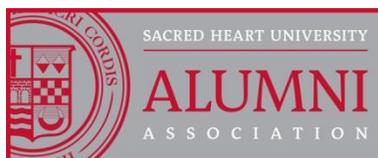


Minutes of SHU Alumni Association Board of Directors  
Officer's Meeting  
Held on Sunday, January 27, 2013 at 11:00am



In Attendance:

Cheryl Janus  
Joseph Bacoulis  
Robert Scarpetti  
Emily Gillette  
Claudette Thompson  
Jillian Hogan – President of STAT (Student Alumni Association)  
Prof. Peter Maresco, Faculty representative from the College of Business  
Judite Vamvakides, Director of Annual Giving

Absent

Steve Dzik

• **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 am by Cheryl who welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

• **Vice Presidents and Committee updates**

➤ **Membership & Recognition – Joseph Bacoulis**

*Alumni Awards Criteria Update*

The Committee agreed that there should be time limits wrapped around certain awards. Other awards should include constant involvement as well as ongoing dedication. The following Awards should have minimal “involvement” limits as follows:

- Pioneer - time limit (i.e. a minimum of 10 years of service).
- Volunteer – no time limit (could be 1 or 2 time participation in a volunteer activity)

- The committee proposed a new award: the Entrepreneurial Award, which can be done in tandem with the School of Business. Cheryl agreed saying it should be given to someone who exhibits the spirit of SHU. This should be considered carefully since the College of Business already awards a leadership award from the college.
- On the matter of the number of awards – should this be increased?
- Question re: nominees: Is enough time given to the board to make selections? Cheryl explained that a committee was selected every year to make selections but now that there is a dedicated committee to handle this there will be enough time. Also, each college can nominate and their committees will review their nominations before submission. Cheryl reiterated that the important quality of each nominee should be the spirit of SHU. Individual College awards are selected by the college, with suggestions provided by Advancement/Alumni Association.

*Membership Criteria*

- The holidays affected the meetings and feedback was not received but Joe promised to reach out to everyone again. Emily said she has a few people who wants to join and will do so by May, hopefully, as soon as the criteria is finalized and goes to the full board for a vote.

- Robert asked that nominees be checked out thoroughly before being awarded to prove that they are truly deserving of a SHU award.

- **Individual Development – Robert Scarpetti**

  - Community Service Initiatives*

  - Rob apologized for not being reaching out to his committee in the past few weeks but there was an illness and resulting death in the family. Everyone expressed condolences to him.
  - Rob thanked Emily for setting up a meeting with him and the Campus ministry. There will be an Alumni Day in the Spring in which we will be involved. Rob will get more info from the ministry and then make a decision re which activities we would like to get involved with as we do not want to recreate the wheel. Cheryl suggested that we could probably hop onto activities that the current students are doing.
  - Jill stated that STAT is celebrating its 5<sup>th</sup> year of Relay For Life on April 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Cheryl asked if there was any way that we could log what alumni are doing and the hours they amass. This will be looked into as it can be used as “bragging rights.”

- **Administration – Steve**

  - Donations Committee*

  - Emily presented in Steve’s absence. The committee discussed how everyone can participate and how successful Cheryl’s letter signing has been in the past to alumni.
  - We will be viewing presentations from 3 programs at the board meeting in February: NEAT (Alumni Insurance Program, Nationwide Insurance and Meyer & Associates. These programs will bring in revenue to go directly to alumni association programs and/or continue to fund the Endowed Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.
  - The committee is looking at ways to deal with identity theft in a similar affinity program and will be receiving 3 proposals to consider.

- **University Fundraising and Annual Giving Overview**

  - Emily introduced Judite Vamvakides, Director of Annual Giving who enlightened the group on SHU’s Case for Giving. Judite explained that prior to last semester the phonathon was outsourced and now it is being done in-house. She also pointed out that they not only do solicitation calls, but also thank you calls and after Hurricane Sandy, they did “care” calls, calling people to find out how they were doing.
    - They also launched a Plan Giving Website a couple weeks ago for estate giving.
    - To maintain a 10% alumni participation status we need the participation of 3,000 alumni.
    - Prior to 2 years ago, most of the donations went to the Annual Fund. Now alumni can choose to donate to certain scholarships or even to athletic sports programs and to each college.
    - Once you donate, you are removed from the phone list to be called.
    - Joe asked about “text” giving and Judite explained that the Return on Investment was not good.
    - Judite was thanked by Cheryl and Emily and she left at 12:05 pm.

  - **STAT**

    - STAT will be decorating the whole campus on Day of Philanthropy with tags that discuss how that building or object was brought to fruition by donations.
    - Monday is post card Thankathon and if students fill out 6 cards, they will receive a free t-shirt.
    - 3 members of STAT will be attending a conference next week at Bryant University in Rhode Island along with Emily to learn from other institution’s student alumni associations.

- **Faculty Report**

  - Dr. Maresco expressed the greater need for faculty to engage in student activities outside of the classroom but due to residing out of town, most times this is not possible. He pointed out that the Presidents sets a great example by showing up at most events and even dining in the cafeteria with the students. The students really appreciate this as they consider him very approachable.

- **Alumni Association Board of Directors President's Update**
- Emily informed everyone that Homecoming will be held September 20-22, 2013, which is within SHU's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At the next meeting, a selection of an ad hoc committee for homecoming and the 50<sup>th</sup> will be done.
- Kevin Nealon ('75) of Saturday Night Live fame will be doing a benefit concert on Friday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Magazine will be released first week of March. The following issue will be online only and will be in early June.
- Books from Alumni authors can be submitted for acceptance, and if chosen, will be placed on the first floor of the library. This is a new program called the Alumni Collection. Information can be found online:  
<http://www.sacredheart.edu/collection>.
  
- **Next meeting**  
ALL Board Meeting on Sunday, February 10 at 11:00am; followed by 12:30 mass. At the 2/10 mtg. there will be an update from the Innovations Committee of the University and Steve's Donations committee will meet with three insurance program companies.
  
- **Adjournment**  
There was a motion to adjourn by Cheryl, seconded by Joe and Emily.  
Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.