

Durham College Alumni Association Annual General Meeting

Date: September 11, 2019
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Esports Gaming Arena

Board Members Cameron Ackerblade, Carrie-Anne Atkins, Nicole Blackman, Ryan Cullen, Gabby DeSousa, Elaine Garnett, Vanessa Hughes, Jonathan Hurter, Brent Lessard, Amanda Morari, Peter Wiebe

Regrets: Lorraine Fuller

In Attendance: Approximately 70 people in attendance-see attached list

Guest speaker: Sarah Wagg, Manager Esports Gaming Arena

Staff: Linda Flynn, Sally Hillis, Lisa McInerney, Jennifer Clark, Catherine Hardman, Julie VanHartingsveldt, Jana Forsyth

1.0 **Welcome**

At 7:10 p.m., DCAA Board President, Cameron Ackerblade, welcomed DC Board of Governor chair, Ivan DeJong, DCAA past presidents, Board of Directors, Leaders of Future Award recipients, alumni and staff. He gave special recognition to Susan-jane Frank, Divine Cuisine, who is a DC Alumna and caterer of tonight's event. Cameron also recognized Elaine Garnett as retiring board director and thanked her for her years of service on the board. Elaine served on the board for 6 years, President for one year and was a member of several board committees including Alumni of Distinction, Nominating, Strategic Planning and the Constitution Committee.

2.0 **Durham College Update – Don Lovisa, President**

Cameron introduced Don Lovisa, president of Durham College who provided an overview of the past year commenting on how rewarding it is to see the growth of the DCAA and its activities. Highlights of his report include:

- Great start-up with the dedicated DC student association, DCS Inc.
- Proud to have young alumni guest speakers at the convocation ceremony inspiring students
- Congratulations to 3 Premier's Award nominees- Cailey Jones, Beverley Woods and Andy Popko
- Special recognition of Leaders of Future award recipients in attendance this evening
- Currently working on Durham College's Strategic Plan and will seek input from students and alumni.
- Focus for this next year will be the Whitby Campus expansion.

Don thanked the DCAA for their ongoing support of alumni and our students.

3.0 **Guest Speaker Sarah Wagg**

Cameron introduced guest speaker, Sarah Wagg, Manager of Esports Gaming Arena. Sarah gave a high-level overview of the new facility advising this is a new home for gaming community; a Varsity sports team has been established and will be competing on a provincial, national and international level; Esports is part of the DC academic program providing opportunities for experiential learning and a certificate in Esport Business Management.

4.0 **Adoption of Previous Minutes dated September 12, 2018**

Cameron reviewed the minutes of last year's annual general meeting and addressed the Endowment Fund concerns raised last year. He advised that a meeting was held with Bob LaCroix, Lillian Jacoby, board members and staff on September 25, 2018. As part of the discussion, documents were reviewed that guide the DCAA including the Memorandum of Understanding between Durham College and DCAA, Constitution and Endowment Fund Gift Agreement. As per the DCAA mandate to support students and alumni, funds will continue to be allocated to the Endowment Fund or disbursed in a manner consistent with these documents.

Motion to accept the DCAA Minutes dated September 12, 2018:

C. Ackerblade

2nd: E. Garnett

Motion Carried

5.0 **President's Report – Cameron Ackerblade**

Cameron gave his report using a power point presentation, touching on the highlights from the past year including:

- Overview about the DCAA, Board of Directors and Office of Development and Alumni Affairs
- Review of DCAA Strategic Plan (2018-2021)
- 2018-2019 Alumni Initiatives including the establishment of board policy/procedure for Requests for Donations or Sponsorship; DCAA Partnership with Enactus DC; DCAA Leaders of the Future Awards and the Alumni Mentorship Program
- DC Alumni Member Benefits
- DC Alumni Connect- launch of the alumni mobile app designed to make staying connected after graduating more rewarding
- DCAA supports Durham College and its students including the backpack2Briefcase program, Alumni Guest Speaker program, Student Awards, capital projects and the Holiday Food Drive

Cameron thanked Don, the DCAA board, Linda and her staff and all those who have supported the alumni activities this past year.

Motion to accept the President's report: C. Ackerblade

2nd: R. Cullen

Motion Carried

6.0 Finance Report – Sally Hillis (see 2018-19 DCAA Annual Report)

Sally gave a high-level review of the Finance Report noting the fiscal year is September 1-August 31 and the finance report in the Annual Report is actual revenue/expenses as of July 31 with estimates to period ending August 31, 2019.

Highlights include:

- Budget of \$130,000. Total revenue exceeded projected revenue by 4% and total expenses were under budget by 3% resulting in small surplus of approx. \$1000.
- TD Insurance contract which offers special rates on home, auto and travel insurance was sent out to tender this past year. Four companies participated and TD Insurance offered the best package. Contract was re-signed for 10 years.
- For the first time, Board was able to invest \$100,000 in a short-term GIC earning approximately \$1000 in interest income.
- \$12,000 was disbursed in 19 scholarships ranging from \$500-\$1000.
- The third year of a five year CFCE campaign pledge was made for \$50,000
- As part of the DCAA/Enactus DC partnership, \$15,000 has been pledged for 2 years and \$6500 was transferred in the first year.
- Bank balance as of August 20 is \$174,821 including the GIC.

Endowment Fund

Opening balance	\$338,405
Bursaries (9 x \$1000)	9,000
Closing balance	\$347,707
Joint Endowment with OACETT (2012) (Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists)	1600 (2 bursaries)

Motion to accept the Finance report: C. Ackerblade

2nd: B. Lessard

Motion Carried

7.0 Constitution Committee Report- Jonathan Hurter, Co-Chair

Jonathan highlighted proposed amendments to the September 16, 2015

Constitution including:

- Format improvement
- Addition of a definition section
- Changes to term of office (president- 2 years to 1 year)
- Addition of second vice president
- Clarification of Student Representative and recruitment procedure given the change in Student Association which is no longer a partnership with Ontario Tech University
- Honorary Alumni- proposal to extend this special membership category to DC Retirees as defined by the Durham College Human Resources Department. The Honorary Alumni Membership is non-voting and ineligible to serve on the DCAA Board of Directors.

Motion to approve proposed amendments to DCAA Constitution dated September 16, 2015 as presented to the alumni membership: C. Ackerblade

2nd: E. Garnett

Motion Carried

Nominating Committee Report - Cameron Ackerblade, Chair

Cameron welcomed 3 new board members- Carrie-Anne Atkins, Gabby De Sousa, Lorraine Fuller who filled vacancies on the Board of Directors. He also thanked Michele Roberts, Shane Cicchine and Meredith Dodge for their years of service. He reviewed the 2019-20 slate of DCAA Board of Directors noting there are 4 positions for election. Current board directors Jonathan Hurter, Amanda Morari, and Peter Wiebe have agreed to serve a second term and Amanda MacDonald has agreed to stand for election for a three year term.

Motion to accept the Nominating Committee report and the 2019-2020 DCAA Board of Directors:

C. Ackerblade

2nd: N. Blackman

Motion Carried

Leaders of the Future Award – Elaine Garnett, Chair

Elaine gave a brief description about how this award was established and criteria for selection committee. She and Brent Lessard presented 18 recipients with their award money of \$250 and congratulations letter.

8.0 Closing Remarks

Cameron thanked everyone for coming. He reminded everyone of upcoming alumni events including Alumni Family Gaming Night on November 12 and Oshawa Generals game on January 31.

Ben Bramley, Esports staff, was invited to explain rules for accessing gaming stations in the Esports arena.

9.0 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

C. Ackerblade

2nd C. Vale

A group photo was taken of guests in attendance with reception to follow and access to gaming stations.