

**UNL Parents Association**  
**November 8, 2008**  
**11:00 am. – 1:30 p.m.**  
**Nebraska City Union**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Tim Alvarez, Pam Bellew, Mike Bellew, Joy Citta, Tim Draftz, Michael Keralis, Robin Keralis, Kaylene Luedtke, Richard Luedtke, Elizabeth Pokorny, Jeanne Wilkins

**Guest:** Chelsie Bellew (UNL Student)

**UNL Staff Present:** Timothy A. Alvarez (Student Affairs), Juan N. Franco (Student Affairs), Tonda Humphress (Student Affairs)

Meeting called to order at 11:03 a.m.

Introductions were made of those attending.

Juan N. Franco, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, provided a University update.

- Students coming to the University are increasingly better prepared.
- Retention figures continue to increase.
- The University is building a new residence hall at 17<sup>th</sup> and R Streets and is renovating the Abel-Sandoz towers. The dining facility between the Abel-Sandoz towers is also being renovated. The residence halls are being modified for wireless internet access. The Nebraska Union is expanding and the University just dedicated the new Mabel Lee Hall Fields where new synthetic turf has been installed.
- The University continues to develop safe student programming such as Rock the Vote and Late Night Programming. Students have requested more convenient access for voting as well as more options for activities after 9:00 p.m. Students have also asked for places to study and work later in the evening; the University now has a 24/7 computer lab available in the Union and is considering options for a study room that will be open as well.

Minutes from the July 19, 2008 UNL Parents Association meeting were available on the UNL Parents Association website prior to the meeting and copies were distributed to those in attendance. Tim Draftz made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Elizabeth Pokorny seconded. *Minutes were unanimously approved as written.*

The Financial Report was distributed and reviewed.

Total Assets:	\$41,750.41*
<u>Total Liabilities:</u>	<u>35,216.00</u>
Net Worth:	\$ 6,534.41

\*The UNL Parents Association University Foundation Account contains \$2,545.00 which is reserved for fund shortfalls.

The expense and income information was discussed. A suggestion was made that “estimated” be listed by those items under “Liabilities” that are not actual paid expenses. Elizabeth Pokorny made a motion to approve the Financial Report; Mike Keralis seconded. *The Financial Report was unanimously approved.*

**Residence Hall Welcome**, Elizabeth Pokorny. Residence Hall Welcome was a way for the UNL Parents Association members to help new parents feel comfortable moving their students into the residence halls and settling them on campus. The event was well organized by Craig Lennon, University Housing. The UNL Parents Association volunteers filled out the “parking card” as parents pulled up to the residence hall and offered guidance on where they could park (a map for parking was on the back of the card) and for how long. Parent volunteers also handed out bottles of water supplied by University Housing. It was noted that parents and students need help getting their belongings up the residence hall stairs where ramps are not available. A suggestion was made that perhaps a student group would be interested in helping take the items upstairs (perhaps as a fundraiser or philanthropy for the group). Also, information on whether parents can use the University shuttles once they have parked would have been helpful.

**Parents Weekend**, Joy Citta and Tim Alvarez. An overview of the Parents Weekend events was discussed. The event was well organized. The tailgate party was very successful. Verbal feedback during the event was positive. Dean Oliva’s performance had approximately 25 participants attend; the goal was to have 70 participants, but he was able to adjust his presentation to accommodate the smaller group. Dean Oliva’s support of UNL Parents Weekend and the UNL Parents Association was acknowledged, including the donation of both his time and the presentation facility. Parents also really appreciated the “Mom and Dad” mugs that were provided by the University Bookstore. Dr. Alvarez, then shared some of the data collected from the returned evaluation forms. An evaluation response summary was distributed which shared some highlights from approximately 40 responses. The evaluation return rate was approximately 40-50%. Planning meetings this Spring will include parents, students and University staff.

**Silent Auction**, Kaylene Luedtke. Fifty items were available for auction during Parents Weekend 2008. Everyone did a great job collecting items for the silent auction and putting those items together. The one week’s stay in a condo in Santa Fe, New Mexico and the four day, three night stay in a condo in California brought in over \$400. The bid sheets for each of the items were shared so members could see how the different items did. It takes more than one person to pull this event together and the help of those who contributed items and time was greatly appreciated. Members who made contacts to collect items are encouraged to do a written “thank you” note to the contributors with whom they worked. A suggestion was made that in the future we give people a number for them to use in the silent auction so they don’t have to continuously write their name and contact information each time they want to bid. Their names and contact information will be recorded with the Silent Auction staff at the time their number is assigned. The number could be assigned at the time of their registration – their silent auction number could be put on their nametag. At check-in that information would need to be explained and their phone number that we should use during the silent auction should be confirmed. Members were encouraged to keep in mind the silent auction for next year. Anything with “Huskies” on it was popular. It worked well to have the silent auction items in the Nebraska Union lobby after the breakfast on Saturday; this created a lot of interest and encouraged social interaction.

**New Officer Selection:**

Joy Citta and Rosemary Eastwood will continue as Co-Presidents for next year. The following officers need to be elected for next year; these positions will be in effect beginning January 2009. The ballot currently stands as:

Co-Presidents Elect:	Timothy and Susan Draftz
Secretary:	Michael Keralis
Treasurer:	Kaylene Luedtke
Members-at-large:	Dick Luedtke
(3 positions)	Elizabeth Pokorny

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The ballot will be emailed to members who have provided their contact information.

**Big Red Road Show, Joy Citta**

The Big Red Road Show will be on February 8, 2009 at the Omaha Qwest Center. We need approximately 4-6 volunteers between Noon and 4:00 pm. Anyone interested may contact Tonda Humphress at 402-472-3756 or [thumphress1@unl.edu](mailto:thumphress1@unl.edu); please let her know what time you would be able to volunteer.

**Parents Recognition Ceremony, Joy Citta**

The Parents Recognition Ceremony will be on January 30, 2:30 pm reception, 3:00 pm ceremony. Nomination cards should be received in November. Members were encouraged to talk to their student and nominate faculty or staff who should be recognized at this event. Volunteers are also needed to help with this event. Please contact Tonda Humphress at 402-472-3756 or [thumphress1@unl.edu](mailto:thumphress1@unl.edu).

**Raffle Drawing, Joy Citta**

Tim Alvarez was asked to draw names for the raffle drawing.

- Autographed Baseball: RP and Beth Smith, (son, Wyatt) Broken Bow, NE
- Autographed Volleyball: Randy Wortmann (son, Travis) Hartington, NE
- Autographed Football: Connie Carter (son, Andrew) Chappell, NE
- Autographed Football: Lisa Sanderson (son, David) Sioux Falls, SD
- UNL Textbook Scholarship: Juan Yeefong (son, Paul Yeefong) Bellevue, NE
- UNL Textbook Scholarship: Sarah Kapalka (daughter, Lauren) Apple Valley, MN
- UNL Textbook Scholarship: Mary Berglund (son, Daniel) Alliance, NE
- UNL Tuition: Rick Berryman (son, Richie) Omaha, NE
- UNL Tuition: Michael and Susan Anderson (son, Erik) Prairie Village, KS

**Next Meeting, Joy Citta**

The next UNL Parents Association meeting will be January 30, immediately following the Faculty/Staff Recognition Ceremony.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

*Submitted by*



*Tonda Humphress*