

Report from the February 2019 Meeting of the Board of Managers

Friends,

We write to report on the meeting of the Board of Managers held February 7-9, 2019. This was the third meeting of the academic year for the Board, in which it continued discussion of a number of consequential topics.

This year the Board and the campus community are concluding some of the major elements of the *Plan for Haverford 2020*. The Lutnick Library project, slated to open in the fall of 2019, remains on-time, on-scope, and on-budget. In the meantime, planning is underway for the fourth capital project around Founders Green, the creation of a new home for the Bi-Co music program in Roberts Hall. The Board expressed enthusiasm about the project and will see evolved plans at its April meeting. Both the Library and Music projects are funded almost entirely by the philanthropic generosity of Haverford alumni and friends.

In addition to stewarding Haverford's physical resources, the Board continues to devote significant attention to the College's long-term financial wellbeing. Three years ago, the Board and campus leadership developed a multiyear plan to bring the College into full-accrual financial equilibrium to ensure that it would have sufficient financial resources to sustain its educational mission for future generations of students. That plan is on track, and the Board applauded the work and discipline of the campus community to limit expense growth over the short term and focus resources on Haverford's highest priorities. In that context, Vice President and Dean of Admission & Financial Aid Jess Lord led a discussion of admission, access, and affordability with the Board to deliberate on the College's increasing investments in student financial aid and the many considerations involved in admitting each new class of Haverford students.

Among its actions, the Board approved a revised policy on faculty research, which was proposed by the faculty to ensure that Haverford's scholarly research agenda is consistent with the College's values and in particular the Quaker peace testimony. The policy it replaces, from 1957, restricted funding from the Department of Defense; the revised policy requires all proposed research funding to be considered in light of potential military applications, regardless of funding source. The Board commended the faculty's leadership and discernment in this complex matter.

Among other business, the Student Affairs Committee discussed the LIFTFAR program and its support of low income and first-generation students, while the Educational Affairs Committee reviewed faculty personnel matters. The Board is pleased to announce the promotion to full professor of Casey Londergan (Chemistry) and the hiring of Dr. Ryan Lei (Psychology). The Finance Committee discussed elements of the 2019-20 operating budget under development, and the Audit & Risk Management Committee revised the policy on conflicts of interest. The External Affairs Committee updated the Board on the current admission and fundraising cycles and discussed messaging to external audiences. The Honorary Degrees Committee reviewed candidates nominated by the Class of 2020 and the rest of the Haverford community. A new Technology Working Group of the Board discussed the strategic uses of data, in support of both operational and strategic work on campus.

On Friday night, the Board and senior staff enjoyed a social dinner with their Bryn Mawr counterparts, an annual event this time energized by the emerging strategic framework the two institutions have been developing to help guide an array of shared programs and shared opportunities, including shared student support services, academic programs like neuroscience, and the recently launched TriCo Philly program.

We thank all the students, faculty, and staff who made this a productive meeting.

Sincerely,

Garry W. Jenkins '92, Vice Chair  
Allan R. (Rick) White III '81, Chair  
Kimberly W. Benston, President