

April 2015 – Report to the Community

Dear Members of the Haverford Community,

We write to report on the meetings of the Board of Managers held on campus April 24-25, 2015.

This was the final Board meeting for President Dan Weiss, whom the Board thanked for his service to Haverford. Since the announcement of President Weiss's departure in March, the Board had been fully engaged in the determination of a succession plan. The Board concluded this work with a special session on Saturday, resulting in the enthusiastic appointment of Kimberly Benston as Haverford's next president.

Over the course of the spring, the Board received with appreciation many expressions of community interest around the identification of the next president, including the active engagement of the Coalition to Diversify the Presidency. The Board expresses unity with the desire shared by many in the Haverford community to advance diversity across all layers of leadership at the College. This has been a topic of significant attention for the Board.

In a special plenary session on April 24, the Board took up again the issue of socially responsible investing, for which it was joined by members of the student group Haverfordians for a Livable Future. This lively and constructive session allowed the Board to reflect on how the issue of fossil fuel divestment has evolved since its last consideration of this matter in October 2013, and to continue to deliberate on questions of how best to realize Haverford's priorities through its investment decisions. Based on a sense of the meeting, the Investment Committee will be considering the perspectives expressed during the plenary session and will bring back to the Board further developed thinking at its next meeting in October. The College will continue its constructive dialogue including Haverfordians for a Livable Future and other interested community members over the coming months.

Among its regular business items, the Board was briefed by President Weiss on the implementation of the *Plan for Haverford 2020* and the status of other key initiatives. The Student Affairs Committee accepted the report of the Mental Health Task Force and urged the College to proceed with the implementation of its recommendations. The Educational Affairs Committee was pleased to approve the reappointments of Elizabeth Beasley (Mathematics) and Brooke Lillehaugen (Linguistics), and the promotion to associate professor with tenure of Jill Stauffer (Peace, Justice, & Human Rights). The Board reviewed and approved the College's proposed FY16 operating budget. This budget provides a 2.0% salary pool to be allocated among faculty and staff plus an additional 0.5% pool for employee promotions, reclassifications, and equity adjustments.

Finally, with great enthusiasm, the Board approved the granting of degrees to the members of the Class of 2015 at Commencement on May 17, and it offers its congratulations to graduating seniors and their families.

The Board thanked for their service departing Managers Jackie Brady '89, Elizabeth Enloe, and Elon Spar '83, and held a gathering of former Board members and families to remember the life and service of former Chair of the Board of Managers John C. Whitehead '43, who died this February.

On July 1, the Board will welcome three new members who were elected to three-year terms at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation of Haverford College on April 25: Bruce Gorchow '80, Ted Love '81 P'15 P'17, and Nancy Wolfson P'15.

We'd like to thank all the staff, faculty, and students, who contributed to making these meetings a success.

Sincerely,

Howard W. Lutnick '83, Chair
Daniel H. Weiss President