

SIUE Alumni Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes for Thursday, December 4, 2008
5:30pm
Birger Hall

- I. Attendance – Paul Baeske, Tom McRae, Bill Graebe, Karen Kelly, Melissa Glauber, Christine Williams, Barry Delassus, Marcia Wickenhauser, Ajay Kansal, Bev George, Veronica Armouti, Rita Adkins, Mike Stewart, SJ Morrison, Heather Jeffers, Steve Jankowski, Katie Bennett and special guest Dr. Paul and Grace Ferguson. Janet Sprehe and Elzora Douglas joined the meeting by conference call.
- II. Approval of Minutes – The meeting was called to order at 5:34pm. The minutes from the August 7, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Marcia made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Christine. Motion passed.
- III. Remarks from Dr. Paul Ferguson, Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs – Dr. Ferguson gave a presentation on “Defining Excellence” and updated the board on the latest campus developments. The University is now a first tier, first choice university with a current enrollment of 13,602 students. 8,000 freshmen applied for the fall semester and 1,922 students were enrolled. The University has created new financial aid strategies which will assist at least 310 new students including the e Guarantee program and e GEO tuition program. SIUE has received national recognition including being selected as a top 10 master’s institution for the second year in a row by U.S. News and World Report. Student performance on performance tests is above state and national averages and they’re winning national competitions. New major campus initiatives including the student success center, creation of a new undergraduate health sciences program, joint doctoral programs and enhanced informational technology services. The University has spent \$130 million in construction and renovation programs since 2004. Projects include the renovation of the Vadalabene Center and the Early Childhood Center and construction of the Student Success Center.
- IV. President’s Report – Ajay defined his goals for the Association. During his presidency, Larry established a goal to increase membership by 20%. Even though we have not accomplished the goal, the Association is on target. From October 2007 to October 2008, membership has grown 2.2%. Ajay is sticking with the original goal of increasing membership to 20%. He feels that if we create excitement and interest, we will generate new memberships. The consensus among the Chancellor, Patrick Hundley and Alumni Association board members is that we can accomplish the goal through more activities. Ajay urged each board member to remember that there is a reason that we opted to volunteer for the Association. Each member has the opportunity to bring a unique contribution to the Association. If anyone has specific thoughts and suggestions, Ajay asked that board members talk to Steve, Katie and the executive committee.
- V. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance Committee – Steve Jankowski – Steve presented the minutes from the November 18th finance committee meeting. The board reviewed the latest budget print out and investment report. The Association has taken a hit with investments but we have also received new money from Collegiate Insurance Resources. The finance committee

proposed a motion to transfer \$15,000 from the Public of SIUE budget to the Merchandise budget to cover the expense of the MRF t-shirts. A motion was made by Tom McRae to approve the transfer of the funds and approve the budget as amended. The motion was seconded by Bill Graebe. Motion passed. The finance committee also proposed a motion of invite Paul Baeske to join the finance committee. A motion was made by SJ Morrison to approve Paul as the newest member of the finance committee. The motion was seconded by Karen Kelly. Motion passed.

- b. Executive Committee – Ajay Kansal – Ajay presented the minutes from the September 25th executive committee meeting. The committee planned an off-site board retreat to focus on the Association’s strategic plan. The retreat has been scheduled for January 24, 2009 at Pere Marquette Lodge. Katie will send more information about the retreat when details have been finalized. The committee also approved official descriptions for the board committees. The committee proposed splitting the Activities & Awards committee into the Awards committee and the Programming committee. A motion was made by Christine Williams to approve the official committee descriptions and the creation of the Programming committee. The motion was seconded by SJ Morrison. Motion passed. The executive committee approached Tom McRae to serve as the chair of the Programming committee. A motion was made by Mike Stewart to approve Tom as the chair of the Programming committee. The motion was seconded by Rita Adkins. Motion passed. Tom asked that board members review the programming committee description and email their interest in joining the committee to him and Katie. The executive committee also approached Mike Stewart about serving as the new chair of the Bylaws committee. A motion was made by Marcia Wickenhauser to approve Mike as the chair of the Bylaws committee. The motion was seconded by Tom McRae. Motion passed. Any board members interested in serving on the Bylaws committee should contact Katie and Mike.
- c. Membership & Marketing – Bev George – Bev presented the minutes from the October 9th membership & marketing committee meeting. Bev said that the committee has internalized the necessity to host more events. The committee decided that all board members need to step up and help spread the news about the Association to personal and work contacts. If we’re going to make the Association an integral part of the University’s Administration, we need to have strength in membership to be recognized. The committee says that when we have an event, each member needs to be committed to bringing 10 people with them and encouraging them to join the Association. The committee will also be helping to create five minutes presentations about the Alumni Association that each board member could share at community and professional meetings. The presentations would include photos and information and would be saved on flash drives.
- d. STAT – Katie Bennett – Katie updated on the board on the current status of the student alumni association. STAT has 45 student members including the 11 officers and Board of Directors. The organization has raised \$900 in membership dues. The Alumni Mentor program has 19 participating students and 39 participating alumni mentors. The organization has hosted two events. The STAT Party @ the Lake was held on September 17th at the Cougar Lake Pavilion. 75 people attended the event including 67 students and 8 alumni. Eight students joined STAT and one alumnus joined the Association. The STAT Homecoming Tailgate was held on October 11th at the SIUE Club Football game.

Eight-eight food tickets were sold and 31 students filled out registration forms. Three students joined STAT.

VI. Director's Report – Steve Jankowski

- a. Alumni Hall of Fame – The inaugural awards dinner was held on October 10th and was attended by 160 people. Ten of the 13 inductees were in attendance. One of the inductees joined the Alumni Association and one of the inductees made a \$5,000 donation to the School of Education.
- b. Electronic Communication – The Association has started a “Joe Cougars” account on Facebook. We have also started using email renewal reminders.
- c. eConnection – The fifth edition of the eConnection was published on October 2nd and focused on international alumni. The sixth edition will focus on graduates in public service including U.S. Congressman John Shimkus, State Representative Dan Beiser, Federal Judge David Herndon, Circuit Court Judge Milton Wharton and Richmond Heights City Manager Amy Hamilton.
- d. Stahlschmidt Family Legacy Scholarship – The Stahlschmidt family has funded a new scholarship in honor of their parents. Two \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded annually starting in 2009. Rita Adkins will schedule an Awards committee meeting to review the scholarship information and decide if the committee would like to be responsible for selecting the scholarship winners.
- e. The Association hosted four events since the August board meeting. Ten alumni volunteered for the SIUE Alumni Day with Habitat for Humanity on September 10th. All of the volunteers wore promotional t-shirts donated by Bev George. The Association sponsored the “Alumni Zone” Homecoming hospitality tent during the SIUE Club Football game. Four hundred people attended the event. Forty-two alumni attended the Alumni Night at Fast Eddie's on October 22nd. And, the Association hosted an alumni career workshop in conjunction with the Office of Educational Outreach and the Career Development Center.
- f. Louise Saunders Fund – Steve has been named fiscal officer of the Louise Saunders fund for Continuing Education Support, an endowment designed to fund continuing education programs for SIUE alumni.

V. New Business

- a. Confirmation of School of Engineering rep – Melissa Glauber – A motion was made by Karen Kelly to accept Melissa Glauber as the Constituent Director for the School of Engineering. The motion was seconded by Bill Graebe. Motion passed.
- b. Acceptance of Brittany Tounsel's Resignation – Brittany Tounsel, student representative of the Board of Directors, resigned her position due to scheduling conflicts. A motion was made by Christine Williams to accept Brittany's resignation. The motion was seconded by Bev George. Motion passed. Three STAT board members are interested in filling the vacant position. The STAT board will vote on their choice for the second student representative. The new representative will be invited to the March 5, 2009 board

meeting.

VI. Old Business

- a. Board member contracts and Conflict of Interest policies – The board members signed and submitted the board member contracts and conflict of interest policy.

VII. Adjournment – The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, March 5, 2009. A motion was made by Mike Stewart to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bev George. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.