UCHICAGO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER EXPECTATIONS

Volunteers are vital to the success of the worldwide UChicago alumni network. The vast majority of alumni gatherings are completely initiated, planned, led, hosted, and occasionally even funded by volunteers. Additionally, the University relies on volunteers for local insight and connections when staff or faculty are traveling to a particular region to connect with alumni or to host a program.

The following items are expected from all UChicago volunteers:

CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION

- Communicate frequently with fellow volunteers and/or board members to remain up to date on regional events and updates.
- Maintain consistent communication with Alumni Association staff by responding to emails and phone calls and holding regularly scheduled conversations, if applicable. This is especially crucial if a volunteer is unable to fulfill a commitment or serve a full term: timely and clear communication helps staff find a replacement sooner and allows programming to continue as planned.

CONTENT GENERATION

- Come prepared to share ideas on what sort of alumni programming would be most appropriate for the region.
- Be proactive in suggesting changes or working with staff and other volunteers to increase efficiency in leadership structure and programming operations, always looking to be part of the solution.
PARTICIPATION

- Establish a presence at alumni club or affinity group events by consistently attending programs and actively meeting new alumni, parents, families, and friends and encouraging them to volunteer or to engage with other alumni and with the University.
- Set an example to fellow alumni by making an annual participation gift. The amount is much less important than the actual act of giving.

ENJOYMENT

- Find fun and fulfillment in your volunteer experience. There will be opportunities for rigorous and intense intellectual engagement and for constructive critiques, but the overall experience should be fun and rewarding.
- Pursue both professional and social relationships with fellow alumni. Establishing enjoyable and fruitful relationships between alumni and with the University is the ultimate purpose of the alumni network. Many of these relationships become lifelong connections.