

**Minutes of the Georgian Court Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Saturday, November 4, 2006**  
**1:00 p.m.**

**Attendees**

Sister Rosemary Jeffries '72	Margaret Huber, Ph.D.
Joanne Mercadante '03	Marcia Dickinson '02
Cynthia Isdanavage	Beverly Milyo '69/'83
Debbie Williams '68	Ron Calderon '04
Mary Ann Cavallaro '75 (called in)	Gloria Christiansen '56
Rodrigo (Rod) Colon '95 (called in)	Andrea Herschel '70
Matthew Mariano '05	Maja Meighan '93/'04
Amelia McTamaney '67	Mary Mewherter '05
Kathleen Metz '62	Patricia Provenzano '62
Evelyn Quinn '74	Anne Reichel '74
Elena Santoro '64	Cheryl Stoeber-Goff '79
Rosemary Todino '56	Jo Ann Walter '77
Lynn Butler '68	Connie Reymann '77/'00
Pat Stoughton '85	Emily Van Vliet '42
Alicia Alonso	Amanda Chack
Megan Rea	Larry Chack
Ryan Brandt	

**Opening Prayer**

- Sister Rosemary began the 1:00 meeting with a prayer

**Introductions of New Officers and Board Members-***Cynthia Isdanavage, Director of Alumni Relations*

- Introduced new officers:
  - President - Debbie Hanley Williams '68
  - Vice President - Mary Ann Cavallaro '75
  - Secretary - Joanne Mercadante '03
  - Treasurer - Marcia Dickinson '02

In addition to the new officers, each board member introduced him/herself and shared a favorite memory of Georgian Court.

**Alumni Association President-***Debbie Hanley Williams '68*

- Debbie introduced her self and welcomed all the members of the Board and shared her excitement about the direction of the Alumni Board.

**Approval of Minutes / Correspondence-***Joanne Mercadante '03, Secretary*

- Cheryl approved the minutes from September 2006; Bev Milyo seconded, minutes were approved by all.

- Thank you notes were received from Francesca Savotok '08 (death of her father), Constance Anne Reymann '77/'00 (death of her sister-in-law), and Elvene "Chickie" Clements former library assistant (death of her son).

### **Treasurer's Report-***Marcia Dickinson '02*

The beginning budget balance for the year was \$3,600.00. The current balance is \$2,792.26. Expenditures were \$625.00 for the Family Day inflatable, \$93.75 for the refreshments at the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, and \$88.99 for roses given to the outgoing Alumni Council members at the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting as a thank you for their service over the years. The Alumni Office has taken in \$92.15 from shirt sales and \$30.24 from tote bag sales.

### **Office of the President-***Sister Rosemary Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72, President of GCU*

- There will be more than 700 graduates this year (2007). Women's college population is about 1300-1400 with 200-250 graduate students. There were 690 graduates last year (2006).
- Dorms currently house 356 students.
- A goal of 1,650 students has been set for the women's college (about 1/3 on campus, 1/3 commuting, 1/3 coming back to college to finish their education).
- GCU has been accepted as a member of the Foundation of Excellence. They will be working with students as they enter freshman year. This is an honor for GCU.
- Sports teams are doing very well. First time GCU has their volleyball team going to the finals in the NCAA. Soccer is going to the ECAC. Their coach was "Coach of the Year" and was recognized nationally as being the coach that had the fastest turn around of any team. Tennis placed third in their conference and cross-country is first in their conference.
- Sports are just one aspect of life at Georgian Court. It is important to note that the athletes hold a combined G.P.A. of 3.2. which is one of the best G.P.A.s in NCAA Division II sports across the country.
- Campaign for Georgian Court exceeded its goal. A \$2 million dollar gift was received from Dorothy Jamin Marron '36. The University Community Chapel will be named in her honor. This is the largest donation from living alum. 10.4 million. It is anticipated that this campaign will go to 2008.
- Renewed interest in alumni activities. Thirty new Ambassadors trained this past year.

### **Challenges**

- Providing graduate education in Cumberland and Woodbridge and participate in coastal communiversitry in Wall Township.
- Went to Superior Court for new entrance. The new entrance will improve the flow of traffic and will be an easier entrance for emergency access. This proposal was denied at the local planning board, but was taken to the Superior Court on November 1. Judge will entertain briefs in next ten days.
- Middle States will take place in 2008.

- Upgrading IT infrastructure.
- For the future there is a need to be attentive and respectful of change at the University and how it is managed.
- Centennial in 2008. More information will be shared at future meetings. How do we celebrate past and talk about future?
- The new informational video was shown to describe GCU as it is now.

**Office of Institutional Advancement-***Maggie Huber, VP of Institutional Advancement*

- Campaign has been going for three years. Important for all alums to be a part of the history of GCU. Discussed Dorothy Jamin Marron '36, the visit members of the advancement committee had with her and her generous donation.

**New Business-** *Debbie Hanley Williams '68*

- Create a labyrinth and a brick pathway – “Pathway of Time.” Will also be a fundraiser.
- 100 Most Distinctive Alumni Life’s work, success in business accomplishments.
- Centennial Celebration-this will be discussed at future meetings
- GCU Homecoming/Fall Fest—Alumni Association 5K & Fun Run
- Beyond the Court- Alumni Mentorship Program  
Networking and extending ourselves to the students and helping them grow in their fields.

**Office of Alumni Relations-***Cynthia Isdanavage*

- NJEA Convention next week. Giveaway will be the lunchboxes that Board members have all received.
- Directory in packets may be incorrect. Email Cynthia with any revisions.

**Schedule of Upcoming Events**

NOVEMBER

NJEA Convention – 9th & 10th  
 Open House – 12th  
 Ocean County Chapter Wine & Cheese Party – 16<sup>th</sup>

DECEMBER

Breakfast with Santa – 9<sup>th</sup> (needs volunteers, especially someone to play Mrs. Claus, costume will be provided).  
 Radio City Christmas Spectacular – 17th

JANUARY

Alumni Speaker Series: Dr. Holly Roberts '02 – 23rd  
 Alumni Gathering & Brunch before the Game – 27th  
 West Coast Florida Alumni Reception – 27th

FEBRUARY

Alumni Association Board Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Chapter News**

- Cynthia would like to see as many regional chapters started as possible. Contact her if you are interested in starting a chapter. She will be happy to assist you.
- New York City Chapter-First official organizational meeting was held on October 5, 2006 at Pfizer Headquarters. It was very successful. February meeting will be at CNN. Some seniors will be invited to this meeting.
- Middlesex Chapter held annual golf outing in September. It was a huge success.
- It was noted that there is presently no active chapter in Monmouth County.

Sister Rosemary announced that on Monday November 6, 2006, Immigration Week at the University would begin. Speakers will be present on Tuesday and will present contributions by immigrants. On Wednesday the roles of the Sisters of Mercy in immigration will be explored. Impact of Free Trade Agreements will also be discussed. On Thursday there will be discussions on the Mercy Core Value of Justice. Members of the UN will be present. State and local laws will also be studied. Some of this can be accessed on the web page.

There was some discussion on choosing the 100 Most Distinguished Alumni and the importance of being mindful of what determines the term “distinguished.” It was felt that we should move cautiously in this area. This will be discussed at future meetings.

### **Adjournment and Campus Tour**

- Alicia and Meg were available to give tours of the campus.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Mercadante '03