

## **Development Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, December 11, 2025  
**Time:** 1:00PM  
**Location:** Boyd Conference Room, Conley Hall

**Members Present:** Mrs. Cynthia Higgins-Atwell, Mr. Bill Cole, Ms. Cathy Deeb, Dr. Deirdre Guyton, Mr. Josh Grubb, Mrs. Izabella Kiser.

**Virtual:** Mr. Randy Price, Mrs. Rebecca Peterson

**Absent:** Mr. Mike Hastings, Mr. Anthony Tolley

### **1. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order.

### **2. Financial Report and Financial Comparison Report**

Presented by Mrs. Izabella Kiser

- The foundation has started receiving gifts from the Fall Appeal letter.
- \$3,256 spent from the annual growth account to cover appeal letter expenses.
- November bank statements presented. Noted a \$268,000 charge for Aramark food cost loan; current monthly bill reduced to \$171,000.
- \$17,000 in donations received from Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity (counted toward the day of giving).
- \$10,000 from the estate of Norris Cantor directed to the Title III trust for on-campus housing.
- Awaiting updated trust account information from the bank.

### **3. Development Committee Report**

Presented by Mrs. Rebecca Peterson (virtual)

- Upcoming meeting with the Ethel Bowen Foundation scheduled for December 15 to discuss support for the nursing program. Ms. Betty Nash and Dr. Angela Lambert will do a proposal.
  - Estimated donation of ~\$300,000, aimed at providing scholarships for approximately 200 nursing students.

- Scholarship proposal focuses on enabling debt-free attendance for nursing students, with consideration for additional faculty funding as the program grows.
- Ongoing outreach to donor Mr. Jim Bunn regarding a potential engineering program donation (to be finalized before year-end).
- Caution advised regarding marketing: scholarships should be described as “tuition assistance” or “financial support,” not explicitly “free,” to reflect the complexities of grants and student aid.
- Consensus on distributing scholarship funds through the university to ensure appropriate use and preserve program quality.
- Discussion regarding the need for inclusivity in the Bowen Foundation scholarships—ensuring students outside nursing are not excluded.
- Bowen Foundation funding history noted, with a shift in recent years to focus on nursing; committee continues to advocate for broader scholarship eligibility.
- Emphasis placed on responsible stewardship of both restricted and unrestricted gifts, balancing departmental needs.

## **5. Adjournment**

Dr. Deirdre Guyton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:19 PM.