Committee Reports

The Alumni Resources Committee is now assessing the satisfaction of membership requirements by all Term Members. Council members are required to donate to the University and to the Council’s Loyalty Fund (via a check payable to TUAA and sent to Nancy Sardella at Alumni House) each year. In addition, Term Members must provide service to Tufts and must participate in Council activities, including attendance at the biannual meetings. We will also survey all committee chairs to evaluate participation on committees. The committee will review all data in June and will make recommendations to the President about continued TUAA participation.

If you have any questions about your financial or service obligations, please contact the Alumni Resources chairperson or the Alumni Secretary, Nancy Sardella, at nancy.sardella@tufts.edu or (617) 627-3021.

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Career Services Committee: Alumni career networking events and career workshops are proving to be popular. Leslie Warner, our Assistant Director of Alumni Career Services, reports that on Jan. 15, she, Nancy Sardella, and Robyn Miller of the Washington Tufts Alliance led a Career Networking Night attended by 97 alumni/ae. Feedback was very positive and several alumni have had follow-ups with Leslie.

On Jan. 22, a workshop was held on campus titled “Networking Essentials.” Consultant Deb Rosenbloom presented two hours of networking information/advice, then took questions. Networking followed. Ninety-one alumni attended and feedback was very positive.

Workshops are planned for March 31, April 13, and May 22 on campus. See http://careers.tufts.edu for information. Leslie is also working on future regional events.

These are important first steps in making Tufts alumni more focused on career networking. The web-based Tufts Career Network now stands at 4,166 members. Our committee has a marketing plan for this semester to support reaching our goal of 5,000 members. As always, we solicit your ideas and ask that you join the Network. Your career experiences are important to Tufts students and alumni – plus the network is there for you! Go to http://careers.tufts.edu/network to join.

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The Continuing Education Committee has been focused on the development of programming for Super Seminars to be held on Alumni Weekend (May 21-22).

At this point we are excited about commitments from a number of high-profile and very engaging faculty members. Beginning Friday morning May 21, we will hear from Lee Coffin, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions, and Patricia Reilly, Director of Financial Aid. In a departure from tradition, we will go off campus for the remainder of Friday. At the Museum of Science, we will offer a lunch/lecture/exhibit revolving around the Einstein Exhibit, and featuring Professor Gary R. Goldstein from Tufts’ Department of Physics. This project is being done in collaboration with the Tufts Institute for Lifelong Learning.

We have also joined forces with the Association of Tufts Alumnae to sponsor a lecture by Dr. Miriam Nelson from our Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy on May 22. A Healthy Continental Breakfast hosted by ATA will precede this lecture. The finale to our series will be a talk by Professor David Elkind of the Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Development.

Stay tuned for more details concerning specific times and places. Council members interested in contributing in any way should contact:

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Regional Programs Committee: The Tufts alumni community continues to reap the benefits of last summer’s Regional Leaders’ Symposium. In the seven months since it concluded, over 80 events have been planned and/or held by 33 regional chapters, including nine regions not in attendance at the symposium, as well as 24 of the 26 that did attend.

The formation of new chapters or the reactivation of chapters that have struggled continues to stretch the time and resources of RPC liaisons and Office of Alumni Relations staff. Some of the newly activated or forming regions include: Baltimore, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Hawaii, Houston, London (UK), Martha’s Vineyard, Miami, Nantucket, North Carolina, East Tennessee, Vermont and Wisconsin. Check the Alumni Website for the regional chapter in your area. Those interested in forming new chapters are encouraged to contact Gretchen Dobson at 1-800-THE-ALUM or gretchen.dobson@tufts.edu.

Every chapter has the opportunity to be represented on the Tufts Alumni Council. Regional chapter leaders are encouraged to appoint an Associate Member to the Council. Contact the RPC chair for details about this or any other Regional Programs matter.

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By the middle of this month the Strategic Planning Committee will use raw data it has collected to identify objectives and priorities. We will meet to develop the actions that will be required to implement the new five-year objectives. All of this information will be synthesized into a single document and will be mailed for review to all Council members by the end of March. The final plan will be introduced for ratification by the Council at its spring meeting and submitted to the Trustees at their May meeting. We appreciate the input and participation of all Council members.

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