



MACALESTER

**1975 50th Reunion Planning Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, May 01, 2024, on campus**

**Meeting Summary**

**Engagement Subcommittee**

- Alumni Awards Lead is Melvin Collins. Start thinking about who to nominate for an alumni award and send names to Melvin Collins *\*\*This is time sensitive, the alumni award submission deadline is in mid-September 2024.*
- Friday Dinner Lead is Gayle Winegar with support from Debbie Thorne
- Saturday Dinner Lead is Melvin Collins with support from Larry West and Stephanie Farrior
- Golden Scots Induction Ceremony Lead is Sherri Buss with support from Jane Harper
- Formed a committee to work on the Reunion awareness postcard that will be mailed in July
- Overarching 50th Reunion theme discussion: Tapestry + What's Going On
- Conversation on the purpose of Reunion
  - Reconnection (and new connections) with the college, classmates, renewing friendships
  - Songs can bring back memories
  - Time to reflect on life while at Mac and after Mac
  - Panel that talks about things happening in society then and now (Passion for wanting to be seen and heard)
  - Civility as a value
  - What is going on now at the college?
- Brightcrowd platform to be set up soon. This is a web-based program that allows classmates to share information and photos describing what they've been up to since graduation in 1975.

**Gift Subcommittee**

**Morning Session:**

- Discussed the roles and responsibilities of the Gift Subcommittee
- Reviewed the collective giving history of the Class of 1975 as well as the collective giving history of past 50th Reunion classes
- Committee member Introductions
- Reviewed what counts towards class goals, with time for committee member Q&A

**Afternoon Session:**

- Brainstormed what the 50th Reunion class gift goals could look like, with *tentative goals* of:
  - 50% class participation tentatively
  - \$10,000,000 total gift (the class already has \$8,000,000 counting toward the class gift!)
  - 34 James Wallace Society members (8 existing members + 26 new members)
  - *The 50th Reunion class gift goals will be finalized at the August 15, 2024 meeting*
- Discussed the 50th Reunion mailings that will go out to the whole class and shared examples and newsletter resources

**50th Reunion Committee Co-Chairs** (staff contacts: Theresa Gienapp, Trent Russell, Dorothy Jordan)

Kathy Pinkett  
Cathy Polasky

**Gift Subcommittee Co-Chairs** (staff contacts: Theresa Gienapp, Trent Russell, Susannah Garland)

Alan Weingarden  
Kim Shaffer

**Engagement Subcommittee Co-Chairs** (staff contacts: Michaela Harrison, Ashley Nelson)

Melvin Collins  
Gayle Winegar

### **Advancement Staff**

Theresa Gienapp, Director of Planned Giving  
Trent Russell, Associate Director of Planned Giving  
Susannah Garland, Planned Giving Associate  
Dorothy Jordan, Development Associate  
Erin Updike, Director of Alumni Engagement  
Michaela Harrison, Associate Director of Alumni Engagement  
Ashley Nelson, Alumni Engagement Coordinator

### **Upcoming Dates**

- June 6–9                    2024 Reunion
- August 15                Committee Meeting on campus
- November 7              Committee Meeting on campus
- February 18             Committee Meeting on campus
- March 2025              Reunion registration opens
- May 31, 2025            Fiscal Year End
- **June 5–8, 2025        50th REUNION!**

### **Resources**

1975 Volunteer Portal: <https://www.macalester.edu/reunion/class-of-1975/class-of-1975-volunteer-portal/>  
Password = mac1975#

Class of 1975 website (public): <https://www.macalester.edu/reunion/class-of-1975/>