

Minutes
Casper College Alumni Association
Board of Directors
Saturday, October 3, 2009
Thorson Business Institute, Room 307

Members Present: Doug Leonard, Gigi Leman, Kevin Bromley, Derrel Carruth, Nancy Gerlock, David Long, Lea Schoenewald, Nolene Wright, Nancy Curtis, Charlotte Babcock, Denise Blesi, Mary Litzel, Mike Stepp, Bill Duncan, Virg Bodyfelt (via Skype). Staff members: Paul Hallock and Linda Nix

Excused: Bill Brauer, Julie Laib, Lu Hinderliter, Deb Simon, Donna Wichers

Guests: Dr. Walt Nolte, Joanna Anderson, Rich Fujita, Jeancarlo Visentainer

President Doug Leonard called the meeting to order and everyone introduced themselves. Doug then introduced Dr. Nolte. He reported that there are 5,000 students this semester, an increase of 15%. In addition, there are 674 Hathaway students, 200 more than any other community college. Dr. Nolte reported that the Governor asked for a 10% cut across the system. The College Board decided to use reserves to cover the shortfall and can maintain the current level of services for a number of years with the reserve.

Dr. Nolte recapped the accreditation visit and announced that we received the full 10 year accreditation. The college is working on several issues, including increasing the diversity of staff, faculty and the student body. He told the board that the Foundation is working with the college on funding for the residence halls and that the college has a request into the legislature for a music building, and a student union. The college is still waiting for UW to come up with their 45% to build the UW/CC center building.

Dr. Nolte shared the news about a grant to establish a business incubator. It will be over at the old Amoco Refinery site, with enough money to operate for 18 months. He also discussed the international outreach efforts and the initiative to form partnerships with schools in other countries. He reported that the OLLI program is now eligible for a \$1 million grant.

Joanna Anderson, V.P. of Student Services, gave a presentation on the new residence halls, recapping the financing, design and construction timeline. The new facilities will slightly increase the capacity of on-campus housing. Each double room will have a bathroom and buildings will have public meeting areas. The façade will be brick, metal and glass and designed to complement the other buildings on campus. During construction, students will be housed in hotels with criteria as to which students would be allowed that option. Ground breaking is scheduled for May. Discussions are under way regarding the relocation of the Family Resource

Center. There was a general discussion about ways to address parking problems connected with construction and campus redesign.

Update from Executive Director

Paul Hallock addressed the delay at the banquet and the kitchen difficulties at the Petroleum Club the previous evening. He noted the appreciation of the honored guests, Diana Ohman and Jack Romanek. He complimented Linda on her scheduling of Diana Ohman and making her available to the community. Paul discussed Diana's excellent speech on Thursday night and said it could have been better attended. He expressed his appreciation that the special fundraiser to address the 10% shortfall went well. Paul talked about the need to develop a strategy on how to include younger alums. Finally, he urged people to get to some of the ball games, especially the ones near home for the out-of town alums and talked about the role of the alums in supporting college activities.

Update from the Alumni Coordinator

Linda reported on the banquet and that the silent auction went very well. She updated the board on her plans to attend a conference on on-line strategies. She also recapped Diana Ohman's visit.

She introduced Rich Fujita. Rich Fujita gave a presentation on the webcasting of Casper College athletic events and suggested that we webcast Distinguished Alum lectures. Rich presented the plan for the upcoming issue of Footprints. He also told the board that they had just received a number of publication awards and will find out the specifics at an upcoming meeting in San Antonio.

Approval of Minutes

2009 Fall meeting minutes were approved as read.

President's Report

Doug Leonard thanked the banquet committee and delivered his kudos for the evening, He thanked Charlotte for presenting the history of the association. He reported on the success of the special fund-raiser. He mentioned the foundation's support of the on-line efforts and suggested working on a way for students to actually invest in the campus improvement. Lea asked about the existence of an investment club on campus for students. Paul thanked Doug on behalf of John Jorgensen and the CC Foundation

Treasurer's Report: Bill Duncan delivered the FY08-09 financial report. He pointed out the decrease in revenues over the past year. He reported that gifts are down, which is explained by the current economic situation. He discussed the past subsidies of the banquet and how this may have changed this year with the proceeds from the silent auction. He talked about the unrealized capital loss that is impacting the bottom line and our ability to provide scholarships. Linda addressed the need to keep the database current and the value of that investment. A question was asked about the recovery in the past three months, which is not available yet since the quarter only ended on Sept. 30, 2009.

Committee Reports

Membership and Honors Committee: Derrel praised the banquet committee and commended the board its selection of Diana Ohman and Jack Romanek. He reported on the dedication of the Sharon Nichols auditorium and the CNFR event in the summer. Derrel mentioned Rob DeStefano's resignation and will await the board's direction on filling the vacancy.

Alumni Banquet Committee: Gigi reported on the banquet and the mix-up with the flowers. Other board members said they didn't notice any of the glitches. She and Charlotte will follow up with the florist. A buffet may be a more efficient approach in subsequent years. Mike is estimated a net gain of about \$700 with the silent auction items. He noted that the honorees were a great compliment to each other.

Scholarship Committee Gigi reported on the new software for the scholarship applications and how it will streamline submission of applications and the review and selection of recipients. Linda informed the committee that Thane Crump took advantage of the opportunity to fund a one year scholarship for the James and Anita Crump scholarship.

Ad Hoc Fundraising Committee Lea reported and commended Nolene on pursuing the rocks. The rocks were well received at the banquet. A smaller, desk-sized version is not possible with a river rock. Rick's Rocks is being very helpful with the shipping part of the project. Connie Lohse, Kaycee, will be at the Homecoming Chili Feed and will sell bracelets to benefit the Alumni Association. CC caps can be made as a donation incentive. It was suggested that the graphic arts department could redraw the image in a smaller format.

Old Business

Lea Schoenewald reported that the Thermopolis reception was very fun. A bus came over from Casper and a few other people came from around Wyoming and Colorado. There were not a lot of people from the Thermopolis area, but Paul pointed out that was great publicity for the campus. Charlotte told the board about Donut Day. Alumni board volunteers distributed 52 dozen donuts and brownies. Helpers included Kevin Bromley, Bill Brauer, Mary Litzel, Doug Leonard, Charlotte Babcock, LeRoy and Marcia Strasner, Lyle Cox and Jo Maxfield-Cox. Alumni Web update Linda briefed the board on email service opportunities offered by HarrisConnect, Constant Contact, and a program being considered by College Relations. She will continue to research this issue and report again to the board.

New Business

The Nomination Committee report was given by Charlotte Babcock and slate of nominees was elected by acclamation.

Gigi Leman – President

Kevin Bromley – Vice President

Bill Duncan – Treasurer

President Gigi Leman then took over chairing the meeting. Gigi thanked Doug Leonard for his service and presented him with an engraved CC river rock. Doug expressed his appreciation to the board and officers.

The board reviewed the calendar of upcoming events and the plans for the tree decorating on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 3:30 p.m. The Homecoming Chili Feed will be on February 6, 2010. Activities will include another 50/50 raffle, a table for bracelet and rock sales. The mid-winter meeting will be at noon and committees will be offered time to meet if they so wish. A committee signup sheet was circulated.

The spring board meeting will be Saturday, April 17, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at noon by President Gigi Leman.