



SVM Alumni Association Meeting

September 10, 2022

9:30 – 11:30 am

SVM Building room 2255

Zoom: Meeting ID: 948 1629 8299 Passcode: 758226

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Daryl Buss, MS '74, PhD '75

Dan Damman, DVM '92

Jennifer Lorenz, DVM '09

Debbie Olbrich, DVM '07

Peter Rayne, DVM '89

Wife, Natasha Rayne

Kathy Reilly, DVM '90

Ty Vannieuwenhoven, DVM '89

Ann Sherwood Zieser, DVM '90

Kristi Thorson

1. Welcome and overview of why we moved from advisory board to alumni association – Jennifer Lorenz, SVMAA President
 - Jennifer shared that the alumni advisory board had launched the alumni printed newsletter that is sent twice a year and launched the alumni awards in 2019. As they looked to the future, the alumni advisory board wanted to expand to an alumni association to encourage more alumni participation.
 - Kristi provided some background on the history and evolution of the alumni advisory board, which began in 2008 with support from Dr. Sue Hyland, who had recently retired from the SVM. She shared that approximately 300 alumni are current members of the SVMAA. This includes all members of the class of 2022 who were automatically enrolled.
2. Mentor program update – Cecilia Grinis, Career Development Coordinator

- Cece provided an update on the school's plans for a mentor program, which is expected to launch next school year. As part of this there would be a request for alumni to indicate their areas of expertise for the program. Attendees discussed that a database should include an opportunity for alumni to note whether they are interested in being a mentor and/or be willing to talk with students outside of a formal mentor program. Attendees also asked about how the matching would work for a mentor program and suggested that a mentor or networking program would be beneficial for alumni looking to change jobs or careers in addition to students.
- 3. Engaging future veterinarians and outreach to educationally disadvantaged youth – Richard Barajas, Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - Richard shared information about the “this is how we roll” program, which is an NIH supported outreach program focused on reaching out to K-4 students who are educationally disadvantaged due to socioeconomic status, race, or ethnicity using a set curriculum of interactive math and science experiences. Attendees provided positive feedback about the materials and discussed ways to promote alumni involvement, including emailing alumni and including information on the SVMAA website. There was also a discussion about engagement opportunities for older students and Richard provided information about the student VMOO outreach club.
- 4. Goals for following year – all
 - Solidify the organization
 - o Recruit new members, welcome new members
 - o Establish infrastructure, including committees
 - o Promote the SVMAA
 - Create an online store with SVMAA branded merchandise
- 5. Board positions and elections – all
 - The group agreed to send a follow up email to all members about the positions and to conduct the election online. Jennifer and Kristi will work on this.
- 6. Open comments – all
- 7. Conclusion and adjourn