

# The Bell



# Across the BOARDS

Community members give back to the College with service

# Hello, alumni and friends of the College!



On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire College community, I am pleased to share this edition of *The Bell* summer supplement with you. This publication is an opportunity to share with our alumni and friends of the College some of the important people who, along with our dedicated faculty and staff, work to make the Thiel College community so special.

You will be introduced to the three boards involved with the College. The Board of Trustees, of which I am the chairperson; the Board of Associates and the Alumni Association Board of Directors each have important roles and provide very specific support for the College.

The Thiel College Board of Trustees, along with the College staff and faculty, compose one of the finest groups of individuals I've ever had the pleasure of working with. It is a privilege and honor to be on the Board of Trustees, and I feel blessed to be a member.

I loved my four years at Thiel, and I want every student to have the

same or an even better experience. I believe that much of my success in life came about because of what I learned and experienced at Thiel. Being a member of the Board of Trustees has allowed me to give back in many ways to the College that continues to inspire me. Throughout my time as a Trustee, I have seen tremendous growth on campus.

One of the biggest changes is the addition of graduate-level programs and majors that are relevant to students today and will benefit them in their career choices. Starting master's degree programs required the Board to consider the degree of investment needed and the return on that investment in terms of enrollment and future careers for our students. The graduate programs in business administration, clinical mental health counseling, communication and leadership, physician assistant studies and speech-language pathology were carefully chosen to not only bring new students to the College but to provide opportunities to prepare students for careers of meaning and purpose.

The improvements that have been made to the Rhodehouse Science Building, the residence life facilities, the gymnasium, outdoor athletic facilities and the grounds in the last few years are phenomenal. By leveraging bond monies and generous donations, the Board has been able to approve those expenditures and the College environment has improved dramatically.

Bringing nursing and other allied health programs and majors to Thiel has benefited enrollment and provided opportunities for students to develop into careers that will last a lifetime. These new programs also fit with our College's new strategic plan by providing a launching pad for the leaders our region and our world need now.

Go Tomcats!



G. Leah Dever '74  
Chairperson of the  
Board of Trustees



# Meet the BOARDS

## BOARD of Trustees

### OFFICERS

G. Leah Dever '74, Chair  
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Fred Haer '65  
Bruce Hartman  
John Hudson  
Rick Huether '74  
Diann Kuder  
Frank Maenpa, Ph.D. '69 H'21  
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Nathan Neely '94  
Margaret "Maggie" (Boose) Norris '78  
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William V. Parker '75  
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Mathew J. Saur, J.D. '11  
Miles Wallace  
Michael Walton  
Cathryn Zawacki '71  
Michael G. Zawoysky '79

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Carl A. Hoffman Jr., D.O. '69 H'10  
James McHugh '62 H'02  
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Mark A. Nordenberg, J.D. '70 H'97  
James Pedas '50 H'89  
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Barry D. Stamm, M.D. '70  
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## BOARD of Associates

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Joseph T. Nairn, D.Mgt. '79, President  
Vicki Poe, Vice President  
Patrick Findle '79, Vice President

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Alan P. Childs, Psy.D.  
James Cunningham III '77  
Matthew Fiore '14  
David L. Hofius '64  
Alex Hudson MBA'21  
Michael J. Kuder

Cris Loutzenhiser  
Chelsea Maukonen, J.D. '14  
Brittany Mears, Ph.D. '07  
James P. Miale '85  
Eric S. Newman, J.D. '99  
Joseph Scarpitti '80  
Scott E. Schul  
John E. Thigpen '86  
Nicholas Travaglianti '11  
Jeffrey Wallace  
Roy W. Wilt '59 H'85

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

### OFFICERS

Renee Bair '99, President  
Damen L. Taylor '95, Vice President  
Lindsey (Bona) Amar '07, Secretary

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Jessica (Peters) Burkley '21  
Angela Campbell '20  
Brett Eckroate '20  
Jim Frank '88  
Marvin Hill '88  
John Marrs '83  
Sara Matczak '17  
Cynthia Maynard-Solos '00  
Frank Newnam '71  
Amy (Myers) Noble '83  
Talia O'Brien '20  
Sean Oros '15  
Liz Prada '04



## ATION Board of Directors

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Michelle (Stahl) Reeper '90  
Kasandra (Wagler) Shawgo '16  
Christopher Shinkman '62  
Gregory Stringer '18  
Hannah Uschock '22

### ***DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE***

Michael Allen '90  
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Nikki (Colpo) Galbo '06  
Angela (Lago) Hughes '97  
James McRoberts '58  
Jessica (Somerville) Phillips '08  
Dawn Salter '95  
Allen Schreiber '99  
David Schreiber '00  
Marion (Norris) Shoemaker '63  
Paul Stibich '05  
John Wotus '74

# All A-BOARD!

Leadership opportunities take shape for alumni and friends of the College through board service



Trustees at Commencement



Trustee meeting on campus

The power of philanthropy is frequently thought of as the dollars that support an organization, but philanthropy means more than treasure at Thiel College. To be sure, those dollars are vitally important, but it also includes the time

commitment of volunteers to make sure transformative experiences happen for everyone affiliated with the College from faculty and staff members to students to alumni. "Board involvement is crucial to the College's future. As a member,



you get to work with other like-minded people with one common goal of honoring the mission and shaping the College,” Trustee and the chair of the investment subcommittee **Ricardo Daley '96** said. “I joined the board to

stay engaged and to give back to Thiel which has given me so much!”

The Board of Trustees, Board of Associates and Alumni Association Board of Directors are the three main boards that serve the College.

The work of the three boards follows the map used by key stakeholders when the new strategic plan, Thiel 2026, was taking shape. These conversations engaged trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners. Members from each of these groups represent the College’s three key boards.

Thiel 2026: Launching the Leaders the World Needs Now, envisions a bold and dynamic Thiel, that engages undergraduate and graduate students in distinctive educational experiences in a diverse, equitable and inclusive learning environment. An important part of that strategy is increased partnerships and community outreach that expands opportunities for students, deepening Thiel’s commitment to service as an asset for Greenville and the region. Developing creative leaders with influence on their careers, lives and the larger world, Thiel will gain recognition as an institution of distinctive strength.

Community members serving on the boards are building a community that is

developing creative leaders who can innovate in a diverse world.

Each Board has its own purpose, but the Board of Trustees is the governing Board of the College. The Board of Trustees is responsible for the oversight of Thiel College. The Board adopts rules, regulations and policies governing Thiel College and has authority over curricular development, use of property, development of facilities and fiscal and human resources management. The Board of Trustees meets formally three times a year on campus.

"I am very excited to be able to be a part of the Board of Trustees. It feels good to be able to help and give back to the school that gave so much to me."

- Nicholas Romano '18



The Trustees approve important decisions after campus constituents thoroughly consider issues. For example, the Board is heavily involved in overseeing and approving the budgeting and spending of the College, as well as all construction projects, new programs and majors, and tenure decisions. One of the most important jobs for the Trustees is symbolized each May when the

Board gives the final approval to the graduation status of all students.

The Board of Trustees currently has 27 members. It can fluctuate from a minimum of 27 members to a maximum of 36 members. One of the newest members of the Board of Trustees will be environmental science graduate **Nicholas Romano '18**, who joins the board as its young alumnus representative in November.

"I am very excited to be able to be a part of the Board of Trustees. It feels good to be able to help and give back to the school that gave so much to me, I would not be in the career field I am in now without the education I gained from Thiel," he said. "I am looking forward to being back on campus and reconnecting with everyone. I am excited to bring a perspective of an environmental graduate to the board of trustee position."

The Trustees do not act alone. Through shared governance, the Board works with College staff and faculty to fully understand issues and determine the consistency with the strategic goals and plans of the College.

"Managing the College through the pandemic taught us all how to communicate in a variety of ways. The work never stopped: we just

## GET INVOLVED!

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, the Board of Associates or the Board of Trustees, contact Vice President for College Advancement Roberta Leonard at

[rleonard@thiel.edu](mailto:rleonard@thiel.edu) or the office's executive assistant Cindy McClelland at [cmcclelland@thiel.edu](mailto:cmcclelland@thiel.edu).



changed the way we were doing it," Chairperson of the Board of Trustees **G. Leah Dever '74** said. "That said, the members of the Board of Trustees benefit greatly by being present on campus three times a year for its meetings. The many committee meetings and subcommittee meetings that are held throughout the year are often done remotely, but the quality of those types of meetings have improved tremendously as the technology improved."

The Board is supported by the College community, the Board of Associates and the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

The Board of Associates serves in an advisory capacity to the administration, weighing in on topics such as academics, student and religious life, enrollment management, finance, buildings and grounds, and advancement. The group meets two to three times per year.



Trustee emeritus  
Ruthanne Beighley, Esq. '73 H'20

"The Board of Associates exists to provide an additional avenue to engage various communities and stakeholders in the life of the College, particularly those not represented by the Alumni Association, Board of Trustees, or any of several student groups, organizations, or fraternities/sororities," Board of Associates President **Joseph T. Nairn, D. Mgt. '79** said. "The BoA provides an additional perspective to the President and Cabinet with regard to new program offerings, high-level planning efforts and other large-scale undertakings by the College that may have an impact on communities not represented by the stakeholders mentioned."

"During my time as a student, I always knew that alumni were there to listen and facilitate a conversation with me about my path and goals."



- **Jessica (Peters) Burkley '21**

Nairn has served on all three of Thiel College's boards.

"The BoA additionally offers the Board of Trustees, the President and Cabinet with differing perspectives on the College, its brand and external image. In doing so the BoA offers an entry for students to

networks and opportunities outside the traditional career development process," Nairn said. "As a seasoned group of professionals, the BoA members often have experiences that have taken them in directions they had not anticipated as undergraduates."

The Alumni Association Board of Directors comprises representatives from the alumni association who are elected to serve a three-year term and may be re-elected to a second term. In addition, at-large members may be elected whose geographic location prevents them from attending meetings but who are interested in promoting the college in their area. Each board member is assigned to one of five committees. The alumni board covers a variety of topics, but they also have a direct hand in planning one of the campus's largest annual events—Homecoming.

"I have a 'pay it forward' philosophy. We have an obligation to past, current and future students to show that commitment to the institution is a life-long endeavor," said Alumni Association Board of Directors Vice President **Damen Taylor '95**. "I can give you several examples of alumni who came back to Thiel to talk to me as a student. I was especially impressed with the alums that 'look like me.' Thiel is my second home

“Board involvement is crucial to the College’s future. As a member, you get to work with other like-minded people with one common goal of honoring the mission and shaping the College.”

- Ricardo Daley '96



and has given me the skills to feed my family for the rest of my life.”

The history of alumni contributing to student success is what motivated recent graduate **Jessica (Peters) Burkley '21** to volunteer for the board.

“It was important for me to join the alumni board to continue building the community around Thiel. During my time as a student, I always knew that alumni were there to listen and facilitate a conversation with me about my path and goals,” she said. “This board has allowed me to stay in touch with fellow graduates from my time but also learn about the experiences and leadership lessons others had when they were at Thiel.”

All three of the boards work with and include, to varying degrees, alumni, donors, trustees, faculty and staff to uphold the College’s high academic standards, safeguard the free exchange of ideas on campus, and ensure that the next generation receives a vibrant and valuable college education at an affordable price.

“Becoming a member of the Board of Trustees is not a decision taken lightly,” Dever said. “Helping direct and guide the future of the College we love is a big responsibility. It requires the dedication of time and energy, but it is so important to the future of our students and our College.”



Trustee Antonio Quarterman, Ed.D. '08 & alumni board member Liz Prada '04



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