Greetings Fellow Alumni!

The highlights of our Reunion Meeting included an update from President John Bravman and Bill Conley, Vice President for Enrollment Management; and a celebration of our four distinguished Bucknell University Alumni Association Awardees during our annual reception in the Terrace Room. It was a busy meeting that allowed us to embrace many of our new members who were invited to come and participate before their first term started in July. And then there was my favorite part, when we heard from 15 retiring members who shared poignant moments about what their board experience meant to them. To bear witness to the deepened relationship that our alums have with their University is endearing and so powerful. We all know you get back more when you serve, and these particular alums make me so proud to be a Bucknellian; who they are and their experiences are some of the many reasons why I continue to enjoy serving the University. We thanked Melissa Plaisance ’82 for her service as outgoing BUAA President. And as a token of our appreciation for her service, we presented her with a corn hole set (1/2 Bucknell and 1/2 Stanford, representing both of her alma maters). We hope she thinks of us at upcoming tailgates!

A productive Executive Committee Retreat welcomed lots of new faces, reviewed research, and discussed numerous go-forward ideas. We are merging the Finance and Strategic Planning Committees, reflecting the reduced number of programs managed by the Finance Committee. Our strategic planning process is also in full swing, as is our budgeting process. We will vote on both at the upcoming Homecoming Meeting. We have decided to launch a Cross-Committee Initiative to try to improve the Reunion experience in partnership with Development & Alumni Relations (DAR). Integrating our 15 new members will be a focus at Homecoming, and we will also look forward to meeting and hearing from the students that benefitted from our Bucknell Public Interest Program (BPIP) internship funding. Exciting things are ahead for Bucknell. Please “join the herd” in opening doors, volunteering, giving back, engaging and returning to the University!

‘ray Bucknell!

Tara
Reunion Weekend 2016 has come and gone. Each year I am amazed at how University staff and extraordinary volunteers come together to create a special weekend for all of the alumni who return home. This year’s celebration included nearly 2,300 guests, more than 100 events, 175 alumni volunteers, and too many laughs and hugs to count. The Alumni Association had the opportunity to recognize four distinguished alumni, Yoshi Maisami ’01, Amy Rowe Klement ’96, Guy Williams ’76, and Bentley Elliott ’66, for their achievements and loyalty to Bucknell. The University also conferred its most significant honor, the Stephen W. Taylor Medal, to Alan Walker ’66, upon recommendation by the president and Board of Trustees.

Campus was also busy throughout the 2015-16 school year. Bucknell welcomed Barbara Altmann as its new provost, celebrated the Board of Trustees’ approval to create a College of Management, and appointed Patrick Mather as the new dean for the College of Engineering. Former dean, Keith Buffington, will continue to share his expertise by rejoining the engineering faculty.

Reunion marked a changing of the guard with the leadership of the Alumni Board and the final meeting of many long-tenured board members completing their terms of service. These folks were part of a remarkable period for the BUAA and we are so grateful for the time, leadership and dedication they shared with the Alumni Association and Bucknell.

Few people know the amount of time that is required to be the President of the Alumni Association, and only one knows the commitment required to do so from California, Melissa Plaisance ’82 P’13. Melissa’s commitment was nothing short of extraordinary. She attended just about every meeting over the course of her nine years on the board (twenty-seven trips back to Lewisburg!), and was constantly engaged, guiding the board with a vision for the future. On behalf of the entire University, we extend our thanks for her distinguished service.

Finally, please join me in officially welcoming Tara Garrity Lebda ’94 as the next Alumni Association President. While her term begins July 1, she has been a passionate advocate for Bucknell for many years. The board is excited for the path forward under her leadership. Congratulations, Tara!
BUCKNELL REFLECTIONS:
MY TIME AS A STUDENT ON THE BUAA
CONNOR MCLAUGHLIN '16

One of my greatest involvements over the four years at Bucknell was the opportunity to serve as a student member on the BUAA Board of Directors. Unlike some of my other extracurricular activities, it was a position that I did not acquire easily. I applied and interviewed for a position at the end of my first-year, but was passed over for older and more experienced students who had also applied during that same cycle. I decided to reapply at the end of my sophomore year, and was lucky to have been accepted the second time around. Despite being rejected from the position at first, I did not let this discourage me. If I had merely given up after my first try, then I would have never been able to experience for myself the incredible engagement and commitment that exists within the BUAA Board of Directors.

Upon arriving at my first meeting in the fall of 2014, I was placed on the Admissions and Transitions (A&T) Committee. Because of my experiences as an Admissions Ambassador and a counselor for a pre-orientation program, I had requested the A&T Committee as my top choice on my application. I was lucky to have been placed on the A&T Committee with some incredible alumni who gave me more responsibility than I ever thought possible. For instance, I still remember when the A&T Chair, Shari Aser ‘98, told me that she wanted me to play a leading role in organizing the Pennant Program, an event that recognizes seniors that have made significant contributions to the University and alumni community. In doing so, I helped organize a PowerPoint presentation with photos of all of the pennant recipients and delivered a short speech during the ceremony, explaining both the significance of their contributions and the importance of the BUAA as a whole. Additionally, my work on the A&T Committee allowed me to contribute to the structure of First Night, which marks first-year students’ entrance into the alumni community. I’m grateful to all of my fellow A&T Committee members for being so receptive and open to my recommendations about our A&T programs, as it made me feel that I was contributing positively over my short two-year term as a student.

On May 2, 2016, I had the opportunity to address members of the Class of 2016, gathered in the Weis Center for the Performing Arts for the annual Senior Sunset. This is a celebratory sendoff that commemorates the end of the final day of classes as students at Bucknell. As I welcomed seniors to the opening reception in the Weis Center lobby, I continued to reflect on my time as a student member of the BUAA. In representing the BUAA as one of the speakers at Senior Sunset, I told the class that, “Just as our choices over the past four years have shaped our experiences as Bucknellians, how we choose to continue our affiliation with Bucknell over the coming decades can shape this University for generations to come.” I continue to believe in those very words, and I plan to continually stay engaged with Bucknell as I enter the alumni community. It is my hope to be able to return to the BUAA as an alumnus following my medical school training and residency.
We wish our very best to our retiring board members:

Victor Arcelus '96, Executive Committee – Memberships and Nominations
Joel Berelson '85, Executive Committee – Chair, Clubs and Young Alumni
Cheryl (Cooper) Boyd '79, Admissions and Transitions
Leslie (Hall) Convey '00, Strategic Planning
Frank Davis '82, Career Advisory
Matthew Garman '96, Executive Committee – Vice President of Finance
Pete Griffin '00, Communications
Hood Johnston '72, Strategic Planning
Deborah (Rodgers) Lyons '74, Career Advisory
Anthony Mariniello '90, Strategic Planning
Peter Matieson '83, Finance
J.D. Moriarty '94, Development
Lynn (Falkenbach) Mull '98, Memberships and Nominations
Rick Peters '76, Admissions and Transitions
Melissa (Campbell) Plaisance '82, President
Robert Scott '85, Vice President

We also wish our student board members success in their future endeavors:

Grace Elliott '16 studied education while at Bucknell and plans to teach at Success Academy in New York City.
Madeline Harrison '16 graduated with a degree in history and political science. She recently joined Deloitte Consulting as a business analyst.
Connor McLaughlin '16 majored in biology and chemistry. He plans to continue his education at Drexel University College of Medicine.

During Reunion Weekend, the Alumni Association Board celebrated the service of nearly 20 of its members as they completed their terms of service by recognizing their accomplishments, leadership, commitment, and above all else — friendship.
Why did you get involved with the BUAA and what has the experience been like?

I have volunteered for Bucknell in different capacities since graduation and this felt like the next logical step. It is a commitment of time and travel and I was ready to give more. The BUAA experience has been so much better than I expected. Doing meaningful work on behalf of the University is extremely fulfilling. And to be able to make a connection with alums I would have never otherwise met has been the biggest unexpected gift.

Why did you want to run for President of the BUAA?

I felt that having been on the board for the past six years (and serving as VP of Membership and Nominations for four years) prepared me for this role. I was also encouraged by my friend Katie Malagüe ’94 (former BUAA president). I approach it with humility and gratitude that the team I work with is made up of phenomenal people.

What are some of your strategic goals you hope to accomplish during your term?

Increasing the opportunities for alums to engage with the University, deepening our student interactions, and partnering with Development and Alumni Relations (DAR) to help them improve relations with alumni. I hope we can encourage Bucknellians to view their relationship with Bucknell as one that lasts for a lifetime.

The BUAA plays many roles, where do you think the board has the greatest impact?

Our students say they appreciate our interactions as it bridges the “here and now” with the future. This allows them to envision what might be next for them and how they can continue to influence Bucknell for the current as well as future classes.
Southwest National Parks
October 5 - 14 | 2016

Immerse yourself in the majestic beauty of the American Southwest, discovering the geological wonders of our national parks including visits to Grand Canyon, Zion, and Bryce Canyon. Millions of years of uplift and erosion have left a spectacular, monumental imprint across America’s Southwest plateau.

Go where hoodoos, slot canyons, arches, buttes, and mesas fill vast horizons with impossible beauty; and learn about the Americans of “Red Rock Country” who shaped our nation’s history.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS:
• Explore the Southwest’s natural wonders with two knowledgeable Orbridge Expedition Leaders.
• Experience a Navajo cookout and storytelling, take a 4-wheel drive tour through Monument Valley, and take in the beauty of the Grand Canyon.
• Follow the paths of Ancestral Puebloans and pioneers at Zion National Park, walk between monolithic hoodoos in Bryce Canyon National Park, and visit Arches National Park to see its intricately eroded arches.
• Enjoy special inclusions such as a Glen Canyon rafting trip and a visit to beautiful Antelope Slot Canyon.

WHAT’S INCLUDED:
9 nights accommodations; 9 breakfasts, 3 lunches (2 are picnic-style), and 6 dinners; a welcome reception in Las Vegas; wine tasting in Moab; admission and park fees throughout; transport via private deluxe motor coach; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

BUCKNELL 360°
Bring learning full circle

Lifelong learning isn’t just a catch phrase for Bucknell 360°, a designation that highlights programs and events focused on education as well as a series of webinars, which launched this past fall by the Alumni Office.

Under the umbrella of Bucknell 360°, the office hosts webinars featuring alumni and faculty experts. These sessions allow Bucknellians too busy to travel back to campus or who live in an area without club activities to engage with the University online from the convenience of their home or office. These easily digestible 30-minute lectures feature relevant and timely topics from seasoned and newly minted professors as well as alumni experts. The program’s goal is to bring learning “full circle” with a mix of global, virtual and on-campus events. Ten webinars have been held so far, covering a wide range of topics. If you missed an event, recordings are available at Bucknell.edu/360.

Registration is now available for fall webinars featuring:
Is There a Secret to Aging Well?
September 15, 2016
Professor Mick Smyer, psychology, draws lessons from gerontology and geriatrics to answer one simple question: How shall we age?

Need Braaaaaaaains?
October 6, 2016
Professor Clare Sammells, anthropology, explains how zombies offer an undead critique of capitalism — from the horrors of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade to The Walking Dead.

Dreams Deferred: The Challenges Facing Millennials
November 17, 2016
Professor Jennifer Silva, sociology, examines the transition to adulthood among American youth, exploring the freedoms and challenges of coming of age in the 21st century.

Bucknell UNIVERSITY
Alumni Association
WWW.BUCKNELL.EDU/TRAVELPROGRAM
The Bucknell University Alumni Association (BUAA) Board of Directors is always looking for ways to give back to the University and for ways to connect with current students. One way that they are able to do both is with a BUAA grant. Grants are available to support projects that bring students and alumni together and further the mission of the BUAA, which is to represent alumni, engage Bucknellians and promote and enhance Bucknell University.

At the October 2015 Board Meeting, I sat with a current student named Caitlin Maloney ’16 during the Pennant Program presentation and dinner. And I had a long talk about our organization that she founded called Athena. She mentioned that they would like to host a panel discussion during Women’s History Month pertaining to public service. I encouraged her to consider applying for a BUAA grant as I considered this a very good way to bring students and alumni together.

What is Athena? Athena is an international organization with many chapters on college and university campuses. Its mission is to empower women in all realms of their lives. Bucknell’s Athena chapter is structured in three initiatives: leadership, philanthropy and campus education and empowerment. To do this they partnered with Teach for America, worked with YWCA in Williamsport and Family Planning Plus to assist low-income individuals and last but not least, aim to educate females on campus about women’s issues and empower women at Bucknell.

Athena has been very successful in their short time at Bucknell: they were recognized as one of the premier university chapters and their founder, Caitlin, was awarded the student of the year by the Bucknellian. The group was recognized this past spring as the recipient of both the President’s Diversity and Inclusion Student Organization Award and the student organization of the year at the Student Affairs Award ceremony.

With the grant that Athena received from the BUAA and additional funding through the CDC and Women’s Resource Center, they were able to hold a dinner and panel discussion. The national theme of Women’s History Month was “Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government,” so Athena invited five former students who are all leaders in their field to serve as panelists. They were Madeline Adler ’02, who is the Chief of Recruiting for the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps; Sara Espinoza ‘02, the Managing Director at the National Environmental Foundation; Katie Malague’94 (former BUAA member and President!), the Director of the U.S. Treasury Department’s Office of Strategic Planning and Performance; Beth Mooney ’95, the creator of Girls Take Charge, and Judge Erika Tindill ’91.

Over 70 students (close to capacity) attended the dinner, and after a moderated panel discussion, were given a chance to ask some questions of the panelists. Reviews after the event were overwhelmingly positive. Many attendees expressed their gratitude at being able to attend such an event and found the panelists to be extremely motivating, noting that it was a privilege to listen to them. Attendees left feeling empowered that they
too could someday be just as successful. Freshman Caldwell Harden put her feelings like this ‘[she was] excited for the event and it was nice to have alums come back and hear their experiences. It was also good to hear what Bucknell provides and [the alums] experiences on campus and how they led the alums to where they are today.’

The panel held by Athena was an excellent way for the BUAA to engage current students and bring them together with alums. It is this type of event that hopefully more student organizations will have and consider the BUAA for partial funding.
REUNION 2016 IN PHOTOS
Save the date!

for Reunion Weekend • June 1–4, 2017!

Celebrating class years ending in 2s and 7s, as well as all Emeritus alumni.