

UNL Parent's Association Summer Meeting
UNL Downtown Campus, Campus Recreation Facility
July 9, 2005

Executive Committee Present: Dr. James Griesen (Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs), Tonda Humphress (Projects Coordinator, Student Affairs), Kari Tyree (President), Barb and Steve Ferris (Co-Presidents Elect), Lana Peterson-Pressler (Secretary)

Members Present: Ginni Knutson, Connie Olson, Susan Rutledge.

Staff treated members to a tour of the Campus Recreation Facility

Meeting Called to order by President, Kari Tyree at 10:28 AM.

Minutes of the Spring meeting: All expressed the desire to continue receiving minutes by email prior to meetings. Change "Byron" to Bryon: (Steve Ferris/Sue Rutledge) Minutes approved as corrected.

Finance report (Charlene) Printed report provided. Our assets, including the UNL Parents Development Fund, the General Checking Account and the raffle checking account, total \$16,841.18. The ending balance in our checking account is \$4,028.49.

President's Report (Kari): We recently received a **thank you** from Mead High School for the excess Logo piggy banks.

Big Red Road Show in Omaha will again be at the Quest Center, date TBA.

Residence Hall Welcome: August 18 & 19, 2005. Kari has nine volunteers to date to work 4-hour shifts for 5 halls: Schramm, Smith, Harper, Abel and Sandoz, in that order. All volunteers are from Lincoln so there are no requests for hotel as yet. Kari will email all volunteers when shifts are finalized. Tonda will send us a new student packet for our information.

Big Red Welcome: August 21, 2005: Barb and Steve Ferris and one other volunteer will be our "ambassadors." Often students are available to help, as well as both Kari and Bryon Tyree. Our give-away items will again include Big Red gum, Parent Association magnets, and our logo piggy banks. Suggestions for give away items included carabineers with a flashlight, I.D. holders, and clippers. Kari will review and decide. Ed Weir track will probably be the site of the initial convocation with the celebration continuing with the street fair on campus.

Parent's Weekend (September 23rd-25th) Set up is at 2:00 on Friday with events beginning at 3:00 and continuing through Saturday. Kari has several volunteers and will schedule them as needed. Parent and student panel will include Ashley Selig and her parents and Andrew Knutson and parents. This will be a great weekend, similar to previous years!

High School Parent's Association Connection- Barb Ferris will work on getting names of parent's in charge of the parent's association in each high school within the area including some Omaha area schools, Millard, District 66, Burke, Central, and other Nebraska schools including Kearney, Grand Island, Norfolk and others may be added. Admissions office will assist us in finding schools with a strong UNL tradition of admissions.

A request was received from a parent from Sioux Falls, S.D. requesting a PA chapter in South Dakota. We will instead suggest a liaison from their area should attend the meetings on campus. We will invite the interested parents/liason to our October meeting.

Tuition raffle: Homecoming is two weeks earlier this year on October 8th and will also be our fall meeting date. Mailing date for raffle will be August 30th. As the raffle tickets are returned, especially in early October, Tonda will email us for assistance as needed.

Slate of Officers: President Steve and Barb Ferris, Treasurer, Charlene Venega remaining for another term. We will need candidates for President-elect, Secretary, and a special events chairperson. Kari will contact Tim Draftz to check his continued interest and availability in serving as the Robert Johnson Woods (RJW) Representative.

Vice Chancellor's Report (Dr. Jim Griesen): Best year in history in Nebraska legislature with an increase in state aid although we still face deficits this year. Administration considered and the board approved, a 5% increase in tuition. Departments are dealing with budget shortfalls currently using one time cuts but are very thin in personnel in several areas including Student Affairs as an example. Housing costs are up, fees are up and we continue to be concerned about this, as always, because we lose students when costs increase. We always hope students will continue to be committed to their 4-year goal! However, the financial aid picture is brighter this year from the Legislature!

Improvements continue as we remodel/renovate Schram and Smith Residence Halls this year. Recent improvements include remodeling two others Residence Halls last year, improving courtyards outside the dorms and work continues on the dining halls. We will not have food service in HSS (HarperSchramSmith) until much later this year due to remodeling. They will be able to use Selleck and Abel/Sandoz however and staff is considering other options. Both Husker Village and Husker Courtyards are open this fall and are filling up.

Parking will be greatly affected by Antelope Valley project this year with more than 300 lost spaces, however, a new garage will be done next year.

New Student Enrollment (NSE) finished on Friday and we are pleased with the size of the freshmen class. It is approximately the same size as two years ago indicating we have begun to recover from the losses of last year.

We do have a **beautiful new softball complex** near East Campus and we currently need operating funds for the complex. Portions of the Antelope Valley Project replaced the softball complex by Abel/Sandoz.

Academically things are going well as grants continue to be awarded, strengthening our success in bringing in outside dollars. These grants greatly help defray costs to students and the university. Vice Chancellor Prim Paul has done an outstanding job in aggressively seeking grants. We, at the University of Nebraska will not let the budget deficits affect academic success.

Projects Coordinator Report (Tonda): Tonda shared samples of a new Parent's Association brochure she has worked on for feedback. She also distributed the new phone list magnets and the new volunteer postcard, both requested last meeting. The postcard and the magnet will be in the NSE folders, and handed out at various events including Parent Association (PA) events and other events at the University.

Next meeting is the fall meeting, October 8, 2005. A card will be sent indicating time and site.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 (Barb/Charlene)

Minutes prepared by Lana Peterson-Pressler