

## Meeting Minutes – Class Advisory Senate, 16 July 2024 - FINAL

1. **Call to Order:** Randy Helms '79, called the meeting to order at 1700.

2. **Members in Attendance:** See Attachment 1

3. **Others in Attendance:**

Maj Gen (ret) Brian Bishop, '83, Chair, USAFA AOG Board of Directors

Major Joe Bledsoe '11, Director, USAFA AOG Board of Directors

Mark Hille, '97, President, USAFA AOG & AFAF

Naviere Walkewicz, '99, Senior Vice President, USAFA AOG Alumni Relations and Business Development

Mike Barnes, USAFA AOG Senior Director of Alumni Relations

4. **Previous Minutes:**

[https://aog-websites.s3.amazonaws.com/usafa-org/documents/aog/governance/CAS/CAS\\_Minutes-16\\_Apr\\_2024\\_FINAL.pdf](https://aog-websites.s3.amazonaws.com/usafa-org/documents/aog/governance/CAS/CAS_Minutes-16_Apr_2024_FINAL.pdf)

5. **Randy Helms, '79, President Class Advisory Senate:**

- Randy announced new Senators: Pete Knepell is the new senator for '67, J. Wilson is the new Senator for '96, and David Petey Arnold is the new Senator for '97.
- Randy introduced the guest speaker, Major Joe Bledsoe, '11, Director, AOG USAFA Board of Directors. Maj Bledsoe briefed the AOG Board election nominations process and criteria. He is a member of the AOG Board nominating committee.

6. **Major Joe Bledsoe, '11, Director, USAFA AOG Board of Directors (See attached Slides at the AOG web site: <https://www.usafa.org/election>):** Major Bledsoe began his remarks by describing the USAFA Board and its nomination process.

- The Nomination Process for AOG Board vacancies began on 1 June 2024.
- 26 July 2024 - The AOG Board will provide nominating committee approvals.
- 7 October 2024 – Nominations close.
- 20 Dec 2024 – Cut-off for graduates to join AOG membership and be able to vote in the Feb/March 2025 Board elections.
- Feb/March 2025 – AOG Board elections.
- April 2025 – New Board members are inducted.
- The Board goal is to have at least 30% of the AOG membership vote in this election.
- There are 5 openings for the new Board.
- The Bylaws state that there must be at least ten candidates for each election (ie, the requirement is: at least twice the number of candidates as there are openings).

- There are two ways to get on the ballot:
  - Petition to be on the ballot; a candidate needs at least 25 AOG members to sign the petition. And send it to the AOG Board Nominating Committee.
  - Submit a nomination package to the Board Nominating Committee.
- Major Bledsoe went over the Desired attributes as noted on the website:
  - Passion.
  - Willingness to leverage Contacts.
  - Time and Energy.
  - Team Player.
  - Courage to Dissent and Motivation to Advocate.
  - Willing to Network.
  - Previous Board Experience, either in the Private, Public, or Non-Profit sectors.
  - Professional Skillsets (civilian/military) – Legal, Squadron/Group/Wing Command, Joint/COCOM Staff, C-Suite experience, Finance, Marketing and Storytelling.
  - USAFA/ AOG/ Foundation Connection: Leadership of the AFA, Officer of an AOG Chapter, Service Academy Selection Committee, AOG Affinity Group Officer, Class Advisory Senator, Air Liaison Officer, USAFA Admissions Officer, USAFA Sponsor Family, Former Board Chair/Vice-Chair, Former AOG Foundation Employee, Parents Club Officer, Former CCLD Employee/Officer.
  - Awards and Recognition: USAFA/AOG post=graduation Award (Jabara, YAEA, LAA, Sullenberger, etc), NCLS Speaker, SABER Society or Polaris Society Member.
  - Military and /or Industry Award Recognition.
- As the Board identifies individuals who express a desire to run for the Board, the Board uses them as additional help.

#### **7. Maj Gen (ret) Brian Bishop, '83, Chair, USAFA AOG Board of Directors.**

- The AOG Board welcomes and encourages all members to run for a Board Director position. Any member can get on the Ballot.
- The recent tendency has been that there are a lot of graduates that seek election to the Board. The Board is trying to develop a way to present them to the membership that makes it easier for members to review the candidates.
- Brian asked the Senators if the Board should recommend 5-10 candidates that have the attributes that the Board is looking for? Senators Tom Hayden, John Borling and Paul Ferguson summed up the discussion with “No, that it would appear as if the Board was pre-selecting its preferred candidates, and possibly even that the Board was selecting its next slate of Directors before the membership votes.

#### **8. Naviere Walkewicz, '99, Senior Vice President, USAFA AOG Alumni Relations and Business Development (See attached slides):**

- Naviere asked Mike Barnes to brief the Long Blue Line Weekend.
  - It will be held 25-28 July 2024. It starts with the Friday Marchback.
  - There will be lunch with the Cadets and a USAFA Leaders Brief.
  - The Leadership Conference will include BGen Letendre, '96, LGen Shwedo, '87, Col Pipes, '98, Col Alexander, '99, Col Primas, '92, and a Young Alumni Panel.
  - There will be several guest participants from different AOG Chapters on Sunday.
- Naviere briefed Upcoming Events and upcoming Class Reunions, and GradCast.
  - Upcoming events includes the Service Academy Career Conference in San Diego (22-23 Aug).
  - Next of Kin Ceremony (23 Aug).
  - Web Guy Social (29 Aug).
  - Falcon Nation Tailgate (31 Aug).
  - Parents Weekend (Aug 30-Sep 2)
  - GradCast features AOG and Foundation news, updates, impacts, people, special features, and events.
    - GradCast drops the first Friday of every month and is available on all podcast apps.

**9. President Randy Helms, '79 led a discussion about a Class Advisory Senate Bylaws change.**

- Page 1 of 3:
  - Wording changes to MISSION, para #1, line #4: change “attempt to resolve differences among these views” to “pass those views on to AOG Board and AOG leadership.”
  - ORGANIZATION, para #1, line #3: delete “or alternate”;
  - ORGANIZATION, para#1, line #4: “/alternate”
  - ORGANIZATION, para #2, line #2: change “6-10” to “10-15”
  - ORGANIZATION, para #3, line #1: add “typically” and “AOG”
  - ORGANIZATION, para #3, line #2: change “following” to “prior to”
  - ELECTION OF CAS OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, para #1, third line #3: Added: “The CAS President will not exceed four two-year terms (eight years total) in a row. This eight years will align with AOG Board Directors max eight years service. There are no limitations on CAS Vice President or Secretary terms.”
- Add para three: “The CAS Officer and Executive Committee elections will be conducted in November of the even year after the CAS Fall meeting. The AOG staff will run the election (One vote per class when votes are taken). The new Officers and Executive Committee members will be inducted at the beginning of January or first CAS meeting of the new year.”
- Dan Beatty, '76 made a motion to accept the changes; J. Wilson, '96 seconded it, all were in favor. Motion passed.

## 10. Other Business / Round Table:

- Senators who made Round Table Comments:
  - Gerry Shaw, '70

## 11. Randy Helms, '79, CAS President, gave brief closing comments:

- Randy again made a call for interested senators to run for the CAS leadership positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Executive Committee. Anyone interested in any position is requested to contact Randy before the October CAS meeting.
- **CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING AND NOT DISCUSSED AT THIS MEETING:**
  - Should the Class Advisory Senate change its annual schedule to mirror the changes recently made by the AOG Board, to change to only three annual meetings, or is it fine as is?
  - Based on a past poor showing at Senate meetings, should there be an institutionalized minimum attendance requirement for Senators to attend Senate meetings? Normally there has been an average of about 30 senators or backups at a CAS meeting.
    - There are twelve classes with senators that have not participated in three years. Randy wrote a letter for the AOG to send to the respective class presidents, asking them if they want to appoint a new senator that will be able to participate in the CAS.

## 12. Next Meetings:

- AOG Board, 26 July 2024
- CAS Executive Committee, 3 September 2024
- CAS, 15 October 2024
- CAS Schedule:  
<https://aog-websites.s3.amazonaws.com/usafaorg/documents/aog/governance/CAS/CAS+Schedule+Jan+2024.pdf>

## 13. Close/Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1830.

Minutes submitted by: Tom Hayden '74, CAS Secretary

Minutes approved by: Randy Helms '79, CAS President

## Attachments:

1. Members in Attendance
2. AOG Alumni Relations Update

# ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY



**AS OF: 16 July 2024**

**Atch 1: Members in Attendance:**

59  
 60  
 61 Patrick Buckley  
 62  
 63 John Borling  
 63 (Lou Matjasko - B)  
 64  
 65 Jim Vick  
 66 Larry Bagley  
 67 Jeff Schofield  
 67 Pete Knepell  
 68 Hartsel Beckett  
 69 Tom Fleming  
 70 Gerry Shaw  
 71  
 72 Ski Wagasky  
 73 A J Ranft  
 74 Tom Hayden - Secretary  
 75  
 76 Dan Beatty  
 77  
 78 Wayne Hermandorfer  
 79 Randy Helms – President  
 80 Derek Hess  
 81  
 82  
 83 Court Collier  
 84  
 85  
 86  
 87  
 88  
 89  
 90 Oliver Washington  
 91 John Cinnamon  
 92 Rick Bailey

93  
 94  
 95 (Tim Gillaspie - B)  
 96 Junk Wilson  
 97 Petey Arnold  
 98 Casey Vile  
 99 Paul Ferguson  
 00  
 01  
 02  
 03  
 04  
 05 John Tamasitis  
 06  
 07  
 08  
 09  
 10  
 11 Dan Liu  
 12  
 13  
 14  
 15 Richie Sapp  
 16 Zach He  
 17 James Hanley  
 18  
 19  
 20 Kristen McKenney  
 21  
 22  
 23  
 24

Names in ( ) are non-senators

“B” = Backup  
 “G” = Guest