SPSU Alumni Association Board Meeting (1/5/13)

Minutes

Board Members Present:
Aakash Shah       Tyler Isgett       Edrick Harris
Glynn Mitchell    Thomas Baglivo    Judith Atem
Frank Ziller      Greg Barner      Angela Wingers
Robert Graham     Lisa Buice       Heather Giroux

SPSU Staff:
Pierrette Maillet
Kit Trensch
Andrew Schmidt
Jenny Brown

- Welcome
- Approval of Minutes from 8/25
  - No major revisions. Minutes approved.
- Financials
  - No major financial updates. Tyler will touch on Competition team funding in committee report.
- Campus Update – Residence Life
  - Jenny Brown, Asst. Director for Residence Life
    - 1700 students currently living on campus
    - Approximately 400 beds reserved just for first year students
    - Management of campus apartments brought back in house in 2007
    - Currently at 93% occupancy
    - Howell Hall is State financed; all other housing is private/public funded
    - It was suggested having members of the Alumni Board going to a Freshman Orientation class within the various majors. In order to get current students connected to the Alumni Board, it may be best to connect with them in the first years of their college career.
- Fundraising Presentations
  - Kit Trensch, Director of Development
    - How the Alumni Board and Alumni are important for fundraising
      - Ambassadors for the University
      - Have potential to bring in new donors based on professional networks
      - Develop programs to show soon to be alumni what it means to be an alumni
      - Gifts directly go to the University, whether you give to a specific area or to general fund to aid whether there is the greatest need
      - University operational funds come from the State and tuition; as State funds decrease, student tuition increases. Alumni giving help offset the increase of tuition.
        - SPSU is currently ranked 3rd in the State for SAT scores for incoming freshmen
  - Andrew Schmidt, Development Officer
    - Annual Fund Campaign
      - Alumni Walk Brick Campaign
      - Two mailings each year
      - Faculty & Staff giving
• Looking to start sending out mailing electronically; would be able to track who exactly is opening emails. This will help understand which demographic is looking at the giving solicitations

• Alumni Office Update
  o Pierrette touched on her discussions about the Alumni Survey feedback with the Development Office and Public Relations Office
  o Pierrette handed out Alumni Board Feedback from the phone presentation on the Alumni Survey
  o Aakash suggested that each committee chair discuss how they will/are going to incorporate the survey feedback within their individual committees at the next board meeting
  o Pierrette went through the upcoming Spring events
  o There was discussion on forming an alumni intramural team and possibly entering the Alumni Board in the Bathtub Races

• Strategic Plan & Alumni Survey Feedback
  o Aakash touched on how the Alumni Survey feedback was incorporated into the Strategic Plan
  o One of the biggest gaps in the Strategic Plan was communication.
  o Glynn motioned to approve Strategic Plan; Frank seconded. Motion passed.

• Subcommittees
  o Glynn thanked everyone for all their work
  o Nominations
    ▪ Aakash went through the committee action plan. Majority of the activities take place in the spring, but some of the foundation work has been completed.
    ▪ One of the main goals was to adjust the requirements of potential board members. Want member who are going to be active and contribute to the board.
  o Fundraising and Development
    ▪ All but two active board members have given for the current fiscal year (FY13)
    ▪ Not many changes overall with the finances outside of Student Competition
  o Student Outreach
    ▪ All funding decisions were completed
    ▪ Have $3168.18 left over. It was suggested to use the remaining funds on non-competition team requests. Motion made by Glynn to allocate funds to any non-competition team at the discretion of the Student Outreach committee; Frank seconded. Motion passed. A final report will be provided to the Board.
    ▪ Committee will be participating with the Homecoming Court interviews on January 22nd
  o Alumni Engagement and Career Development
    ▪ Alumni Parking issues
      • Currently, if alumni are coming to campus, they will be able to get a pass, from Parking Services, to park on campus in the Visitor lots
      • In March, one of the Visitor lots may be converted into a pay lot, which may affect this
      • Should have a resolution by the end of January 2013
    ▪ Networking Event by major
      • Thomas has been in contact with the President of the Concrete Canoe team
      • They are looking at doing a presentation to show exactly what the competition team does. It would reach out to alumni of Civil Engineering Technology, Construction Management, etc.
      ▪ Still in works for planning a Habitat for Humanity event. Hope to have 1-3 company sponsors by February 2013.

• Closing Remarks
Minutes submitted by Robert Graham, Secretary