



## **SVM Alumni Association Meeting – December 1, 2025**

Call to order: 7:04pm

Attendees:

Kristi Thorson

Jennifer Lorenz

Anne Sherwood Zieser

Ty Vannieuwenhoven

Brad Poff

Kathy Reilly

Holly Hovanec

1. Alumni Store Update:
  - a. 11 people purchased from the store!
  - b. There were a broad range of items purchased.
  - c. This was a preliminary 'soft' launch – we will tweak the store items and offer it again in early spring prior to graduation!
2. Donation/Membership Schedule:
  - a. Typically the fiscal year is followed for memberships with a summer deadline
  - b. We will consider moving to calendar year membership communications
    - i. Outreach would take place mostly in the summer, there are restrictions later in the year
  - c. Other ideas are to piggyback with Giving Tuesday, rolling enrollment, or campaign in January – but risk post-holiday fatigue.
3. Continued Meeting Schedule
  - a. Every other month on the first Monday of the month
4. Alumni Awards Updates
  - a. Rework the form and submission process for nominees
  - b. Continue promotion efforts and diversification of encouraging nominations
5. Late 2025 updates:

- a. The new curriculum OnWard is perceived to be a success so far and is being evaluated in real time.
    - i. Early clinical experiences are a main goal for development within the program. Local clinics will be contacted in the near future by the recently named director of this program.
  - b. Alumni Survey update: key questions to follow up on include class photo composite discussion, mental/financial wellness of graduates
    - i. When the connector walkway between the north and south buildings opens, alumni stories will be shared within that space
    - ii. There are systemic updates occurring to communications which will continue being improved. There is a new director of communications to facilitate progressive updates.
  - c. Ways alumni have been connecting with students during the school year:
    - i. The mentor-student program is in its third year!
    - ii. The SVM connects students interested in specific career paths with involved alumni
    - iii. Speaker Series at SVM – includes invited or volunteer alumni speakers for topics
6. 2026 goals and aspirations:
- a. Continued evaluation of the alumni board and association structure
  - b. Appointment of class representatives – movement to assign representatives
  - c. Alumni awards nomination process and improvement and recruitment of nominees
  - d. Continued support of the SVM in scholarships, mentoring of students, and connection to the student body through outreach
  - e. Generally - increasing involvement and engagement of alumni!
  - f. In person meeting opportunities and how to attract participants

Adjourn: 8:10pm

Enjoy the holiday season, take care, and Go Badgers!

Next meeting: February 2, 2026