

**PSUAA Greater Chicago Chapter
Board Meeting
IBM Building
Chicago, IL
June 12, 2004**

1. Welcome And Introductions

Gina Razum, President, called the meeting of the Greater Chicago Chapter of Penn State Alumni Association to order at 10:05 am. Those present were:

Sally Anderson, Vice President
John Wenaas, Treasurer
Dennis McLaughlin, Secretary
Kari O'Brien, Membership
Jill Siegel, Service
Dave Hart, Sports
Charlie Carter, Scholarship
Ken Sherman, Member at Large
Ron Kochman, Member at Large
Stan Anderson – Nominating Committee

2. Approval of Minutes

Gina stated that minutes from the previous meeting, March 27, 2004 would be e-mailed to the Board for review and approval. Once the minutes from the March 27, 2004 have been approved, they will be listed on the Chapter's website.

3. Committee Reports

A. African American Alumni Organization
No report.

B. Alumni Admissions
No report.

C. Communications
No report.

D. Membership
Kari O'Brien reported that the Chapter has 338 members, including 85 members as spouses. The Chapter's Newsletter has been e-mail regularly to the members. The Chapter does send a hard copy of the newsletter to 40 addresses. Kari stated that she has started receiving monies for Chapter's membership dues. She is applying the monies towards next year membership enrollment.

The annual Chapter newsletter in August has been the traditional renewal period for membership. The August newsletter goes out to approximately 2,000 addresses. In the past, the Chapter has kept a two-year rolling database for membership. As it is time again to remind people that the annual membership dues are due, the Chapter will advertise the benefits of membership in the newsletter and on the website. Communications for any Chapter sponsored events will always include a discount in price for current members. The Chapter needs to maintain people through the years. The Chapter will look at last year's membership roster and compare the roster to this year's renewals.

Ways of reminding people about their annual dues was discussed. After the membership announcement in the August newsletter, the Chapter will follow-up with a reminder to those individuals who did not respond. The reminder will be sent 90 days after the expiration of their membership. On the non-responders, the Chapter will look at last years membership database for those who have not renewed their membership from the previous year and send them a reminder. The Chapter wants to build on the existing membership base and not lose anyone from the previous year.

Gina and Kari will work on a way to track membership for last year and compare it to this year. Sort members by year and consecutive years and determine a profile.

E. Scholarship

Charlie Carter reported that applications for the Chapter's student scholarships were sent out to perspective undergraduate students who have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and a sophomore standing. Charlie mentioned that he had a student contact him about eligibility requirements. The student was in the accelerated six-year medical program and wanted to know if students in that program are eligible. The entire Board agreed that the accelerated medical program was part of the Penn State University experience. This year, the Chapter has \$3,500 available from endowment and an additional \$900 in the Chapter's treasury for a total of \$4,400 for scholarships. Students who won the previous year are not eligible. This year, the application contained six essay questions for the applicant to complete. The Scholarship Committee will present their recommendations, along with their scholarship dollar amounts.

F. Service

Jill Siegel reported that there was no interest among Chapter members for the recent Chapter's sponsored service event, "Run for the Zoo" at the Lincoln Park Zoo on Sunday, June 6th. Over the past two years, the Chapter has sponsored service events that have worked well and some that were not as successful. The incoming chairperson will have the challenge of finding the right niche for the Chapter.

G. Social

Gina Razum reported for Jamie Ellis that all 20 tickets purchased for the Chicago Fire Soccer game at Soldier Field on Saturday, June 5th were sold. Michael Dunlay has in-

vited the Chapter to hold another outing at his restaurant in Lincoln Park on Clark Street in Chicago. Twelve individuals experienced Columbia cuisine at Las Tablas in Chicago in April. The Wine and Cheese Party was very successful. Forty individuals attended the event.

Sally Anderson provided an update on the Chicago Cub Baseball tickets for Sunday, July 18th, against the Milwaukee Brewers. The forty tickets have been sold. For those who have purchased Cubs tickets and found out that they have a conflict in schedule, the Chapter has a waiting list of members who would be interested in attending the baseball game, please contact Sally. Once again this football season, the Chapter will be viewing Penn State football games at Joe's Sports Bar.

The Chapter is sponsoring an outing at Ravinia for the Tony Bennett concert on Saturday, August 28th at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for members and \$16 for non-members. Contact Mark Israel for tickets at 630-227-9419.

H. Sports

Dave Hart reported that the Chapter has requested 40 tickets from the University Football Ticket Raffle for the Wisconsin game. The football game in Madison may be the later game that day for television, possibly a 6:00 pm kick-off. One bus has already been reserved for the trip. The Chapter may sponsor a bar-b-que prior to the game. After the game, beer, soft drinks, and snacks would be available. Those who want food can easily walk to adjacent restaurants and get a quick bit to eat. The cost of the trip will be approximately \$75. If additional football tickets are needed, the Chapter will contact Penn State and /or University of Wisconsin. Dave will look into the possibility of purchasing a block of tickets for the Indiana football game on November 13th.

I. Web Site

Gina Razum reported for Ben Gruber who has included a football ticket exchange on the message board. The Board was concern that the ticket exchange may compete with the Chapter's tickets. The Chapter has access to limited season tickets through the Nittany Lion Club. Charlie Carter recommended that the Chapter draft a proposal explaining the process in which current members could request Chapter football tickets. Gina, Sally, John, and Dave will develop the language for the proposal. Also, the Chapter's newsletter and the website will explain the limited availability of football tickets through the Chapter. Anyone requesting football tickets through the Chapter must be a member in good standing.

The Chapter will monitor the ticket exchange this season. The Board requested that a disclaimer be added to the page. The Board has no liability to any ticket transaction conducted on the ticket exchange.

Gina stated that the contact list on the website will be updated. She will ask Ben to include an auto forwarding address for Board members e-mail account. Currently,

one needs a password to get into the account. To simplify the process, the messages will be forwarded to the individual Board member to response.

4. Treasurer's Report

John Wenaas provided a copy of the Treasurer's Report to the Board. The report was reviewed. The Chapter's Balance Sheet as of June 12, 2004 was shared.

John reported that the Chapter's has sent an additional check in the amount of \$250 to the Four Diamonds Fund. For the 2004 Dance Marathon, a total of \$500 was submitted to the Four Diamonds Fund.

John reported that the Chapter now has a business credit card. The credit card is through the Penn State Alumni Association and MBNA. One card was issued and it is in the name of the Chapter's treasurer. If the Chapter desires additional credit cards, additional fees will be access.

To control the use of the credit card, purchases will be coordinated with the Chapter's treasurer. Telephone purchases should be transacted with little difficulty. However, onsite purchases may require some pre-planning. The existing language in the Chapter's bylaws on the use of Chapter's checks applies to the use of this MBNA credit card. In pursuing the credit card, the P.S.U.A.A., Greater Chicago Chapter, is identified as a non-profit organization with the Internal Revenue Service.

5. Old Business

A. Chapter Clothing

Gina Razum reported that 45 sweatshirts and 54 t-shirts are sold. Forty-nine percent of the inventory has been sold. So far, the Chapter has recovered 50% of the cost. The current inventory value is \$1,575.50. Anyone wanting to purchase Chapter clothing please contact Colin Murphy, who has graciously accepted being the new coordinator for the Chapter clothing.

B. Membership Incentive

At the recent Wine and Cheese Party, the drawing for the Membership Incentive was held. The winner was Georgann Cole Karantonis. She selected two football tickets to the Purdue football game in 2004.

C. Blue Band Challenge

Sally Anderson reported that the University has no record of receiving two checks from the Greater Chicago Chapter for the Blue Band Challenge. The Chapter had submitted \$1,000 donation for a locker in their brand new facility. John Wenaas will contact the Chapter member who donated money for the Blue Band Challenge about the lost check. A new check with restricted language will be sent to the University for the Blue Band Challenge.

6. New Business

A. Nominating Committee

Stan Anderson reported for the nominating committee. A slate of candidates for the P.S.U. Alumni Association, Chicago Chapter, has been developed and within the week, the nominating committee will finalize the slate. The announcement will go out in the July Newsletter. In keeping with Chapter's by-laws, this will give any registered Chapter member the opportunity to get the necessary signatures to get on the ballot. At the Garden Party on August 7th, the new officers will be announced.

B. Annual Garden Party

The Annual Garden Party and Freshman Send Off will be hosted at the home of Thomas and Christine Lopez on August 7th. Their house is located in Brookfield and accessible by car or train. The invitations will be going out in the next few weeks.

C. Refrigerator Magnets

Sally Anderson stated that she has located a local vendor, CG Promotions, to do refrigerator magnets for the Chapter. The magnet would have a white background and lettering in one color. The website and telephone would be included. CG Promotions has a five-day lead in time for ordering. The Chapter will be placing an order for 500 magnets.

D. Appreciation

John Wenaas on behalf of the Executive Board members thanked Gina for her dedication and leadership over the past two years as Chapter President. After the Garden Party in August, her role changes on the Board to the immediate past president of the Chapter.

7. Next Meeting

The incoming President will determine the date of the next meeting for CY 2004. The time and location will be determined.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis McLaughlin

Secretary