Elections and Leadership Transition

In order to cultivate new leadership and relationships within a Club, the Alumni Association requests that all volunteer committees hold elections on a regular basis. It is recommended that Clubs set term limits for leadership positions of three (3) years, and that leadership transitions occur the first weekend in May in alignment with the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) Board. Presidential election will be a collaborative process between the Club, VUAA Board, regional volunteers, and the Advancement Office.

Clubs engage in one of two leadership transition models depending on size:

Leadership Council Model

A traditional Club Presidential Election cycle occurs every three (3) years. The election is for the President Elect who will assume the role of President after the newly inaugurated President’s term concludes. The cycle will produce a continual loop of President Elects who will work closely with the current President in preparation for their own term. To buttress leadership transition and continuity, the President Emeritus will serve as an advisor to the Club for one (1) year following their term

Selection Process:

The Club Leadership Council, with the exception of President/ President Elect, is chosen by members of the Club Board. The President/ President Elect is elected by an Advisory Committee consisting of:

1. **Chair** – VUAA Board Member
2. **Vice Chair** – Outgoing President (unless running for a new term)
3. **Secretary** – Club President Appointed Representative
4. **Regional Advisor** – Prominent volunteer living in the Club Region
5. **University Advancement Representative** – Alumni Office or Regional Office Delegate
The Advisory Committee will;

1. Conduct an introductory conference call to discuss the goals of the selection process, and discuss their candidates for President Elect
2. Contact candidates and ask them to submit a formal application
3. Meet to review applications and select finalists
4. Interview finalists
5. Gather to select the next President Elect

The Advisory Committee, in addition to electing the President Elect, will identify new volunteers for the Club and make recommendations to the Club Leadership Council. The Advisory Committee can elect a volunteer sitting on the Advisory Committee as the President Elect if the vote is unanimous.

Committee Model

For Clubs that do not have a large pool of alumni and formalized structure, open elections may be the better option. Unlike the Club Leadership Council, there is no standard progression in the leadership track. It is suggested that when a Club leader completes her/his term, that the leader remain on the board as an advisor. This provides an additional voice of experience, while allowing new volunteers a leadership opportunity.