



University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Alumni and University Relations

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UWSP: Changing Lives

**UW-STEVENS POINT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Founders Room (102), Old Main
April 23, 2005 11:00 AM**

Minutes

Present: Scott Thomas, Jeff Prickette, Jack LeDuc, Patrick Braatz, Tom Girolamo, Cindy Polzin, Ray Oswald, Grant Winslow, Patty Noel, Bob Spoerl, Shannon Loecher, Mary Wescott, Dave Marie, Tom Klismith

Staff: John Birrenkott, Steve Zywicki, Todd Kuckkahn

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 12:35pm. President Tom Girolamo welcomed everyone.

Minutes for the October 1, 2004 meeting were approved. Patrick Braatz moved/Cindy Polzin seconded/carried.

UWSP Budget Report, Todd Kuckkahn

- As with every other UW school, UWSP has to reduce its budget by \$2.4 million over the next two years. The Line Officers and Deans have been meeting to determine how to find that money in the budget. For now the Advancement unit (Alumni & University Relations and the Foundation) has not been targeted for any of the cuts. Revenue opportunities and expenses not directly affecting instruction are being considered.

We will keep the board updated as the budget situation unfolds.

Committee Reports

Awards & Recognition Committee, Shannon Loecher reporting

- The Alumni Board and Staff have been looking into creating a Young Alumni Award (the name of this award has not been finalized yet), similar to the Distinguished Alumni Award but for "up and coming" alumni who are still early in their careers. We will use similar criteria as we do for the Distinguished Alumni Award, but recipients will need to be less than a certain age.
- This committee will work with the staff to create a better form for receiving nomination materials for the Distinguished Alumni Award as well as the Young Alumni Award. Currently we do not have a standard form and nomination materials aren't standardized making it very time consuming for the Awards Selection committee to sift through the pages of material on each nominee to find the information they are looking for. We want to have this completed by this fall for the next round of nominations.
- Nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Award have been declining in recent years. The committee would like the staff to look into ways to boost the number of nominations through the use of the Internet, Faculty & Staff, and various University Boards and Committees.
- The committee would like a list for the next meeting of all the awards given to our alumni by the University.

Nominating Committee, Grant Winslow reporting

- We have fallen behind in getting out our letters of renewal to our board members. We are currently about a year behind and the staff needs to get these letters out soon.
- Renewals are based on a rotating schedule of terms so that not everyone is up for renewal at the same time.
- The letters will go out with the assumption that everyone is welcome to serve additional terms if they desire.
- The committee will continue to look at the progression from Member at Large to President of the Board works. Currently do not have many guidelines as to how this happens and we would like to have a more solidified system of progression.

Program Support Committee, Bob Spoerl reporting

- The Travel Program is still in effect. We still have a low participation rate on these trips. We would like to commend the staff for trying a different twist this year with 2 trips inside the United States (Hawaii and Lake Tahoe). We would like the staff to contact other institutions and determine if there are better ways we could be promoting these trips.
- We currently have 4 streams of revenue:
 - MBNA Affinity Credit Card – Our contract expires at the end of this year and this committee, along with the staff, is looking into switching from MBNA to US Bank. The campus as a whole is switching to US Bank and they are offering a better return for us than MBNA currently give us.
 - UWSP Tuition Raffle – Raises money for scholarships. The University Administration wants us to give more of the profit from this fundraiser to scholarships. We have been giving 1/3 of the profits to scholarships and keeping the other 2/3 to support the Future Alumni Association and other Alumni events. Starting with the 2005 raffle, 75% of the profit will go towards scholarships with the office keeping only 25%.

Scott Thomas motioned that all scholarships funded by this raffle be named after the Alumni Association. Patrick Braatz seconded. Motion Carried.

- Sentry Insurance – This is a new program initiated since our last meeting. Working with Sentry to contact our alumni we will receive 2% of the premiums for all New & Renewed policies. Our alumni will only receive a yearly mailing from Sentry inviting them to the program.
- Loan Consolidation – We are working with M&I, Anchor Bank, and 1st Federal to help students consolidate their loans. This program was setup by Phil George, Financial Aid Office, and John Birrenkott. They are using the banks which most of our students have their student loans through. We receive \$100/loan.

Communication Committee, Mary Wescott and Steve Zywicki reporting

- The Communication Committee discussed the two bids for our online directory. Harris Online is the choice the committee recommended to the board. Their services were similar to PCI (the other company which submitted a bid) however Harris' price was about ½ of PCI. The office staff checked references from both companies and found that Harris comes more highly recommended than PCI.
 - The committee sends this to the board with their recommendation with the provision that the staff get two questions answered before implementation of the program. Those questions are: *How much will the online merchant account cost? How will we determine who receives our broadcast emails? Will they be opt in or and opt-out service?* The committee would like this to be an opt-in service.

Patty Noel motioned to move forward with the purchase of the Online Directory from Harris provided that the office staff satisfies the committee's questions before proceeding. Seconded by Tom Girolamo. Motion Passed.

Discussion – Homecoming 2005, Activities & Events (October 8, 2005)

A discussion ensued regarding our events and activities planned for Homecoming on Oct. 8, 2005 as well as the week leading up to it. The following list includes our activities and involvement:

- The Campus Homecoming Committee (CHC) is “beefing” up the student activities for the week which will require some additional involvement from alumni as judges for the Homecoming Competition. Yell Like Hell is back after a 5 year hiatus! The CHC with the help of our office staff will recruit alumni judges and will also be looking to involve faculty/staff more in the judging process to help spread awareness around campus that Homecoming is taking place. Once the calendar is set for the week's events Steve will forward it to the board.
- Friday, Oct. 7th – the CHC will be hosting a campus gathering on Friday night in the front yard of Old Main. The Alumni Affairs Office will be joining them with this to welcome alumni back to town.
- Saturday, Oct. 8th –
 - The Alumni Association will continue to host the “Alumni & Friends” Coffee before the parade in the Berg Lobby.
 - We will also continue to judge the parade.
 - Once the parade is over we will host an Alumni Picnic on the front lawn of Old Main. This picnic will include representatives from all the colleges and as many departments as we can muster. The picnic will run from 11am-1pm (the time between the parade and the start of the Football Game) and will be promoted as a family friendly event. Each college/department will be given space to welcome back their alumni as we pool our resources to cover the cost of refreshments.
 - We still plan to continue selling Burgers/Brats/Fries at Partners Pub from 11am-6pm as we have done the past two years.
 - Office staff is looking into having the pool and other facilities available after the parade and through the afternoon for families to use.
- The Board has decided to form our own Homecoming Committee to work out the details and recruit volunteers for our programs throughout the week and weekend of Homecoming. This committee includes: Patty Noel, Bob Spoerl, Mary Wescott, Dave Marie, Tom Klismith, Tom Girolamo, Grant Winslow, and Ray Oswald. If you are interested in serving on this committee, contact Steve in the office to get onto the list (715-346-3813).

The Board requested that as our schedule of events becomes clearer they are kept informed. Updates will be sent throughout the summer concerning our Homecoming plans.

Old Business

Chapter Events, presented by Steve Zywicki

We are awaiting the appointment of our new Director before planning our summer chapter events

Alumni Survey, presented by Steve Zywicki/Todd Kuckkahn

In conjunction with the Foundation we will be conducting a survey of our alumni on a variety of topics. We will be contacting Harris Online to see if we can arrange a deal with them to assist us as we work towards our Online Directory they may be willing to cut us a deal on the survey, another service their company performs.

Hiring Update, presented by Todd Kuckkahn

The field has been narrowed to four finalists. The four individuals were brought to campus for interviews and we are now awaiting the decision from the Search & Screen Committee and Todd as to who the next Alumni Affairs Director will be. Once the decision is made, the Board of Directors will be among the first to know.

Presidents Club, presented by Jack LeDuc

Jack LeDuc brought to the Board's attention the program being executed by St. Norberts to recruit and thank their donors, retirees, award winners and donors. The event is a 1 hour outdoor cocktail party and reception followed by a banquet. They have been successful in getting corporate funding over the years and it has grown to include student performances. Jack would like us to look into the possibility of UWSP hosting a similar event and will be sending the office staff information on St. Norberts program (copies of the invitation, their program, etc.)

New Business

2005 Scott Schultz Memorial Golf Outing, presented by Steve Zywicki

The outing will be held on Monday, August 8, 2005. The Outing Committee has been busy gearing up for this year's outing. Soon the registration letters will be going out for this year's outing. Be sure to look for yours in the mail. Proceeds from the outing go to support scholarship to UWSP for students in WI.

2005 Tuition Raffle, presented by Steve Zywicki

We are looking forward to this year's raffle. The materials are being finalized and will be to print soon. We hope to surpass last year's number of tickets sold (5,703), our biggest year since 1998.

Admissions/Student Recruitment, presented by John Birrenkott

The Alumni Affairs office and the Admissions office began meeting early this year to look into ways we can help each other out. Admissions is looking for help on campus at the Campus ViewPoint days and off campus with admissions fairs and high school visits. Both offices feel they can benefit from this partnership. Our FAA members are being trained as campus tour guides and will help at ViewPoint days as well as general campus tours throughout the year. In the future we hope to expand the program to include contacting alumni in areas the admissions office will be in to assist in contact prospective students and sharing their stories about UWSP and answering questions prospective students or their parents may have. We are starting slowly and building as time moves on. We don't want to rush into it and have it get out of hand and appear sloppy to our alumni and our future students.

UW-System Alumni Council Update, presented by Steve Zywicki

The System Alumni Council (Alumni Directors from the UW Schools) has been busy this year. We have been compiling information on all of our alumni and breaking it down by county so we can better inform our legislators, especially those who don't have a University in their District how many UW-System Alumni they have as constituents. We are also working on the "Big UW-System Reunion 2" scheduled for Saturday, July 16th. The Milwaukee Brewers will serve as hosts to all the campuses that day with a big Tailgate party in the parking lot and then a game. You will be receiving information about the reunion through the mail in June.

Comprehensive Capital Campaign, presented by Todd Kuckkahn

The campaign continues to move forward. The alumni survey to secure demographic and work information will be an important step prior to the electronic screening this fall.

Past President's Function, presented by Todd Kuckkahn

We will be looking into hosting reunions for our past board members and board leadership.

Future Alumni Association Report

Jessi Eisenman of the Future Alumni Association was unable to make the meeting due to volunteering for Hunger Clean-up. Steve reported that the group is 25 members strong and continuing to grow. The group is so eager to volunteer for events that at times we have to turn down some students. The office staff is working with the group members to find more ways which they can be involved on and around campus.

Student Government Report

James Duquette (SGA President) was unable to attend the meeting due to a schedule conflict. Please review the enclosed remarks James submitted to the office staff the following week.

3:10pm Scott Thomas moved for adjournment, Seconded by Patrick Braatz. Motion passed.

****SAVE THE DATE****
Fall Homecoming Meeting
Friday, October 7, 2005

UWSP Upcoming Events (alumni programming bolded):

May 21 st	Distinguished Alumni/Hansen/Albertson Awards
May 22 nd	Commencement
June 9-11 th	Wisconsin Special Olympics State Games
June 17-18th	Alumni Association 50th Reunion
August 8th	Scott Schultz Memorial Golf Outing
September 15 th	Chancellor's Installation
September 20 th	Noel Fine Arts Center Grand Opening
September 24 th	Spud Bowl
October 7th	Alumni Association Board of Directors
October 3rd-8th	Homecoming

Minutes respectfully submitted by Steve Zywicki