



VITERBO UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Meeting Minutes
Saturday, August 20 – 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Present via zoom: Kyle Jennings, Jed Barton, Terri Pedace

Present: Avery Gerstenberger, Pat Stellflue, Jacob Hart, Scott Stene, Doug Beinborn, Carrie Kirsch, FSPA, James Lawrence, Joan Schreck, Marlene Hendrickson, Amanda Christianson, Chris Nelson, Brett May, Jessica Himmer, Jim Salmo, Kathy Duerwachter, Rick Trietley

Emeritus members and special guests in attendance: Margaret Hammell, Doris Doherty Gasper

- **Meeting called to order:** 9:00 a.m.
- **Prayer** = Chris Nelson
- **University Update - Rick Trietley**
 - 325 new students - freshman and transfers to arrive this fall
 - 1,100 total undergrad with 2,100 total grad and undergrad students
 - Freshman class - 3.5% average GPA, 82% from MN/WI, 31% first generation, 47% student athletes
 - Currently just had the highest summer enrollment in 5 years which was a 6% increase from last summer
 - Currently have 250 military aligned students - just named in the top 10 military friendly schools
 - 20 sports teams
 - e-sports is the newest edition to begin this fall
 - New programs - speech pathology, computer science, master of nursing, doctoral degree in ethical leadership
 - Engineering program started 4 years ago so now the accreditation will begin
 - Key partnerships
 - Aquinas High School - students take classes
 - University of Luxembourg - working on an agreement
 - Peru - Casa Hogar working to coordinate spring break trips, service projects and study abroad opportunities
 - Working on one new agreement per year
 - Jim Salmo and his team are working on a possible capital campaign for 2025. The next step is a feasibility study.
 - Any student who is pell grant certified will be able to come to Viterbo for free which is a great mission.
 - 50 new employees to begin this fall - amount is similar to last year
 - Vision 2027 "Imagine, Believe, Act" was shared.



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- **Team building activity** - each person interviewed another board member and shared what they learned.
 - **Pillar One - Education and Board Orientation - Kathy Duerwachter**
 - Each board member was given a binder of university and campus information. Please review details on your own time to better educate yourself.
 - **Pillar Two - Alumni Engagement - Kathy Duerwachter**
 - Events calendar given to each board member. Each member is encouraged to participate in upcoming events. Please sign up on the website for volunteer opportunities.
 - Oral history project - currently 2,664 people have responded and the deadline to respond is December 2.
 - **Pillar Three - Philanthropy - Jim Salmo**
 - Advancement Organization chart was reviewed and positions were described to give the board a better understanding of the overall structure and roles.
 - The fundraising cycle and donor cycle were reviewed to better educate board members about the importance of giving and the strategy behind each ask.
 - The team is working toward a campaign with the next step being a feasibility study.
 - Day of Giving is October 6th. The board is encouraged to give, encourage others to give and to help promote the event via social media. There will also be opportunities to volunteer to make calls for donations or thank you calls to those who have donated. More information to come out soon.
 - **Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm. with lunch and campus tour to follow meeting**
 - **Mark your calendars for our next alumni board meeting, Thursday, Nov. 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**