



## MUAA General Board Meeting

January 8th, 2026

### AGENDA

#### Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

##### Call to Order & Welcome @5:33

- Jimmy Black, MUAA President

##### MUAA General Business

- Attendance & Minutes Review – Misty Ferguson, Secretary
  - Attendance is good
  - Minutes went out earlier
- Treasurer's Report – David Collins, Treasurer
  - \$38,411.89 Corpus
  - Additions for 7 gifts
  - Currently working on year end activity. Comprehensive update next month.

##### Alumni Relations/Campus Update Reports

- **VP of Alumni Relations Matt James & Director of Alumni Engagement Walker Tatum**
  - Hit ground running - had a true holiday break and restart
  - Working with academic affairs to get graduate alumni data
    - Online students have grown exponentially - over 1000 grads each year
  - Working with consultant to look on how to put chapter work to scale (31 across the globe) more intentionality and ROI & look at and engage with measuring data
    - Volunteer, social media interaction, chapters, experience
  - Feb 3 - Marshall day at the capital - and evening event at 5:30 joint universities united reception
  - New director of alumni relations position is now posted - <https://paschalmurray.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/MU-ADAR-Position-Announcement.pdf>
  - Lance West helping to identify presenting sponsor (\$25,000) for alumni weekend
  - Banquet -
    - Back at the civic center downtown on Saturday

- Walker to keep everyone updated - timeline to awardees - will have more information in upcoming meetings.
- EOY report for chapters for the awards
- Sponsorship packet for banquet is ready - Table sponsors will be very similar to last year (\$5,000)
  - Becca is going to be point person for Business and Development Committee
  - Waiting to see what Lance comes back with to see if we can name the awards for those sponsors
    - Do we look for a set number of years commitment? More to discuss as it unfolds.
- Painter - Brad's COS reached out to office recently - he is revisiting listening tour
  - Will join at virtual meeting in May 14, 2026, 530-730, around the same time our meeting would be.
- NICO
  - Missy Blatt will be the MUAA representative on the Foundation board
- **Secretary of Alumni Engagement Piper Cook**

### **Committee A: Janie McDaniel, VP2**

- Chapters: (Megan Barbour/Tiffany Ferrari)
  - Chapter meeting scheduled for next week. November was a great call with Allyse Smith as guest speaker. Recording the meetings now. Feedback from everyone in getting all contact information. Getting dates of Community Care and Day of Giving. April will be our day of giving. Matt to provide to Megan.
- Events: (Rashad Sanders/Chris Dickerson)
  - Alumni weekend and planning of our Friday night social event. Chris: Focus needs to be on the young alumni, merging the two. Alumni Association dinner, Joey Stepp during dinner. Events committee: will be willing to help with Marshall Day of Capitol and May 14th date with Pres. Smith. Friday evening will be assigned to Events Committee after the alumni event on Friday.
- Business & Development: (Melanie Pagliaro/David Collins)
  - Golf Scramble, Tuesday May 12th. Guyan Country Club. Needing a chair for this event. Could be partnership opportunity with Glenn's for exclusive merchandise for the alumni board

### **Committee B: Jill Jackson, VP1**

- Membership: (Melissa Blatt/Michael Perry)
  - Perks stuff in line. Big Green notices shares the Herd Perks. Next week will be our first meeting. Goal: increasing membership opportunities, locally. Having an in person opportunity to gain membership at a basketball game. Joe C.: Herd Blenko Glass Key Chain gift for a level of sponsorship. Walker mentioned to Blenko before about the key chain.
- By-Laws: (Steve Wellman)
  - Codify By-Laws Language
    - See updated verbiage at bottom of minutes. Updates are in blue.
    - Was cir in december email
    - Motion made to accept changes by Debbie Chapman
    - Second by Missy Blatt

- All approved, no nays.
- Steve: What is on screen will be in the Chapters manual and in our bylaws.
- Motion to waive 30 day requirement: Joe Cunningham and Feon Smith seconded it
- All voted in favor of motion
- Language question? The document defines the roles of chapter. Walker took questions from Annette Green: Membership dues? Any consideration to asking chapter members to pay some sort of due. Matt's response. This is specific to anyone can join a chapter then afterwards, we can ask for giving to the alumni association. Steve's comment: oversight is with the alumni office regarding chapters. Laura Greer: is this better in the manual but not the bylaws, as it would require effort to change the bylaws. Any changes in A-G would require bylaws changes. Walker: benchmarking against peer institutions, these items will not change. Walker: if a chapter doesn't submit its annual report, then we would consider that an inactive chapter.
  - Motion to approve 9.3 with the exception of it being changed to numerals. Melanie Pagliaro and Chris Dickerson seconded
- Adding two young alumni and Chapter president liaison as ex-officio board members
- Process for timelines and awards and nominations
- Draft of an amendment to our bylaws by the foundation to coincide with the chapter handbook/bylaws
- Alumni Board of Directors Constitution and By laws

### Miscellaneous Items & Adjournment

- Jimmy: Career Fair and working with career services to assist with juniors and seniors of Marshall For All program who will be looking for a career

### MUBA Update:

- Actively working on high school scholarship - not officially got the account set up, but ready to identify the name of the scholarship, once endowed.
- 90's football players have assisted. - Relationship building
  - Can we work to have them feel welcome on campus?

### Upcoming Dates:

- **General Board Meeting: Thurs January 8<sup>th</sup> 2026 at 5:30 p.m. via Teams**
- **Executive Board Meeting: Thurs January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2026 at 5:30 p.m. via Teams**
- **Alumni Weekend 2026: April 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> 2026**
- **Spring In Person Meeting: April 10<sup>th</sup> 2026 at 9 a.m. Location TBD**
- **Community Cares Week: May 18<sup>th</sup> – May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Go Herd!

### Attendance:

Misty

Steve

Jill

Melissa

Chris

Leslie  
Melanie  
Debbie  
Jimmy  
Isaac  
Piper  
Daniel  
Laura  
Ben  
Janie  
Walker  
Joe  
Tiffany  
Nico  
Matt  
LaKeisha  
Jodi  
Emily  
Krista  
Megan  
Cat  
James  
Feon  
Rashad  
Mike Perry  
Brad  
Sara

#### PROPOSED REVISIONS TO MUAA BYLAWS

Section 3.3. Number and Term. The Board shall consist of no less than thirty elected, or in some cases, appointed Directors. In addition to the elected Directors, the following appointed Directors shall serve on the Board:

(a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) The immediate past President of the Corporation shall automatically be a

voting member of the Board of Directors, if not currently a duly elected member of the Board of Directors. The immediate past President shall serve as parliamentarian for the Board;

A designee of the President of Marshall University shall be appointed annually;

A designee of each Marshall University constituency group, as identified on "Exhibit A" to these bylaws, and attached hereto, and who shall be appointed annually;

A designee from each of the various chapters recognized by the Corporation, and who shall be appointed annually;

A designee from the Foundation's Board of Directors to be appointed by the Foundation's Board of Directors and to serve a three-year term and serve in the role of the Foundation Liaison as described in Section 4.10;

Two full-time students of Marshall University to include the President of the Marshall University Student Ambassador's Program or a designated representative and the President of the Marshall University Student Government or a designated representative. Each of these students shall serve a one-year term;

A representative from each of Marshall University's Colleges/Schools shall be appointed annually by the respective Dean;

Three active members of the Corporation may be appointed by the President of the Corporation each year for a term of one year each;

Two "Young Alumni," defined as graduates of Marshall University who are age 30 years or younger, shall be appointed by majority vote of the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Marshall University Foundation Director of Alumni Relations, and Marshall University Foundation Vice President of Alumni Relations, and shall serve as *ex officio*, non-voting(j) members of the Board of Directors for a term of one year each; and no

"Young Alumni" member may serve more than three consecutive terms;

The Chapter President Liaison, elected pursuant to Section 9.2, shall serve as an *ex officio*, nonvoting member of the Board of Directors for a term of one year;

(k) The Director of Alumni Relations and Corporation staff shall serve as *ex officio*, nonvoting members of the Board of Directors.

The term of each elected Director shall be three years or until the Director's successor is duly elected, qualified and takes office. Terms of elected Directors shall be staggered so that no more than one-third (1/3) of the Directors' terms shall expire in any one year. Elected Directors may generally serve two consecutive terms of three years (for a total of six years), but if any Director wishes to serve a third consecutive term (for a total of nine years), he or she shall notify the Executive Committee in writing on or before the date of the Annual Meeting which occurs at the beginning of their sixth consecutive year of service. The Executive Committee shall review the Director's service to ensure that they were an active, contributing Director and attended all or the significant majority of Board and Committee meetings, and if so, notify that Director that they are eligible to run for a third consecutive term. After service of three consecutive terms of three years (for a total of nine years), the Director must then wait at least one year before being eligible to run for election to the Board of Directors. In the event that any Board member seeking eligibility for a third consecutive term is a member of the Executive Committee at the time the Executive Committee considers that candidate's eligibility to run for a third consecutive term, that Executive Committee member shall abstain from the Executive Committee's consideration and any vote regarding such person's eligibility to run for a third consecutive term. Only one member of an immediate family shall be an elected member on the Board of Directors at any one time. The terms of Directors shall start at the beginning of the subsequent fiscal year and shall terminate at the conclusion of the fiscal year in which their terms expire. Notwithstanding any provision herein, there shall be no limit on the number of consecutive terms that the Chair of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee may serve.

Section 3.4. Elections. Each year, so long as there are enough nominees to fulfill the following requirement, the Nomination Committee will develop a ballot of a minimum of ten and a maximum of twenty nominees to run for Directors' positions, with consideration to the balance provision contained in this paragraph of this article.

Nominations shall close no later than February 28 of each year, or the first following business day in the event that February 28 falls on a weekend. The President may, in his or her sole discretion, grant an extension of this deadline, but in no event shall nominations be accepted after the third Friday in March, not to extend past March 21 of each year. Ballots listing the new Director nominees will be sent to all Active Members of the Corporation no later than March 31 each year, or the following business day in the event that March 31 falls on a weekend. The Active Members must return the ballots to the Alumni Office by the second Thursday in April, not to extend past April 14 of each year or the first following business day in the event that April 14 falls on a weekend. The ten nominees who receive the highest number of votes will be elected as Directors of the Corporation; however, a balance shall be maintained so that at least five Directors elected each term reside outside Cabell, Wayne, Mason, Putnam, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan and Mingo Counties in West Virginia, Boyd County in Kentucky and Lawrence County in Ohio, provided that there are enough nominees who would fulfill this requirement. No more than two full-time employees of Marshall University can serve as elected Directors at one time. The Secretary of the Corporation will notify all nominees of the results of the election no later than the May general Board meeting. The remaining nominees will be listed in order of votes received and designated as alternate Directors for three years. In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken in the following sequential manner: (1) By vote of the Board, to be conducted at the first Board meeting after the election via secret ballot or by electronic means, at the discretion of the Executive Committee; (2) Years of service on the Board between the candidates receiving the same number of votes; (3) President's discretion.

#### Section 5.3 (b)

Nomination Committee. The Nomination Committee shall consist of the immediate past-President of the Corporation, The Chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee and no fewer than three members elected by the Board at the first general Board meeting each fiscal year. The Nomination Committee shall elect a chairperson. Three members of the Nomination Committee must be present to establish a quorum. The Nomination Committee shall be responsible for the nominations for election to the Board as described in Section 3.4, and for nominating "Life" or "Honorary" members of the Corporation as defined in Article II, with said nominations to be presented to the Board for consideration. The Nomination Committee shall also nominate the officers of the Corporation as outlined in Article IV and members of the Executive Committee to be elected by the Board. Members of the Nomination Committee shall not be eligible for nomination to serve as an officer of the Corporation unless they are nominated from the floor. (1) The Nomination Committee shall appoint an Awards Committee of five Board members no later than the date of the university's homecoming game, and the Awards Committee shall read the criteria and qualifications for Alumni Awards at the general Board meeting held the week of homecoming. The Awards Committee shall accept nominations for Alumni Awards until January 31 or the next business day in the event that January 31 falls on a weekend. The Awards Committee shall meet and decide upon a ballot for each Alumni Award by the second Friday in February, but no later than February 14 of each year or the next business day in the event that February 14 falls on a weekend or holiday. The ballot shall be circulated to the Board no later than February 16 of each year or the next business day in the event that February 16 falls on a weekend or holiday. Voting shall be open until the fourth Friday in February, but shall not extend beyond the last day of February of each year or the next business day in the event that the last day of February falls on a weekend or holiday. The Awards Committee shall also circulate Chapters Awards packets to Chapters no

later than January 15 of each year, or the following business day if January 15 falls on a weekend or holiday, and Chapters shall return the packets to the Awards Committee no later than February 28 of each year or the following business day in the event that February 28 falls on a weekend.

#### ARTICLE IX.

##### Local Chapters/Constituency Groups

Section 9.1. Guidelines. The guidelines that pertain to the chapters and constituency groups shall be established by the Board.

Section 9.2. Election of Chapter President Liaison. Each Chapter or Constituency Group shall nominate a candidate or candidates for the position of Chapter President Liaison no later than February 28 of each year, or the first following business day in the event that February 28 falls on a weekend. Thereafter, the Chapters/Constituency Groups shall hold an election for the Chapter President Liaison position and the results shall be final no later than April 15 of each year or the next business day in the event that April 15 falls on a weekend. The Chapter President Liaison shall serve for a term of one year. The Chapter President Liaison shall serve as Chair of the Chapters Committee with the President of the Board appointing an elected Director of the Board as Co-Chair. The term of the Chapter President Liaison may be extended for a subsequent one-year period upon mutual agreement as demonstrated by a majority vote of the Chapters/Constituency Groups, the Chapters Committee Co-Chair, and the President of the Board, but shall not exceed a total of three consecutive years.