

Report from the October 2015 Meeting of the Board of Managers

Friends:

We write to report on the October 1-3 meeting of the Board of Managers.

This meeting was an important opportunity for the Board to reflect on institutional progress as the College enters the second year of the implementation of the Plan for Haverford 2020, now under the new leadership of President Kim Benston. The Board discussed a number of key areas where work is underway:

- campus initiatives addressing diversity (led by the Task Force on Diversity and Community) and sustainability (led by the Council on Sustainability and Social Responsibility);
- faculty hiring, curricular planning, and faculty lifecycle;
- student wellbeing, including enhancements in student mental health support and campus dining;
- progress on the Sharpless and VCAM projects, both advancing through preliminary approval gateways with anticipated construction starts in the spring. The Library and Music projects continue their early development;
- the Lives That Speak fundraising campaign, now having attained \$207 million toward our \$225 million goal;
- the exceptional strength of the newly enrolled Class of 2019.

In a special plenary session, the Board welcomed Shibu Shibulal P'06 P'15, founder and former CEO of Infosys, who led a discussion of technology in higher education. In a second plenary session, Harvard Professor of Education Emeritus Dick Chait led a workshop on board governance and development. Among its regular business, the Finance Committee reviewed the College's operating budgets and debt capacity. The Board approved Haverford's audited FY15 financial statements, for which it received a clean opinion from auditors CliftonLarsonAllen.

On Thursday evening, the Board joined members of the student body for a spirited dinner in the Dining Center. On Friday, the Board was delighted to welcome new faculty members at a special dinner with their department chairs.

We would like to thank all the faculty, staff, and students who contributed to such a productive meeting.

Kim Benston, President
Rick White, Chair, Board of Managers