

SIUE Alumni Association  
Board of Directors  
Minutes for Thursday, September 3, 2009 5:30pm  
Birger Hall

- I. Attendance – Ajay Kansal, Bev George, Tom McRae, Paul Baeske, Stephanie Renken, Kelley Brooks, Christine Williams, Brett Briggs, SJ Morrison, Brandon Rahn, Heather Jeffers, Rita Adkins, Barry DeLassus, Melissa Glauber, Bill Graebe, Elzora Douglas, Chuck Rathert, Veronica Armouti, Patrick Hundley, Steve Jankowski and Katie Bennett. Deb O’Neill joined the meeting via conference call. Special guests Jason Bradley, Carly James, MacKenzie Conley and Jordan Shaw. The meeting was called to order at 5:42pm.
- II. Minutes – The board reviewed the minutes from the June 4, 2009 meeting. A motion was made by SJ to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Christine. Motion passed.
- III. President’s Report – Ajay Kansal – Ajay commented on the increased level of excitement and enthusiasm that has been building for the Alumni Association. He reported on a meeting that he, Larry and Bev had with Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift. They received great feedback from the meeting and have started a tradition of the President, President-Elect and Past President meeting with the Chancellor on an annual basis. The meeting will be an opportunity to maintain communication and build bridges with the university. Ajay also reported on the current membership numbers. The association had 4,633 members in August 2007 and 4,695 members in August 2008. The association currently has 4,849 members which is a 3.2% increase since 2008.
- IV. Committee Reports
  - a. Finance Committee – Chris Slusser – Chris reported on two major revenue sources that the association has received since the June 4<sup>th</sup> board meeting. The association received a \$2,818 quarterly royalty payment from Bank of America and \$1,154 from the university bookstore for the MRF t-shirt sales.
  - b. Programming Committee – Tom McRae – Tom reported on the upcoming alumni events. The association will have a group of 15 volunteers working with Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Bev is donating t-shirts for all of the volunteers. The Alumni Day at Busch Stadium is Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> and 105 of the 275 tickets have been sold. The board is encouraged to purchase tickets and promote the event to friends, colleagues and other contacts. The association will host an Alumni Day at the Grafton Winery on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. The programming committee sent special invitations to former board

presidents and members encouraging them to attend and reconnect with the association. We will provide a free drink for all attendees. Homecoming will take place on October 9th-10<sup>th</sup> and board members are encouraged to attend all of the events. The association will also host its first fundraiser. The Alumni Trivia Night will take place on November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Collinsville American Legion. We will have room for 25 tables. The board is encouraged to sponsor a table and attend the event. The board is also asked to donate items for the silent auction and volunteer for the event. We will need 10-15 volunteers for the evening. Tom thanked the programming committee members for all of their hard work.

- c. Membership & Marketing Committee – Bev George – Bev reported that her committee will schedule a meeting for late September or early October. She will report on her committee during the December 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting.
- d. Awards Committee – Rita Adkins – Rita reported that the association honored the Great Teacher Award winner during a pre-commencement breakfast on August 8, 2009. The awards committee will meet prior to the December 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting.
- e. Black Alumni Association – Kelley Brooks – Kelley reported that the Black Alumni Association is in the process of scheduling a meeting for the month of September. They are trying to put a group together for the September 20<sup>th</sup> Cardinals game and will also purchase a tent for Homecoming. The Black Alumni Association elected officers during their last meeting: Kelley Brooks – President, Dontrell Thomas – Vice President, Dorian Brown – Scholarship Chair, Rose Anderson-Rice – Bylaws, Portia Board – Secretary and Nicholas Hughes – Treasurer.
- f. MRF Committee – Larry Lexow – The committee hosted the commemorative picnic on June 15<sup>th</sup> which had 110 people in attendance. The committee held a meeting to investigate a two-three year plan for creating a destination at the MRF site. Larry will update the board as the committee continues to meet.
- g. STAT – Brandon Rahn – Brandon introduced the STAT officers and board members who were in attendance. He shared the mission of the organization and reported the increase in membership numbers. The FY10 membership goal was 100 members and STAT currently has 112 members. 50 new memberships were sold during New Freshman Welcome and 13 additional members were sold during Welcome Week activities. The organization is now in need of alumni mentors to partner with the student members. The board members are invited to attend the Welcome Back BBQ on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm in the Woodland Bowl and the STAT Alumni Mentor Mixer on Sunday,

September 27<sup>th</sup> from 5-6pm at Birger Hall. Brandon reported on the upcoming projects – reevaluate the mission of the organization, develop goals, create a strategic plan, continue membership recruitment, increase membership incentives and continue the marketing campaign for the organization. Brandon encouraged the board to get involved with STAT by joining the alumni mentor program and attend events throughout the school year.

h. Strategic Plan – Steve Jankowski – Steve updated the board on the status of the strategic plan. All items are moving forward and on schedule.

V. Director’s Report – Steve Jankowski – The office is working with an alumni group to host a gathering in San Francisco on September 22, 2009. The office has partner with the Office of Education Outreach, the Bursars Office and the Office of Financial Affair to host the Financial Distress Workshop on September 19, 2009. The seminar is for students, faculty, staff and parents of students. The data conversation to Agilon One is in progress and the new Cougar Tracks online community should be implemented soon. The 2009 class of the SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame has been selected. The awards ceremony will be held Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> at the N.O. Nelson Center. The office is current recruiting student interns. Applications have been received and we are currently conducting interviews. A third eConnection will be mailed in February 2010 and will be sent to all alumni as well as the campus community, legislators and decision-makers.

VI. New Business

a. Confirmation of New Board Members – Ajay welcomed Brett Briggs and Stephanie Renken to the board. The executive committee had approved Brett and Stephanie to replace Marcia Wickenhauser and Larry Lexow. A motion was made by Karen to accept the executive committee’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Brandon. Motion passed. Brett and Stephanie will serve their first term through September of 2012.

b. Confirmation of Board Member Term Renewals – A motion was made by Rita to approve the renewal of a second term for Veronica, Barry, Bill, Karen, Tom, SJ and Chuck. The motion was seconded by Christine. Motion passed. The terms are renewed through September of 2012.

c. Confirmation of Vice President – A motion was made by Christine to confirm Tom McRae as Vice President. The motion was seconded by Larry. Motion passed.

d. Confirmation of School of Pharmacy Representative – The board decided to table the confirmation of the Pharmacy representative until the

December 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting.

- e. Pharmacy Alumni Association Bylaws Review – The executive committee had reviewed and approved the proposed bylaws for the Pharmacy Alumni Association. A motion was made by Christine to approve the bylaws. The motion was seconded by Larry. Motion passed.
  - f. New Membership Level – Partners Program – The board discussed the proposed partnership membership classification. The new membership would be open to faculty, staff, alumni parents and community members with a desire to support the Alumni Association. Memberships could be purchased for \$50 for an annual individual and \$500 for a lifetime individual. Partners would receive the same membership benefits but would not be allowed to serve on the board. The board discussed the new membership level. A motion was made by Christine to approve the new membership level. The motion was seconded by SJ. Motion passed.
  - g. Scholarship Proposal – SJ proposed the creation of an Alumni Association Board of Directors scholarship. Board members would contribute \$50, \$75 or \$100 per year at their discretion to fund the scholarship. The board would then award annual scholarships to current undergraduate or graduate students based on financial need. The awards committee will meet prior to the December 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting to review the scholarship and decide the eligibility and stipulations for the scholarship. The board will then vote on the scholarship during the December 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting.
  - h. MAP grant funding – Brandon reported that students representatives will be going on a lobby effort for MAP grant funding on October 15<sup>th</sup>. He requested that any of the board members who received MAP grant funding or financial aid would share their story with Brandon so he can share it during the lobbying effort.
- VII. Old Business – There was no old business to discuss at this time.
- VIII. Presentation on CASE ASAP Conference – Jason Bradley and Carly James made a special presentation on the information they learned at the ASAP Conference in Baltimore.
- IX. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on December 3, 2009 at 5:30pm at Birger Hal. A motion was made by Chris to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Karen. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.