

**Parents Association Spring Meeting**  
**April 14, 2012**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**212 Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center, City Campus**

Meeting called to order at 10:16 a.m. –Michael Keralis, Secretary

1. Introductions – Michael Keralis

*Attendees:* Lori and Tim Alvarez, Cathy Basham, Mike and Kris Haller, Esa Jarvi, Michael and Robin Keralis, Ann Lif, Edith Matteson, Sue Simon

*UNL Attendees:* Juan N. Franco PhD., Timothy A. Alvarez PhD., Tonda Humphress

2. UNL Update – Dr. Juan N. Franco, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

- New residence hall: A new residence hall is being constructed at this time. Cather parking will be removed after finishing the new hall. The new parking will hold approximately 1000 cars.
- Bedbugs: All 3200 rooms have been checked for bedbugs. Then rooms were treated for bedbugs if found by the bug sniffing dogs. The goal is to provide a comfortable living space for students. As students leave for summer, another bedbug evaluation will be done. This will then be done again after the summer school crowd is finished. UNL is doing everything they can to control the bedbug problems. Now, UNL has their own equipment and the rooms will be treated as bedbugs are found. At this time, no increase in housing fees is planned because of the bedbug problem.
- End of semester activities are being planned. There are many honors given out during this time including the Outstanding Student Leadership Award. Finals are coming up soon. Therefore, stress relief programs are currently underway including planned therapy animals in the union. Last week a concert was held on UNL campus and approximately 4000 students attended.
- A student died yesterday on UNL campus. This situation is being evaluated. Parents are encouraged to be sensitive to our students and how they are doing in regards to this situation. The UNL alerts system was used for this. Parents also can be connected to the UNL alert system. The information about this is on the Internet via the UNL website.
- UNL is considering having Zip Cars on campus. They could be rented by the hour.
- UNL has also been looking into more ways to engage students, especially out-of-state students. These are students who often have long weekends during holidays in which other students go home. During these times it would be nice for some of these students to have opportunities to do things not associated with school directly. Pat McBride, who coordinates student engagement activities, is working with this also.

3. UNL Parents Association Active Member Recruitment/Participation – Dr. Timothy A. Alvarez, Parent and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Dr. Alvarez challenged the group to consider “where is the Parents Association headed as a group?” It is important to get to know the group before a person is willing to join the group. Therefore, we need to orient people to who we are. The Big Red Road Show often has many who say they are willing to participate. They need some encouragement to become involved. We need specific events to help people become involved and acquainted with our group in order to help them participate in the group.

4. Approval of minutes from the February 3, 2012 Meeting – Michael Keralis  
*Motion made and approved unanimously to accept February 3, 2012 minutes*

5. Treasurer's Report – Kaylene Luedtke, Treasurer-presented by Dr. Alvarez

Assets: \$ 28,585.69

Liabilities (projected): \$ 10,799.68

Net worth: \$ 17,786.01

Current general account balance: \$ 24,237.95

Raffle account: \$ 4,347.74

*Motion made and seconded to accept report without change: Approved unanimously*

6. Parents Association Grant Funded Project(s) – Kaylene Luedtke  
*(Information from the distributed Treasurer's report was reviewed.)*

7. Outstanding Student Leadership Award – Michael Keralis

The Outstanding Student Leadership Award will be presented April 30. This award is supported by the UNL Parents Association. Michael Keralis was on the final interviewing committee. As always, many outstanding students are nominated for this award. The students must complete an application for the award after they have been nominated. Then they go through an interview process by UNL faculty and staff. The final interview determines the recipient of the award from a group of 3 female and 3 male finalists. The UNL Parents Association helps finance the banquet for this award.

8. Parents Weekend, October 5 – October 7 – Timothy Alvarez

\* Parent Volunteers will be needed.

\* Dates are listed on the Parents Association Web Site (brochure is not yet avail.)

\* Schedule/Give-away, etc. Changes from last year or what do we definitely want to do again.

\* Registration Fee: 4-5 grants are given yearly for those who wish to attend but have insufficient funds.

\* Silent Auction: Basket donations will again be accepted and encouraged.

9. Big Red Road Show Update

\* Omaha (CenturyLink Center) on March 4 – Timothy Alvarez

Dr. Alvarez expressed thanks for great participation by our parents. This is effectively a sales job of UNL to those who come to the Road Show. Brochures are available for information along with give aways for visitors.

10. Additional Upcoming Events: - Timothy Alvarez/Tonda Humphress

\* NSE will begin June 4 (Parents Weekend Brochures will be distributed if avail.)

(NSE Dates are: June 4-9, 11-15, 18-23, 26-29; July 2-3) (Representatives needed these dates from 7:15-8:10 a.m.)

\* Residence Hall Welcome, Usually the Thursday and Friday before classes start; this year it is likely to be August 16 and 17 (usually need help from 8:00 am -4:00 pm).

Parent volunteers will need to sign up early so that we have time to mail them a parking permit and map (to minimize congestion, volunteers will not be able to park in the residence hall lots); we will need to know what dates/times you will be volunteering and your license plate number and state (for the parking permit). *Please remember that because Housing will be counting on all its volunteers, it is important for you to keep your schedule.*

\* Big Red Welcome is usually the Sunday before classes start, so most likely will be August 19.

11. Summer Meeting –Michael Keralis

Date and setting were discussed for the summer meeting. At this time there was no consistent time available for most to attend a summer meeting. Therefore, Tonda will send out a calendar request for the Parents Association to record when we can get together. We expressed a desire to meet in a place like a park or at a picnic place associated with UNL. Tonda and Dr. Alvarez will try to arrange this.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Keralis MD