

AAFA Meeting Notes  
May 24, 2014  
ASMSA Board Room

Daniel Sims ('05) opened the meeting and welcomed attendees along with Vicki Hinz, Development Specialist, and Corey Alderdice, ASMSA Director.

Director Alderdice discussed the extended celebration of ASMSA's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The first class started in 1993 and graduated in 1995; thus, 2015 will conclude the celebration. This year ASMSA will also celebrate its 2,000<sup>th</sup> graduate and 10 years as part of the University of Arkansas System. A Director of Admissions and Public Affairs will be hired, taking over direction of the public affairs office from the Director of Institutional Advancement. This will allow the new Director of Institutional Advancement to dedicate more time to ASMSA alumni. The alumni database is a priority as the legislators who write checks want to see the return on their investment. They want to know how the ASMSA experience made a difference in our graduates' lives and the occupational path they have taken. We want to utilize our alumni as a resource for current students for networking and mentoring purposes.

In August 2013, a pilot Association for Alumni & Friends of ASMSA (AAFA) was formed. B.J. Walker ('95) and Daniel Sims ('05) represent AAFA at the ASMSA Foundation Fund Board of Ambassadors.

The AAFA will:

- a. Promote the institutional interests of the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts.;
- b. Promote the interests of all current and past students, faculty and staff associated with the institution;
- c. Serve as a voice for graduates of ASMSA in matters affecting the institution's continual reputation as a leading educational institution;
- d. Provide alumni of the institution with a central hub to connect with classmates and other alumni; and
- e. Partner with the ASMSA Foundation Board of Ambassadors to raise money for the institution.

Communication and re-engagement with alumni was discussed. The ASMSA *Tangents* magazine should have a specific back page for alumni updates, announcements and news. Our goal is to provide each alumnus with a copy of the *Tangents* magazine which will be published twice a year. Most of the information that we have on file are parents' home addresses, so updates are crucial by going to [asmsa.org/alumni](http://asmsa.org/alumni). It was suggested that ASMSA have a champion from each class. The following volunteered to represent their class: Lacy Tedder Wolfe – Class of 1999; Jodi Verser and Deb Sesser – Class of 2004.

Mark your calendars for Memorial Weekend in May (ASMSA Commencement Ceremonies) each year to participate in commencement activities and Alumni Weekend. It was suggested that ASMSA

hire a childcare facility to be available for babysitting services during the entire weekend. Families are welcome and parents will have to pay *in advance* for babysitting privileges.

**We need you to serve as a *Class Champion*, contact Vicki at [hinzv@asmsa.org](mailto:hinzv@asmsa.org)**