



# Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

## MINUTES OF SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 1/9/14 AT 7:00 PM

VIA CONFERENCE CALL

#### **In Attendance:**

Cheryl Janus  
Robert Scarpetti  
Emily Gillette  
Joe Bacoulis  
Taylor Richard  
Steven Dzik  
Claudette Thompson

#### **Called to Order/Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at ~7:02 pm. Cheryl welcomed and thanked everyone for being on the call and said the meeting would be brief but she wanted to touch base before the January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **Committee Updates – Vice Presidents**

##### **Individual Development – Robert Scarpetti**

###### *Community Service Initiatives*

- Rob said that he would be meeting with the President of the Fairfield County Chapter, Keith Cook, to discuss a project on Kossuth Street in Bridgeport. SHU is partnering with Habitat for Humanity and Keith is very enthusiastic that we would like to help. Rob will have more specific information soon. Cheryl said it would be good for the group to meet after the activity and reflect on the project and whatever takeaways there may be.

##### **Membership & Recognition – Joseph Bacoulis**

- Joe said that there was not much to update since the last meeting. The votes were sent out and passed. The proposal was also voted on. There were no new nominees. Emily said that she met with one person who is unable to commit at this time.

##### **S.T.A.T. - Taylor Richard**

- Taylor reported much success last semester with the heavily advertised Halloween event which hosted over 200 people, mainly families with kids. The group also met with Forever Pioneers and started prepping for Tag Day. T-shirts and Thank-you notes will be issued to stress the importance of giving and thanking our donors.

- New event in March: Alumni panel will be asked via email, etc. to come to the campus to explain their professions. This project will start as soon as students return from the holidays and much help will be needed. Cheryl asked if there will be break-out sessions for certain professions. Robert agreed and Taylor accepted that idea, adding that there will be a meet & greet session at the end of the event.
- There is great morale on the campus due to the football team championship, which was well attended. Club Activities Fair will be held in January to promote all the clubs on campus.

### **Administration – Steve Dzik**

#### *Insurance Programs*

- Steve stated that the past couple of months were uneventful. Trying to get awareness and different ideas. He will be meeting with Judi Vamvakides, director of Annual Giving.
- The goal of 100% board giving fell short last year. Steve stated that it should be a requirement to be a board member and thinks that we should discuss it. Information will be sent to all board members urging them to give back.
- Cheryl wants to see data on what other alumni boards do, especially our competitors. Emily said she has the information for some institutions and will share it with Steve. Cheryl promised to help if they still want to pursue this.

### **Good of the Order**

- Cheryl reminded everyone of the Board meeting scheduled for January 25, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Pitt Center board room.
- Big Red Birthday Bash – Saturday, 2/8/14.
- For the meeting on 1/25, Cheryl urged everyone to come up with some good ideas as we did a great job in the past year and we do not want to get stale. She said that Emily will be inviting someone from the campus to update us on campus activities.
- Emily stated that she attended the first commencement meeting this past week. She told the committee a bit of confidential information: that the 2014 commencement will be held at the Webster Bank arena. All other events, such as mass, etc. will be held on campus. She said the capacity of the arena is 8,000 and that there will be two separate days for respective graduates. Also, the cost is significantly cheaper.
- Former SHU President Thomas Melady, passed away this week. The funeral service will be held in Washington, DC and SHU will be holding a memorial mass in his honor. January 29<sup>th</sup>.
- At the last board meeting, Evertrue app for the phone was approved. Emily will demonstrate it at the next meeting. If you Google SHU, you will see the app which promotes SHU and networking opportunities for alumni. The contract is being reviewed by our Legal department.

### **Adjournment**

There was a motion to adjourn by Cheryl, seconded by Claudette.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.