SPSU Alumni Association Board Meeting (9/28/13)

Minutes

Board Members Present:
Glynn Mitchell       Tyler Isgett       Robert Graham       Frank Ziller
Trent Anderson       Judith Atem       Thomas Baglivo       Garrett Bailey
Greg Barner          Edrick Harris     Ben Moss             Brandon Nichols
Chisom Ohiagu

SPSU Staff:
Pierrette Maillet
Dr. Lisa Rossbacher

• Approval of Agenda
  o Motion for approval made by Chisom; seconded by Garrett
  o Motion passed

• Approval of Minutes from previous Board meeting
  o Motion for approval made by Tyler; seconded by Greg
  o Motion passed

• Welcome
  o Went through and introduced all the members of the Alumni Board and the SPSU staff present
  o Dr. Lisa Rossbacher was given a chance to speak and give an update on the current state of the University
    ▪ Goals for the University
      • Increase enrollment, graduation rates, retention rates, communication, and fundraising
      • Currently looking at the diversity of the University and making sure we are inclusive to all students
      • Looking at increasing the enrollment of female students
    ▪ Largest programs are Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, IT, and Architecture
    ▪ Largest number of graduates are from IT, Computer Science, and MBA programs
    ▪ The fastest growth is in the New Media Arts program
    ▪ The Complete College Georgia Plan, specific for SPSU, is now available online
  o PolyDay
    ▪ The goal is to raise $200,000 (currently at $160,000)
    ▪ The percentage of alumni actively giving is only 3%

• Financial Update - Frank
  o There is approximately $7,000 in the discretionary fund; the Foundation gave $50,000 for the competition team funding which brings the total funding to $60,711.06 to give out
  o Frank suggested that we figure out a way to put any leftover budget to work for us
  o Pierrette suggested that the Board donate $300 to sponsor a photo booth as part of the upcoming Career Fair. The photos will provide students with professional photos to use on their LinkedIn pages.
    o Thomas made the motion; seconded by Frank. The motion passed.

• Attendance Report - Robert
  o Robert presented an attendance report to give everyone a chance to see where they stand with participation with the Board. There was talk of putting the spreadsheet on the Alumni website so that the entire board can have access.
Committees Updates
  - Fundraising – Frank
    - PolyDay – want 100% Alumni Board participation, either a donation or attendance at the event. We need to look for companies and individuals who can contribute to the University.
    - Brick Sales – working with the Advancement Office to increase the amount of sales
    - Senior gift program – want to get graduating seniors into the habit of giving in an effort to increase Alumni giving in the coming years
  - Alumni Engagement - Thomas
    - Main focus of the coming year is communication
    - Hope to have more attendance at events
    - Want to aid in giving input on alumni career development
  - Student Outreach - Robert
    - Met to determine how to streamline the competition team application process
    - Created an automated application process. Requires teams to turn in application, budget and presentation at one time. Gives committee more time to study material.
    - Team presentations will be October 21st, meeting to determine funding allocations on October 28th, and teams should have all funds by beginning of November.
    - Briefly mentioned some other goals for the Spring semester

DiSC activity - Pierrette
  - Each member of the Board was paired with another member. Each pair discussed the similarities and differences in their DiSC personalities and try to understand how we can work together better.
  - This was done twice for five minutes each time.

Alumni Office Update - Pierrette
  - Pierrette will send out an updated events list
  - Tyler will send out a link to the Box.com site with all the Board documents
  - The capital campaign is in the silent phase right now. The University is currently working with consultants to determine the best course of action.

President’s Report
  - Glynn gave a brief overview of goals he would like to see us accomplish as a board
    - Leadership training
    - Improve communication
    - Work on Alumni Association branding/PR
  - Main points
    - Communication
    - Participation
    - Investment

Closing remarks

Minutes submitted by Robert Graham, Secretary