Call to Order – Marita “Mic” Pietrykowski ’70. Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Prayer – Sr. Georgeann Krzyzanowski ’70

Singing of the Alma Mater – Isabel Maria Piana ’69 & ’93. Isabel proposed we learn this song to continue the traditions of Mt. Mary. Sheet music was provided.

Meet the New Director & Introductions – Mic Pietrykowski ’70. Mic thanked outgoing Alumnae Association Director, Sue Nieberle, and introduced the new Director, Andrea “Drea” Miller and the new Engagement Specialist Liz Macken.

University Update - President Eileen Schwalbach, Ph.D. thanked the Alumnae Association for their support and involvement for all that they do. She reported on the 2015-16 Academic Year: The Fashion Program’s 50 year Celebration, the renovations to the Recruitment Center with Tour invitation, Enrollment report, and recruitment with a stronger focus on international student. Mt. Mary has a unique curriculum that brings a smaller pool of potential applicants. There was a brief discussion on the renewed commitment to remain a women’s university. The University is currently undergoing a strategic review on this issue. Alumnae offered to participate in a survey on the possibility of including men in some undergraduate programs. There will be more information to come. Dr. Schwalbach continued to report on new campus renovations: electrical improvements, waterproofing projects, new elevators, new phone system, classroom renovations, a new front door, new lighting and safety alarms. She also reported on the recent flooding in the Gerhardinger Center. Further pending improvements include bathroom renovations in the dorms and replacing computers and installing room scheduling software.

Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes from the October 11, 2014 Board Meeting was submitted by Mary Beth Hauer Plane and seconded by Jean Tauer.

Treasurer’s Report – Mary Potter Hummer ’84. See attached Budget Report. Scholarship restructure discussion: Should we increase the amount from $15K to $20K? Should it be more? With the Starving Artist Show receipts increased due to the admission fee, should we wait to see if the attendance trend which has been going down, continues? We need working capital. It was moved to increase from $15K to $20K by Mary Ellen Luxem, second by Kathy Bloechl. Motion carried.

A Discretionary Fund of $10,000 was proposed. This would give the Executive Committee the ability to respond to request from the University. The Executive Committee would report to the board at the next board meeting. Motion by Kathy Bloechl and second by Jaimie LaPorte Bamberger. Motion carried.
There was a discussion on raising the student relations budget. This was referred to the student relations committee and they can refer their request back to the board. Nancy McConnell Sullivan will get more information on this.

The budget was approved by motion by Debra Mamon and seconded by Jessica Akin.

**Student Recruitment** - Jean Tauer ’72. With co-chair Judi Mucklin, Lea Armand, Drea Miller and Liz Macken, a 2016 project involved with Student Recruitment is in the planning phase. They will explore different avenues, visit schools, and invite students to be part of a team as advisors. There was a discussion of an Alumnae Ambassador Program to represent the university at various functions such as High School Awards Nights. Alums may go to schools to award scholarships. This committee is evolving as a 2016 initiative. They will define goals and choose name of committee and set up a database of volunteers. See Jean if interested in participating...

Break – Tour of Recruitment Center with Steve Dyer, Director of Visitor Services.

**Student Government** – Hailey Hove, class of 2017 presented student government issues. She has a Fashion Merchandising major with English and Business minors. She is the Student Government Secretary. She has a dream to be a fashion journalist. She loves to lead and have a voice and at Mt. Mary, her voice is heard. She reported that SGA has a full board and has been impactful. There are different committees: among them, “Meet and Greet” and Banquet. Elections are in March. Leadership dinner has selected a speaker on social justice issues.

**Madonna & Tower Medals** - Kathleen Schneider asked for Award Nominations. There is a new timeline, from April until the end of June so that the nominees can get published in all journals prior to Homecoming.

**Alumnae Scholars report**

Tori Starr, Jr. Fashion design major, reported on her trip to Paris for a month to study abroad. She took classes on embroidery and how to make hats. She dressed at several fashion shows. She is working on three projects for her junior collection at the spring fashion show on May 8th. It will be at the Harley Davidson Museum again this year. Tori is a recipient of a scholarship for Fashion International in Chicago.

Andrea Roehl, Soph. Biology major, Chemistry Minor. She is a member of Tri-Beta, and as such is involved with women leaders in math and science. She is also involved in Campus ministry, the Women’s Leadership Institute. She is on the Student Athletic Council and involved in a Special Olympics event next Saturday.

SSND Moment – S. Mary Alyce Lach, SSND ’61 - She spoke about how she decided to claim her education at Mt. Mary. She taught 100 first graders while she was attending and how Mt. Mary prepared her for her life even today.

**SAS Report**- Debra Mamon Recap report, Construction of the Menomonee River Parkway should impact this year’s show. It was still decided to keep the location the same as assurances came in from the city that they will give us access to all entrances. Jurying is complete and we have a complete show.

**Update on Design Thinking** – Leslye Schlack recapped the list of past ideas. Key items we are still working on are: host gatherings of potential and current students in home communities.
Evening networking events for young alums, social media presence, Alum recruitment for student recruitment, and the use of alums in classrooms.

**Homecoming update** – Drea Miller...information will be going out as plans are solidified. Save the dates, October 5-11\(^{th}\). Alum awards on Friday evening Oct 9\(^{th}\). This years’ Service Project will be scheduled for October 3\(^{rd}\). The Service Project has a hold on the Hunger Task Force. In the future, the Service Project will most likely move to Founders Day in February, as there were too many conflicts with alums wanting to participate and having the activity during Homecoming week.

**Miscellaneous Discussion** - Report of current alumnae giving: Currently there are only 12.23% alumnae who give to Mt Mary. In order to get partners or companies to donate we need to increase this percentage. Alums can make a giving request of a certain percent in their wills. A goal was set to see 25% of Mt. Mary Alums donate. Mic asked that all present make a donation, no matter what size, before leaving the meeting.

**Recognition** of the oldest Alumnae – Mic read the obituary of Noella Stenger Howlett, 1906-2014, class of 1928. She died in December 2014, just days short of her 108\(^{th}\) birthday.

**Announcement**: April 24, 2015, at Radisson Mt. Mary will host a speaker on Human Trafficking. See Isabella Piana for further information.

Again in learning and keeping the Mt. Mary traditions...Singing of “PALS” before adjournment.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 a.m. for lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Schwantes, Immediate Past President ‘71