



Alumnae Alliance Council Call
Thursday, June 19, 2025
7:00 PM

Participants: Katrina Bills '97, Cortney Lewandowski '12, Arielle Morgan '15, Lola Bailey '95, Beth Kearns '85, Sarah Clement '75, Courtney Hurt '10, Annamarie Spencer '13

1. Welcome, Reminders, and Agenda Review (7:00-7:05PM)
 - a. Welcome new Sweet Work Weeks co chair Annamarie Spencer '13
 - b. Sorrowful goodbye to Natalie and Jackie 😭 We will miss you!!
2. AR&D Update (7:05-7:10PM) - Lee Anne Chaskes
 - a. The deadline to donate to Sweet Briar this fiscal year is June 30th.
Currently, the AAC has 46.7% of its members participating this year.
 - b. [AR&D Campus Update](#)
3. Working Group – Key Needs or Questions (7:10-7:15PM)- *Updates to be provided beforehand*
 - a. Young Alumnae Support (Arielle Morgan)
 - i. Welcome back cards
 - ii. Discussing ways to retain members and gain new members
 - b. Governance and Strategic Initiatives (Beth Kearns)
 - i. We have communicated (via email) to our current working group an update from the April meeting, and the impending move to incorporate responsibilities from this team into the broader Executive Council.
 - ii. Our note thanked them, and encouraged each of them to consider taking on a new opportunity within the AAC.*
 - iii. Waiting now on outcomes and final agreement on the new org design and impact on the PoG (already revised from original 2023 version, but will likely need more edits.)
 - c. Alumnae Clubs (Catherine Springer)
 - i. Working on contacting people in the Richmond area who attended reunion

- ii. Coordinating between Norma, Alexis, and myself to get club events promoted more often on social media!
- d. Class Leadership (Kelly Lear Collins)
 - i. All 0s & 5s have slates of class leaders which we will email the names of leaders to classes in July.
 - ii. Currently onboarding of a leadership team of enthusiastic new alumnae for the Class of 2025
 - iii. A new Class Leader Survey will be emailed in early July
 - iv. Class Leader Celebration on July 23 at 1 pm
 - v. Volunteer Leadership Weekend will be held Sept. 19 - 21, 2025. Lodging choices at Elston Inn (nightly fee charged) or Patteson House (free but available on first come, first served basis). Registration will be open in July.
- e. Alumnae Communications (Alexis Meares)
 - i. **Thursday:** Sweet Work Weeks post
 - ii. **Saturday:** Preservation Workshop post
 - iii. **July 2:** Final Sweet Work Weeks registration push
 - iv. **July 4:** Independence Day post
- f. Admissions Ambassadors (Katrina Bills)
 - i. Book Award Season 2025 is complete, next phase will be to reach out to invite winners to apply- Application will open August 1st. We are presented to approximately 22 Juniors in May and June. We have added a \$1000 scholarship if the book award winner is accepted to, and decides to attend, Sweet Briar.
 - ii. Call a thon is new this year- AAs have called over 1600 prospects who had not applied- we have yielded applications and several deposits. We expect to start the call a thon earlier next year.
 - iii. All accepted Students (around 500) received a note of congrats from an AA.
 - iv. Reunion resulted in a few new AAs- total is steady at around 150-
 - v. Deposits: we currently have 111 deposits. We have another 20 we are very confident in- goal is to beat 134 which was the total last year.
 - vi. We will be on "Niche" in the Fall- an alternative to Common App

- vii. Amazon Prime “The College Tour” show on SBC is due to premiere on campus on August 29th.
 - viii. AAs will be asked to cover all of the big NACAC fairs in the Fall 2025 season- most are already covered. 13 Focus States:VA, NC, SC, GA,TN, FL, LA, TX, CA, MD, PA, NJ, NY
 - ix. There is a new “Assistant Director” (previously the Emily Sadler role)- Zach Koon- reports to Taylor- helping with the visit experience
- g. Sweet Work Weeks (Lola Bailey)
 - i. Current count registered and committed: 24
 - ii. Still need: landscaping (weeding) and Library project volunteers
 - iii. Current Projects:
 - 1. Daisy's Closet: Painting, installing display equipment, sorting/washing donations, hanging/displaying
 - 2. Bamboo: cutting/trimming/hauling
 - 3. X Country Trails: clearing/repairing trails
 - 4. Boathouse: Removing bushes from banks along lake
 - 5. Daisy's Garden/SB House: weeding, removing leaves, cleaning benches
 - 6. Library: sorting and recording collection; displaying books
 - 7. Sewing: repairs to donations; make curtain for changing cubicle; upholster two white chairs in MG Parlor or make chair covers
 - 8. Construction: (IF we have volunteers) Construct cover over air unit at FACS; build new wood box for Boathouse; repair fence behind Dining Hall
- h. Council Operations (Courtney Hurt)
 - i. Voted on new structure
 - ii. Working to establish all council meeting schedule for the new fiscal year
- 2. Council Work and Collaboration (7:15-8:00PM)
 - a. Review new Council structure
 - b. Establish Council goals and initiatives for the new fiscal year
 - c. Sweet Work Weeks conversation
 - i. Adding Annamarie Spencer ‘13 as interim co-chair to help Lola this summer

- d. All Council calls for new fiscal year: Does this time still work or do we need to establish another day/time?
 - i. The 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:00pm EST
 - ii. Would like all of AR&D present on these calls

Important Upcoming Dates:

Next Council Call → July 17th