

SLIS Alumni Board meeting minutes

January 8, 2009

The meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m. in the Stone Conference Room in Marist Hall. In attendance were: Mark Brzozowski (presiding), Jeff Prater, Marianne Giltrud, Margaret Weatherford, Jenny O'Shea, and Kathy Kelly.

Review of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the November 19, 2008 meeting were approved.

Secretarial Report

Kathy Kelly noted that the October 2008 meeting minutes and the December updates to the SLIS Alumni News webpage had been sent to the student webmaster for posting, but that there would be a delay due to some technical problems the School was having with CPIT. She also suggested that the Alumni Calendar was taking up a lot of the content area on the SLIS Alumni Gateway page, and asked if she might contact the webmaster to look into moving up the links to the Alumni Board Documents, SLIS Alumni News and other pages higher on the page; the Board agreed.

Old Business

Accreditation Updates

Marianne Giltrud noted that the School would have two editors working on the Program presentation document. She also noted that the ALA Committee on Accreditation would be visiting the School from March 22-24, 2009, and that Dean Kelley will work on setting up a meeting for the Committee with Alumni.

Christmas/Holiday Party Follow-Up

Mark Brzozowski thanked the Board for their work on the SLIS Christmas party, and noted that the first and second prizes for the cookie bake-off will soon be provided to the winner. Board members also discussed the varying titles used for the event (i.e. Christmas party and Holiday party) by various parties on promotional materials, and some suggested an effort for a unified title next time.

Wiki Update

Mark Brzozowski noted that in light of Tim Steelman's inability to attend the current meeting, Tim would brief the Board on how to utilize the wiki he had set up for Board records at the next meeting.

Outstanding Graduates/SLIS CUA Achievement Award winners

Kathy Kelly noted that the lists of SLIS Outstanding Graduates, and SLIS CUA Alumni Achievement Award winners, had been sent to the student webmaster for posting, and would be posted pending the School's resolutions of its technical problems with the CPIT. Board members also discussed the desirability of compiling a Phi Beta Mu inductees list, and Mark Brzozowski noted he would follow up on the issue with Joan Weeks, who serves as President for Phi Beta Mu. Board members also noted it may be helpful for the School to inform students of the Phi Beta Mu honor during their student years, so the honor may be better known. Kathy Kelly also noted that the Board could utilize nomination processes on the CUA Office of Alumni Relations web site to nominate SLIS alumni for future CUA Alumni Achievement Awards.

Von Dran Award

Kathy Kelly noted she would call Washington Trophy to verify how soon they need the final information to produce this year's plaque for the Raymond Von Dran Memorial Award, in light of the fact that the Board would most likely vote on the nominations for the award at the March 19, 2009 Board meeting. She also noted that after she placed the initial announcement of the open nominations period (open through 2/28/09) on the slisalum listserv, other Board members could post it on their other listservs. She noted she would send Rachael Roan some information soon that would be helpful for her to introduce the Von Dran Award presentation at the Stone Lecture.

New Business

Stone Lecture – April 21, 2009

Board members discussed the need to obtain a title for Dr. Alire's talk and her biography, for use in the program for the event. Marianne Giltrud agreed to look into this. Jeff Prater agreed to look for materials which had promoted the Stone Lecture last year. Marianne noted that a room on campus was booked for the event, but it would not be confirmed until closer to the event. The Board also noted a Save the Date message should start to go out about the event by the end of January. They also discussed the prospect of obtaining food from Shopper's Food Warehouse for the event.

Facebook and LinkedIn SLIS groups

Mark Brzozowski noted he had talked with Marion Gosney about the definition of 'alumni', and she had said CUA consider an alumnus/alumna someone who had spent 2 semesters at CUA. The Board discussed the options of either having more professional groups for alumni in Facebook and/or LinkedIn that would thus be more exclusive of those who had not received an MSLS, or going for a more inclusive

'CUA SLIS Community' type of group in each. They suggested that more inclusive groups might want to leave "Alumni" out of the group names, even if the groups were administered by alumni. Jenny noted that the LinkedIn group now has about 21 members, Facebook somewhat fewer, and she agreed to draft an announcement to the Board about proposed changes to the groups.

Future Board Dates

Other Board meeting dates, unless changed later on, are still February 12, 2009; March 19, 2009; April 16, 2009; May 21, 2009; and if needed June 18, 2009; July 16, 2009; and August 20, 2009. Kathy Kelly noted the Board should look into whether May 21, 2009, Feast of the Ascension, would be a university holiday or not.

As noted above, the next SLIS Alumni Board meeting will be February 12, 2009.