



Alumni & Student Engagement Committee Meeting

August 12, 2026, 4:00 PM | Virtual

Governing Board Members in Attendance: Tim Wombles, Katie Trouton-Alexander, Maddie Conway, Terry Freerks

Staff Members in Attendance: Lisa Capone, Kevin Smith, Kate George

Welcome by Tim Wombles, Chair

Strategic Direction & Annual Goals

Lisa Capone, Interim Executive Director, presented an overview of the strategic direction of the Alumni and Student Engagement Committee which is to create meaningful connection with alumni and UMSL that advances university priorities such as student success and professional development. This committee plays an important role as not all colleges and schools have representative affinity groups. This committee also serves students events and alumni-building experiences. Committee members aim to assist UMSL staff with the strategic direction and promotion of events as well as offer capacity building support to staff needing day of or pre-event staffing support.

Review Committee Purpose & Procedures

Tim Wombles, Chair, discussed the Committee Purpose & Procedures document sent to all members. This year, the committee's purview has expanded to include student engagement as well as alumni engagement.

There are only 2 standing meetings for this committee. Much of the work is expected to take place through email communications and ad hoc meetings tailored to support specific event work. Ad hoc meetings will be scheduled as needed and will be communicated through email.

There is a need to recruit non-board members to the committee for further assistance, consistent with other standing committees. The committee will identify and recruit ad hoc members to expand event planning and volunteer work. These members will be added to attend the Committee meetings as non-voting to be able to provide input volunteer to work events.

Action Items/Next Steps:

- Members send their recommendation of non-board members to Kate George by August 21st.
- Kate will compile a master list of staff and board recommendations for Executive Director review.
- Kate will prepare talking points and draft email to committee candidates.
- Lisa will send both to the committee including recommendations on who will take point to reach out and secure commitments to join from each candidate by August 25th.
- Staff and Committee members will reach out and secure responses by August 28th.

Calendar of Events

The UMSL 5k will take place on October 17th and there is a need for volunteer workers. There are also opportunities before the 5k to hang flyers and repost on social media all committee members can assist with. Corner 17 is the primary sponsor of the 5k, and Walter Knoll will be donating roses to each participant. Other sponsorship are being worked on by Jennifer Jezek-Taussig and Terry Freerks.

The Richter Family Welcome and Alumni Center Grand Opening will be held on September 24th. Lisa Capone asked the committee how deans and schools can be activated during this event.

Board members will be activated as ambassadors of the Alumni Association for the event. They will be given talking points.

Action Items/Next Steps:

- Committee members will reach out to Kate on their availability to volunteer for the 5k pre-event or during event.
- Committee members will submit ideas for 5k sponsorships and promotion ideas and send to Lisa and Kate for review and coordination of next steps with Jennifer and Terry.
- Committee members will also send their availability to volunteer for other events to Kate to maintain event volunteer rosters.

Conclusion & Adjournment by Tim Wombles