2.3 Alumni-Faculty Forums

2.3.1 The Background

Alumni-Faculty Forums (AFF) began in the 1960s and have since become a tradition at Reunions. Forums are composed of panels of three to five alumni, representing major reunion classes and the APGA, and moderated by a faculty member or administrator well-versed in the field the panel explores. Panelists are nominated by the AFF representatives on the basis of their experience and knowledge in the subject topic.

Forums often explore current key issues in health, politics, finance and business, religion, the arts, family life and many others. Some examples include: Big Brother is Watching - Is Privacy a Thing of the Past or Can It Be Reclaimed; Life after Princeton - Roads Less Traveled; To Infinity and Beyond - Innovations in Engineering.

Each discussion is one hour and fifteen minutes in length. The moderator positions the issue and introduces the panelists. Each panelist then briefly presents a perspective after which the moderator leads discussion between the panelists and the audience.

2.3.2 The Alumni-Faculty Forums Committee

The Alumni-Faculty Forums Committee is composed of classmates from the APGA and major reunion classes up to and including the 50th Reunion. The committee selects topics, nominates alumni, and invites and confirms panelists. Meetings are held monthly in Maclean House, from October through February. It is imperative that a class have a representative present if their AFF Chair is unable to attend a meeting.

The Office of Alumni Affairs staff is responsible for much of the logistics and follow-up. They keep track of the progress of panel topic and panelist suggestion, invite the faculty/staff moderators, assign the respective time and location for each panel, and manage the event publicity. In addition, they coordinate the solicitation and editing of biographical information for confirmed panelists and provide confirmation materials and information to all involved participants.

2.3.3 The Alumni-Faculty Forum Chair

The Alumni-Faculty Forums Chair from each class is tasked with coming up with creative and relevant panel topics, as well as ensuring their class is represented well on the respective panels. The panel and panelist selection processes require in-person meetings, so the AFF representative must be available to travel to campus several times throughout the year. In total, the AFF Chair will:

- Represent their class and attend on campus meetings (remote participation is not possible)
- Solicit ideas and panelists from their classmates
- Review documents sent out via e-mail from committee members and Office of Alumni Affairs staff members, which may include Word documents, Google documents, Adobe PDFs, Excel spreadsheets, etc.
- Assist with the collection of biographical information from classmates serving as panelists
Act as a liaison for information about class-sponsored seminars and academic events held during Reunions

2.3.4 Related Information

The Office of Alumni Affairs will provide each AFF Chair with a list of classmates or graduate alumni, sorted by profession, with further information available on TigerNet. Class/APGA officers as well as Class/APGA Annual Giving committee members can also serve as valuable resources. The AFF panels will be held at the following times:

Friday of Reunions:  
8:45 – 10:00 a.m.  
10:30 – 11:45 a.m.  
2:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Saturday of Reunions:  
8:45 – 10:00 a.m.  
10:30 – 11:45 a.m.