’Neil shared her congratulations before Brett adjourned the meeting.