

## **SLIS Alumni Board meeting minutes**

**July 17, 2007**

The meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m. in the Stone Conference Room in Marist Hall. In attendance were: Jeff Prater (presiding), Margaret Weatherford, Kathy Kelly, Cristina Ramirez (via teleconference), incoming Dean Kimberly Kelley, Mary Edsall Choquette (faculty representative to the Alumni Board), Marion Gosney (Office of Alumni Relations), Mark Brzozowski, Marianne Giltrud, and Thom Webster.

The minutes from the May 22, 2007 meeting were approved.

Attendees introduced themselves, and it was announced that Board member Cristina Ramirez has been elected to ALA Council at Large.

The need for an updated set of By-laws was discussed. Dean Kelley noted By-laws are helpful especially in cases of high attrition, and for rapidly educating new Board members as they cycle in. It was agreed that Jeff Prater, Marianne Giltrud, and Mark Brzozowski would serve as members of a By-laws group to discuss revising the By-laws. Kathy Kelly agreed to send out a link to the most recent SLIS Alumni Association By-laws. Jeff Prater agreed to send out the Bylaws and Constitution from the CUA Alumni Association. It was agreed that after By-Laws revisions an election would take place at an October 2007 SLIS Homecoming event, after which a new board for 2007-2008 would assume office.

### **Old Business**

It was noted that the SLIS Alumni gathering at Clyde's at Gallery Place during the ALA conference was a great success; there were more than 90 attendees. The Board indicated a desire to continue holding events during conferences in the DC area.

Meeting attendees discussed the need to promote the SLIS Alumni listserv. Marion Gosney will find out the price to send a postcard to all SLIS alums, which could promote both the listserv and an upcoming SLIS alumni event, such as an event during Homecoming Weekend (October 19-20, 2007). It was noted that some older alums also appreciate hard copy information sent via regular mail. Dean Kelley noted that the listserv is successful, that people are reading it, but that the Board also might consider using multimedia to get more attention, such as evite technology or wikis related to events. Marion Gosney noted that the Office of Alumni Relations can do Flash postcards on their web site. Dean Kelley agreed to find out if she and the faculty can be added to the slisalum-l list.

Marion Gosney promoted CUA's Alumni Online Community (<http://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/CUA/>), available on the CUA Office of Alumni Relations web site, noting that it provides access to an Alumni Career Network which provides mentoring opportunities. She also noted that the CUA Magazine can

allow space for promotional info about groups such as Alumni Boards. Gosney also noted events which allow registration for these online communities are helpful, such as barbecues after the end of exams.

## **New Business**

Jeff Prater asked if the SLIS Alumni Board could send a representative to the CUA Alumni Association meetings. Marion Gosney noted that the Board could send a rep to the CUA Alumni Association's Board of Governors meetings, which take place twice a year, in October and April, on Saturdays from 9-12. It was agreed that Margaret Weatherford would attend and Mark Brzozowski would serve as an alternate/backup.

The Alumni section of the SLIS web site (<http://slis.cua.edu/alumni/>) was discussed. Jeff Prater noted that off campus persons don't have authority to load files at present. It was noted that SLIS now has a student serving as Webmaster, Nora Daly. It was agreed that the Board would continue sending routine Board documents to Anita Coleman for posting on the Alumni Board Documents page (<http://slis.cua.edu/alumni/Documents.cfm>), while the Dean confirms with Dave Schumaker, Clinical Associate Professor at the Information Commons, what Nora's role is in regard to listservs and the web site. The Dean suggested the Board might consider a competition for re-design of the Alumni section of the SLIS web site.

The Board discussed ways to draw attention to notable SLIS alums, including a proposal to compile a list of Notable Alumni for inclusion on the Office of Alumni Relations web site's Notable Alumni page (<http://alumni.cua.edu/famous%20alums.cfm>), which includes such lists for many of CUA's Schools. Marianne Giltrud agreed to do some work on starting to compile such a list.

In terms of future events, it was agreed that Homecoming weekend would be a good occasion to introduce the new Dean. Ideas included providing behind the scenes tours of a CUA library collection, and events at Library of Congress or the SLIS Virginia campuses.

Regarding the 2008 Stone Lecture, it was noted that the Board might want to pull in vendor support, in order to provide a proper honorarium to the speaker. The possibility of obtaining items for an auction was discussed as a way to raise money for the Stone Scholarship Fund at this event.

A previous Board's idea about having an Advisory Task Force on Accreditation was discussed. It was noted it might not be necessary since the new Dean is committed to communicating the status of all stages of the accreditation review process. The Board could help the School push out notice of relevant documents on the listserv.

The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, August 14, 2007 in the Stone Conference Room in Marist Hall at CUA, 6:30 p.m.