Seton Hill College organized an Alumnae Corporation in 1924. The Corporation was renamed the Seton Hill University Alumni Association or “SHUAA” in 2009 and operated as a department of the University under the authority of the Office of Institutional Advancement. In 2016 the University determined an Alumni Advisory Council (Council) be formed to replace the SHUAA Board and to provide the leadership for the University work of all alumni.

The Alumni Advisory Council serves all Seton Hill alumni and operates under the direction of the Office of Institutional Advancement. The Council will operate in accordance with this Council Charter and in accordance with the documents governing the operations of the University.

In keeping with the changing landscape of alumni relations, the Alumni Relations department will work with the Council to capitalize on engagement opportunities in an effort to build the institutional brand, to provide mentors for students and alumni, to identify jobs and internships and to provide philanthropic support for Seton Hill.

**Mission Statement**

The Council supports the mission, strategic vision and values of the University through the establishment of productive and life-long relationships with alumni, current students and the community.

**Vision Statement**

To be recognized as a valuable resource in fostering life-long alumni involvement with Seton Hill University.

**Strategic Objectives**

1. **Engagement**

 The Council provides advice, counsel, and support for alumni-centered activities to the Office of Institutional Advancement for the purpose of establishing and building relationships among alumni, students and the University through tradition and pride. Activities include efforts to further educate constituents about Seton Hill, as well as the University’s students and programs.

1. **Chapter Development and Support**

The Council will assist in the identification of Chapter leadership and will support the development of Chapters in specific areas. The Seton Hill Chapter program provides advice, counsel, and support in the development of programs and activities that encourage alumni globally to gather in the name of Seton Hill by volunteering and networking with local alumni while building personal and professional networks. Each Chapter provides suggestions for activities that include alumni and student opportunities for networking, professional development and community service. The Seton Hill University Development and Alumni Relations Offices will collaborate with the Council to identify potential regions for Chapter development; the Alumni Relations Office will manage the program.

1. **Career Connections**

The University Alumni Relations Office will collaborate with the Council to identify potential Career Connections program participants.

 The Career Connections program provides Seton Hill students with professional alumni contacts at organizations nationwide. In the program, students learn more about their chosen profession and the alumni place of work. Alumni volunteers welcome Seton Hill students who have an expressed interest in their company and connect in a forum where the student can further develop their career initiatives through networking and mentoring.

**Membership**

* Council members must be alumni of Seton Hill, attending the University for at least one full year.
* Officers: President, Vice President, and Secretary (2-year term)
* Directors: 10 members with at least one of those directors representing the Sisters of Charity and at least one GOLD leadership representative (3-year term)
* Ex-officio members: Alumni Relations Office representative; Alumni Trustee-selected by the University President and serving on the Advisory Council and representing alumni on the University Board of Trustees.
* The director membership term is 3 years. Extension is granted to any officer member to satisfy the current term in office. Terms of office for membership will be staggered.
* Council members make nominations for new members and any upcoming vacant officer positions to be submitted to the Alumni Relations Office prior to the spring meeting. The Alumni Relations Office staff review the nominees and include any additional recommendations. A list of nominees for the final ballot will be developed in consideration of current demographic needs that may enhance the work of the Council. This list will be provided to the Council for a final vote at the spring meeting. Council informs new members once the vote is confirmed.

**Committees**

Committees are structured to support various strategic objectives of Seton Hill University. Different committees may develop over time and change according to University priorities. Each committee includes at least one Council representative to provide leadership.

**Ad Hoc Committees**

*Engagement Committee*

This committee will work to strengthen alumni engagement through University-sanctioned activities in support of alumni and students (e.g. Alumni Weekend, Homecoming, Day of Reflection, and Christmas on the Hill, etc.). These events are designed to build relationships and camaraderie among students and alumni as well as engage the audience through tradition and pride. The Committee remains familiar with institutional priorities in an effort to incorporate any opportunity to further promote the work of Seton Hill programming.

*Chapter Committee*

The Advisory Council will assist in identifying and confirming Chapter leadership for regional Chapters. University events to promote the establishment of the Chapters may be developed if determined appropriate by the Alumni Office. Travel to other University events may be required to promote the development of the Chapters in other regions.

*Career Connections Committee*

The Council will assist in identifying and confirming potential Career Connections alumni to participate in the Career Connections program. These alumni connections welcome Seton Hill students who are considering applying to their respective companies. The program is designed to help Seton Hill students make a smooth transition to a new job or prepare for an upcoming interview. Seton Hill alumni may volunteer with the program, and students are encouraged to connect with Career Connections volunteers to know more throughout their career development process.

*GOLD Leadership Committee*

The GOLD Leadership Committee works in collaboration with the Council to increase the involvement of GOLD alumni in the life of the University through volunteer opportunities, regional and on campus events, and career initiatives for students in opportunities that are short in duration, accessible in format, customized to skills and interests, and personally beneficial.

**Financial Support**

As part of their participation in the life of the University, Council members are expected make a gift toward the fundraising efforts of Seton Hill, which conveys their confidence in the strategic vision of the University and demonstrates direct support for Seton Hill students.

**Meeting Attendance**

The Council will conduct business meetings three times per year. Meeting notification will be through email. Non-voting committee members are required to attend Council meetings when actively working on a project. A meeting quorum will consist of a majority of voting Council members. The utilization of technology is encouraged to expedite Council business.

**Adoption and Amendments**

The University and Council adopted this Charter in January 2016. Amendments to this document may be made at any meeting by a two-thirds majority vote of Council members; and, the subsequent approval by the Vice President of Institutional Advance