

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

ALUMNI RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

2015-16 ANNUAL REPORT

1. The Alumni Relations Committee has experienced a good attendance record this year, with new members, particularly students and faculty from a diverse set of schools, joining in the spring semester. The committee concerned itself during the year with four major themes, which are:

- A. Global Centers – the committee is particularly interested in partnering with the new Institute for Ideas that will be based out of Reid Hall in Paris. The Institute is a wonderful opportunity for Columbia to identify and engage local and global alumni in the diverse innovative sectors of interest to the institute as potential participants, underwriters and general supporters. The same holds for the Global Centers as a whole.
- B. Entrepreneurship – the committee heard from Richard Witten and Chris McGarry about entrepreneurship across the university. We will continue to explore ideas how alumni can help current students and more recent graduates with their expertise as entrepreneurs.
- C. Lifetime learning – the School of Professional Studies is changing and expanding their offerings to be more oriented toward working professionals and just-in-time learning. This is a potential opportunity for alumni to reengage with the school, and lend their voices to surveys about types and venues for learning globally.
- D. Career Services – this continues to be an issue the committee wants to explore because careers is a key component of every alumnus' life. This year we put less focus on this theme but it surfaces within other discussions, notably entrepreneurship and lifetime learning.

2. The Committee had a number of guest speakers this year that enhanced its

members understanding of the various issues, particularly those that involve getting alumni more engaged. Athletics is one area that the committee wants to pursue further.

3. The committee wants to actively partner with the other caucuses, especially Students and Faculty. The committee will continue to pursue these issues next year.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Liebowitz and Kurt Roeloffs,
Committee CoChairs

April 29, 2016

Committee Roster:

Anne Armstrong-Coben		P&S
Mary E. Sormanti		SSW
Mark Logan Wright		LAW
Smaranda Muresan		Research Officers - Professional
Donna MacPhee		Adm
Sharon Liebowitz	Co-Chair	Alum.
Kurt Roeloffs	Co-Chair	Alum.

A number of others observed.