

UNL PARENTS ASSOCIATION - Annual Summer Social and Meeting
June 29, 2013 at 11:30 a.m.
Arboretum, East Campus

Introduction of Attendees:

- Parent Attendees: Lori Alvarez, Timothy Alvarez (also UNL Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs), Susan Draftz, Timothy Draftz, Glenn Humphress, Tonda Humphress (also UNL Project Coordinator), Robin Keralis, Kaylene Luedtke, Heather Ockenfels (UNL Director of First-Year Experience & Transition Programs), Fred Simon, Sue Simon
- UNL Staff Attendees: Luke Bretscher (UNL Student Affairs Graduate Assistant), Juan N. Franco (UNL Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs)

1. A University update was provided by Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Juan N. Franco.
 - a. University Health Center Privatization was not approved by the University Board of Regents. We will need to find a way to pay for a much-needed new building.
 - b. We will begin remodeling the Nebraska City Union, some of which will start right after NSE with major remodeling to be done later. Estimated cost of remodeling is about \$2 million. In addition to changes to the building itself, we plan to also add more tables and chairs in the fountain area.
 - c. Parents may begin hearing more about Friday Night Programming – which will offer opportunities for students to do fun and safe things without having to leave campus.
 - d. Plans for the campus food bank are proceeding. It will be called “Open Shelf” and is expected to open this fall.
 - e. August Commencement will be in the new Pinnacle Bank Arena. May graduates are invited to participate as well.
 - f. UNL plans to have convocation at Memorial Stadium in conjunction with the band performance. UNL will provide red t-shirts to the students and have them form a red N which will make a great picture of the event. After this, convocation will start.
 - g. Preliminary freshman enrollment numbers seem to be looking good right now.
2. The April 6, 2013 Meeting Minutes were distributed for review and *approved as written*.
3. The Treasurer’s Report dated June 30, 2013 was distributed and reviewed.

Assets:	\$10,542.26
Liabilities:	\$3,500.00
Net Worth:	\$7,042.26
Current general account balance:	\$6,218.54
4. Healthier Care Package Options – Dr. Timothy Alvarez, Tonda Humphress, Dr. Fayrene Hamouz (Nutrition and Health Sciences), and representatives from the University Bookstore met to discuss offering Healthier Care Package Options. The University Bookstore has agreed to update their offerings including options with healthier food items and will promote these options on their web site and via an article in the UNL Parents Newsletter and possibly during UNL Parents Weekend. (Please note that there are many companies who will indicate they are affiliated with the University in selling care packages that are not truly associated with UNL. Parents need to be aware of this when responding to marketing from these companies.)
5. Promotional Items – Items will need to be ordered for future UNL Parents Association promotional items. Parents were asked for ideas on items to replace the keylights that were ordered last time. Suggestions included jar openers, coasters and letter openers. These options will be researched and information shared with board members prior to ordering. Additional suggestions for promotional items should be sent to Tonda.

6. Parents Weekend 2013 was briefly discussed. We are working on some registration concerns right now. The schedule right now includes:
 - a. Tour of the new Pinnacle Bank Arena on Friday at 3:30-4:30 p.m.
 - b. Friday evening will be on East Campus; the entertainment for the welcome dinner will be provided by “Boots and Cats”
 - c. Saturday activities will be on City Campus and will include:
 - i. Specialized breakfasts for groups like the WH Thompson Scholars
 - ii. Stadium Tour and lunch in the afternoon.
 - iii. Scavenger Hunt activity for parents and students after the Stadium Tour. We will allow about 1 ½ hours for this event. We hope to have a mobile app to help guide participants in this event.
 - d. We would like to have various student groups compete in a “Best Silent Auction Basket” event for the weekend. We are working with Veronica Riepe, Director of Student Involvement, to figure out how to get the student groups involved. We are also trying to figure out what prizes can be offered to motivate groups to participate. The parent attendees agreed that the UNL Parents Association should purchase two football tickets again this year for the Silent Auction Baskets if we do them again.
7. The UNL Parents Association Raffle will happen again this fall. Since the drawing usually happens at the Fall meeting, the parents decided to have that meeting on November 16, 2013. We will try to promote to the students as well to let their parents know about this change to win tuition for a semester!
8. Ways to increase parent involvement were discussed. Ideas included:
 - a. Use more positive statement such as “We expect to see you at Parents Weekend.”
 - b. Have a person at NSE to sign people up for meetings and activities. Parents should automatically be entered in the Association database and then have to opt out if they want to do so.
 - c. Work with Admissions for email blitzes or use “Constant Contact” to keep parents current on events, activities, etc.
9. We do not currently have a slate of new officers for the fall meeting. Anyone interested in serving on the Board should contact Tonda or Timothy and Susan Draftz.
10. Parents decided to not participate in the Residence Hall Welcome this year as we work to build our parent participant base.
11. At Big Red Welcome we should include information on the raffle as well – “Win Free Tuition” – and encourage students to let their parents know that they will be receiving a raffle mailing soon after the start of the fall semester.
12. Vice Chancellor Juan N. Franco expressed our appreciation to Michael and Robin Keralis for their years of service to the UNL Parents Association. Robin was pleased to announce that her daughter is graduating this summer.
13. Next meeting: Saturday, November 16, 2013 (approximately 2 ½ hours before the game). The parents agreed that we will try to get 20 tickets to the football game for that date.
14. Parents were invited to get a single scoop of ice cream from the UNL Dairy Store after the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by

Tonda Humphress