

**Minutes**  
**Casper College Alumni Association**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Saturday, October 4, 2008**  
**AD 183**

**Members Present:** Doug Leonard, Derrel Carruth, Gigi Leman, Mike Stepp, Nolene Wright, Bill Duncan, Kevin Bromley, Mary Litzel, Nancy Gerlock Rob DeStefano, Nancy Curtis, Julie Laib, Denise Bleisi, Lea Schoenewald, Charlotte Babcock, David Long, Paul Hallock, Linda Nix

**Excused:** Virg Bodyfelt, Deb Werner Simon, Donna Wichers, Bill Brauer, Lu Hinderliter

**Guests:** Dr. Walter Nolte, Rich Fujita, Joanna Anderson

**Call to Order**

President Doug Leonard called the meeting to order and introductions were made. President Walt Nolte shared the bond issue presentation he's been doing throughout the county to support campus expansion. He reviewed the steps of the process: including the building of a Gateway Building/Center for Training and Development, a remodel of the AD building for health sciences classrooms, and a new student union and UW/CC building. The Aley Fine Arts Building will be remodeled for life science space. Plans for dorm remodeling are already underway. He told the group that the style of dorm is an issue: condo vs. a more traditional configuration.

Joanna Anderson thanked the Alumni Association for help at Donut Day. She reported that there is \$7.7 million of financial aid given to students at Casper College, \$62,000 of which are Hathaway scholarships. Enrollment has increased to over 4,000 students, with a slight decrease only in the category of part-time students (1,1921), Thirty-seven International students are attending CC and have a F-1 visas. There was a discussion about the strategy some students use by dropping out of high school to get their GED, and then qualifying for a Hathaway. Residence Halls are at 100% occupancy. She said to expect a new style of basketball this season with the two new coaches.

**Idea:** Save and sell Bailey bricks and door tags.

Minutes approved as submitted, with the addition of "ed" in the third paragraph.

**Director's Update**

Paul Hallock gave the Executive Director's report and discussed the need to be sensitive to the families whose names are honored on existing buildings as building plans move forward. He mentioned that there are competing projects in the community.

He was asked by Lea if there are categories of recognition for different levels of giving. Paul explained that approach had been used in the past, but is not the current practice. Gigi recapped the current approach to soliciting and recognizing donors.

**Action:** The board agreed to change the solicitation envelopes to allow a choice between matched and unmatched funds.

Lea asked about the use of dues to increase income and suggested a committee examine the issue. Board members had a spirited discussion about fundraising and discussed ways to attach prestige to alumni association participation.

Paul reviewed the Gronberg scholarship monies. He explained that \$100,000 of the money is granted to the alumni association for scholarships in the name of Maryles Patterson. The other \$100,000 resides in the Foundation for non-alumni scholarship money for the Marie Jo Patterson scholarship. Paul addressed the contrast in yield for recently funded scholarships versus the long established funds. He updated the board about the Sharon Nichols Auditorium, 100 new trees that were recently planted, and three new memorial benches.

#### **Update from Alumni Coordinator**

Linda introduced Rich Fujita. Rich Fujita reviewed the changes taking place on the website. David Long encouraged people to submit an article to the alumni magazine. Charlotte talked about the importance of Footprints to the college. She recognized Rich for where he has taken the magazine. Gigi discussed the fundraising aspect of the magazine. Rich and Linda talked about the efforts to issue the magazine on a regular semi-annual basis. Linda told the board that Harris Connect found 7,000 lost alumni, increasing the database to over 20,000 good addresses. The email search resulted in addresses for about 17% of the listed alums. Linda also told the board about her experiences at the CRD Alumni Workshop in Denver, and the CRD regional meeting in Sheridan.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Duncan reviewed the current finances and discussed the need to address banquet income shortfall

Bill shared his calculations and the unrealized losses we are seeing.

Unrealized loss from investments	
Comparison	
6/30/07	\$14,929.72
3/31/08	(18,777.37)
6/30/08	(45,328.20)
One year change	(60,257.92)

Linda explained the expenditure discrepancies for Footprints and Scholarships due to the timing of the fiscal year.

Linda reviewed the budget increases and discussed the need to spend some money on periodically obtaining clean data.

**Membership and Honors Committee:** Derrel explained the purpose of the committee for the benefit of new members: to aid in the selection of the Distinguished Alumnus and Commitment to Excellence recipient as well as the recruitment and selection of new board members. He talked about how humble and appreciative the recipients were at this year's banquet. He reported that there was one committee meeting this summer to assemble the ballot for the new members.

Linda explained the difficulty of connecting Virg for the meeting this time.

**Scholarship Committee:** Gigi introduced Steve Dobby to discuss changes in the scholarship deadline to March 1. Steve discussed the need calculation formula and how it varies according to the person's circumstances. It is difficult for families to understand the expected family contribution according to the FAFSA, especially how the calculation affects middle- income families. Middle-income families are very impacted because only loans are available to bridge the gap. Non-traditional students also have great need as well as spouses and dependents of veterans. Steve addressed the electronic access to applications and how it's helped to increase the number of applications.

Gigi reviewed the scholarship financial report. She discussed the awards and yields from the scholarship accounts and said that the committee will be monitoring the yields to determine which funds will be able to make awards in the spring. Gigi asked Paul to talk with families who have been negatively affected by the lower yields in the funds. Nancy asked if we can we put something in Footprints. Gigi reviewed scholarship recipients.

Charlotte reported that the Babcock Scholarship was able to give a \$1,000 scholarship, with interest left for next year. The recipient of this year's scholarship is Tamara Thomas.

**Alumni Banquet:** Mike Stepp and Denise Blesi reported on the banquet, which was held the previous evening. They observed that it was hard for out of town board members to make both the banquet and the board meeting. They offered kudos on the choice of entertainment.

**Action:** It was suggested that the invitation ask for maiden names, when applicable, so that information could be on the nametag.

**President's Report:** Doug Leonard gave the President's Report and told the board that as president, he sits on the Foundation board. He said that things are tough all over and the Foundation board is working hard to keep income flowing into the accounts. He noted that the Equality State Book Fest was well attended.

**Old Business:** Out of town events were reviewed and board members reported on another successful Donut Days.

**New Business:** The board discussed the need for budget planning and the powers of the Executive Committee under the bylaws. Linda told the board about the Alumni Team playing in the Wells Fargo Tip Off Classic. The Alumni Association is helping with lodging expenses for the alums coming from out of town. Linda reminded everyone of the Christmas Tree Decorating Party on December 1, as well as other upcoming events. A sign-up sheet for committee assignments was circulated. The board agreed that the early October meeting time works well.

President Doug Leonard appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to study additional fundraising streams, with Lea Shoenewald as chair. They were charged with gathering some ideas by the mid-winter meeting and to bring some proposals to the spring meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by President Doug Leonard.