POTENTIALLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

As part of the review of the Swarthmore Alumni Association Constitution and Bylaws a survey was conducted of past Council members. Over 600 former members were invited to participate, and 131 did so, ranging in time served on Alumni Council from the 1960s through today. Their comments as well as interviews with other stakeholders prompted the proposed changes.

Below, you will find more detailed information about the process and the updates. We invite you to reach out with any additional questions or comments. As current documents mandate, a vote on these changes will take place at the annual alumni meeting (reunion) taking place immediately after the Collection on May 27, 2017.

When was the last time the constitution/bylaws were reviewed?
To the best of our knowledge, it has been more than 15 years since they were reviewed.

What has prompted this change?
Times have changed, notably the ways in which we communicate with one another. Most information exchange is digital these days, not print. Therefore providing a way for our alumni body to register their votes electronically seems prudent. Best practices of content to be covered in Constitutions and Bylaws have changed. The proposed updates follow current guidelines.

How will these changes better serve the alumni body?
More people will have the opportunity to participate in the decision making process with electronic voting. Changes to the nominations process will allow for increased participation with Council activities and a larger, more diverse pool of candidates to consider for membership. Self and peer nominations will encourage greater volunteerism and opportunities to serve.

What is the alumni association?
The alumni association is a body made up of all Swarthmore College graduates and former students established to promote unity and fellowship among the alumni and to advance the interests of Swarthmore College. The association is governed by the Alumni Council and supports initiatives such as alumni affinity groups, alumni awards, regional connections, opportunities for interaction between students and alumni.

Why do we want to move to electronic voting?
We want to move to electronic voting to increase active participation among alumni and remove both the expense and environmental impact involved in printing and mailing announcements and ballots.

How can I get more involved with Alumni Council?
If you are interested in becoming more involved in the leadership of the alumni association, please consider self-nominating to serve on the Council or recommend a friend through a peer-nomination. Nominations will be reviewed by the Nominating Committee. Information on nominations can be found here: http://www.swarthmore.edu/alumni/nominate-alumnaus-alumni-council.

Last updated on 4/25/17.