

MARY BALDWIN COLLEGE

Parent Council

Membership Information and Guidelines

January 2012 (under consideration)

The Parents Association and the Parents Council

The Parents Association, which consists of all parents of current and former students in MBC's traditional, residential program; in the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL); and the College's Program for the Exceptionally Gifted (PEG). Parents of current and former students in the Adult Degree Program (ADP) and the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) {{{don't forget the other masters programs}}}} are also eligible for membership in the Association.

The Parents Council is a select sub-group of the Parents Association. Its members support the goals of Mary Baldwin College through exploration of issues, financial support, assistance with student recruitment, and enhancement of communication between the college and the full Parents Association.

Membership Commitment

1. To attend the Parents Council meetings held twice a year (usually the Thursday-Friday preceding the first weekend in October and the third weekend in March);
2. To support the college's efforts to provide the best possible learning environment for its students, and to explore current issues with Mary Baldwin administrators and faculty, providing feedback and insight;
3. To serve as ambassadors of Mary Baldwin College within their communities and at Mary Baldwin parent events; and
4. To support Mary Baldwin College financially through contributions to Annual Giving (at a level above any reimbursements received for travel expenses) and to special campaigns, and to encourage others to do so as well.

Membership and Terms

Approximately forty parents of current students in the traditional, PEG and VWIL programs serve on the Parents Council. Membership on the Parents Council is by invitation of the President of Mary Baldwin College.

The normal term of a member of the Parents Council is two years. Members may serve up to two full terms. Only parents of students currently enrolled are eligible to serve; therefore, parents of seniors becoming members for the first time serve a one-year term.

Meetings

The Parents Council meets on the Mary Baldwin College campus, in Staunton, twice each year. The meetings are generally held on Friday on the first weekend in October and the third weekend in March. Parents (Family) Weekend is also usually held during the first weekend in October, making it convenient for members to attend the Parents Council meetings on Friday, then stay on for Parents Weekend activities.

Participation of Spouse and Daughter

Members are encouraged to bring their spouses to the meetings. In the absence of members, spouses are entitled to vote on their behalf.

The daughters of Parents Council members are welcome to Parents Council meetings, and are especially encouraged to participate in the meals and social activities.

College Support

Staff support of the Parents Council is coordinated by Liz Jennings Shupe '70, Director of Alumnae/i and Parent Relations 540-887-7216. The College generally pays for on-campus meals and other meeting expenses. Members can be reimbursed for most travel and lodging costs for two night. You may also receive an acknowledgement for non-reimbursed volunteer expenses suitable for a charitable tax deduction.