

Report of the Andover Alumni Council, 2020–2021

Stephen E. Matloff '91, P'24, Alumni Council President

The Andover Alumni Council is the governing body of the Andover-Abbot Alumni Association, whose membership includes all alumni/ae of Phillips and Abbot academies. The council seeks to promote beneficial relations by strengthening connections among alumni and serving as a liaison with the Academy. As outlined in its Strategic Plan, the council's vision is "to enrich the lives of our alumni by inspiring them to live the values of the Academy and be catalysts for lifetime engagement."

The Alumni Council had a productive and impactful year as self-isolation and social distancing needs continued. While campus was closed to outside visitors all year long—which prevented the council's in-person meetings—the council continued its work in new and different ways using online platforms. Interestingly, certain aspects of the council's virtual gatherings were so productive that plans are in place to continue using such meetings when conditions allow a return to "normal" in-person gatherings.

The Alumni Council comprises approximately 140 members and meets each fall and spring, conducting much of its work through eight standing committees and several association committees.

Here are some highlights of each committee's work:

- The Alumni Admission Representatives Committee partnered with the Office of Admission in hosting the most AAR interviews in the history of the program. All interviews were held virtually.
- The Alumni Communications Committee, in partnership with the Office of Alumni Engagement, continued to support Switchboard, a networking platform for the Andover Alumni Community, and circulated fall and winter issues of the Andover Alumni Volunteer Newsletter.
- The Annual Giving Board (AGB) helped to drive attendance to a "Spotlight" event series, which highlighted some of the programs supported by the Andover Challenge for Equity & Inclusion. AGB also co-hosted, in partnership with Annual Giving staff, several agent training opportunities. The committee also provided feedback and collaboration on fundraising communications and PA Giving Day and will help OAR to close out the fiscal year by assisting with personal outreach to non-donors.
- The Athletics Committee reviewed candidates and selected the 2021 Andover Athletics Hall of Honor inductees: Lewis Brown '99, Elizabeth "Bets" Kent '73, Kristin McDonald Kinney '77, Kanu Okike '97, and Hunter Washburn '00. The virtual induction ceremony for the 2020 and 2021 inductees took place on Thursday, June 10, 2021.
- The Class Secretaries Committee hosted virtual gatherings for class secretaries of various decades. The committee continues to send a biannual newsletter to all class secretaries.
- The Equity & Inclusion Committee hosted two virtual events: "At the Table: A Conversation Around Religious Identity" facilitated by Rev. Gina M. Finocchiaro '97 and "Health Disparities in Underrepresented

Communities and COVID-19 Vaccine Development" with Dr. Vanessa Kerry '95, Dr. Zeke McKinney '99, Dr. Sachiko Ozawa '99, and Dr. Amy Patel, PA medical director, moderated by the committee's own Dr. Parmanand Singh '97.

- The Regional Volunteers Committee helped the Office of Alumni Engagement in moving to monthly Regional Leadership Team meetings and helped promote "Meet Our 16th Head of School" events that took place during the year.
- The Non Sibi Committee continued to support and promote virtual Non Sibi projects and affirmed leaders and participants with an invitation to the Non Sibi Speaker All-School Meeting. Working with various organizations, alumni have led efforts such as letter-writing campaigns and goods donations.
- Abbot@Andover hosted "Unwrapping the History of Chocolate and Making Abbot Heavenly Goo" with Priscilla Martel '74 and Jina Corneau '03 and "A Conversation with Julia Alvarez '67 and English Instructor Jineyda Tapia".
- The Af-Lat-Am Alumni Committee hosted a variety of virtual events, including community discussions on economic justice and race relations. The committee continues to print a quarterly newsletter as well.
- The 2020 Andover Alumni Award of Distinction recipients were celebrated during the *Finis Origine Pendet* All-School Meeting in fall 2020, and the committee has selected the 2021 recipients to be celebrated during the upcoming academic year.
- Andover and the Military hosted the 11th Annual Veterans Day Program virtually on Wednesday, November 11, 2020, with retired Cmdr. Sali Gear '79 as the keynote speaker. By having this event virtual, veterans unable to come to campus were able to be with us. We were also able to send off Lt. Livy Coe '04, who was being deployed in a few weeks.
- The Governance Committee made tremendous progress on an exhaustive bylaws review. The revised bylaws were approved by council during the fall meeting.
- The Nominating Committee reviewed nominations for Alumni Council membership and presented a slate of 29 new members, which was approved by the Executive Committee.

Doug D'Agata '88, Marisa Connors Hoyt '99, and Tracey Mullings Reed '92 will conclude their terms as vice presidents at the end of June. Steve Matloff '91 will conclude his term as president and roll into the position of past president for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2021.

Board of Trustees President Amy Falls '82, P'19, '21, has appointed Jenny Amstutz '86 as the next president of the Alumni Council. Jenny's term as council president will run from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2024.

For more information or to express your interest in Andover's Alumni Council, please email Karleigh Antista in the Office of Alumni Engagement.