

SLIS Alumni Board meeting minutes
October 23, 2008

The meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m. in the Stone Conference room in Marist Hall. This was the first meeting of the 2008-2009 Board year. In attendance were: Mark Brzozowski (presiding), Fran White, Jeff Prater, Margaret Weatherford, Marianne Giltrud, Rachael Roan, Jenny O'Shea, Kathy Kelly, and Dean Kimberly Kelley.

Review of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the September 18, 2008 meeting were approved.

Old Business

Accreditation Updates

Dean Kelley noted she had held a Forum on accreditation status on 9/25/08 at SLIS; that Karen O'Brien of the ALA Committee on Accreditation (COA) will meet with SLIS Faculty on 11/8/08; that the next Program Presentation draft is due to the ALA COA on 11/14/08; and that SLIS will plan an evening for alumni to come and meet with the COA sometime during the COA's March 23-24, 2009 visit to SLIS.

Wiki

The Board discussed possible means of implementing a wiki for storage and future access of Alumni Board electronic files. The Dean said she will look into whether the Board can utilize a portion of the School's wiki.

Election

Jeff Prater reported on the recent Board election for Secretary, and discussed possible future methodologies for secure means of voting. He also suggested that future elections be held in the spring, to build on momentum of the Stone Lecture and graduation, and to avoid overlap with the October Homecoming event. He recommended a nominations period be held April 22-May 19, 2009, and that voting take place from May 20-June 2, 2009. He mentioned he will be in touch with Layla Voll of DC SLA about any lessons learned from their recent online election.

Secretarial Report

Kathy Kelly reported that the SLIS Alumni News webpage (<http://slis.cua.edu/alumni/alumnews.cfm>) had been in effect for 10 months now, and suggested that monthly announcements about updates to the page, currently posted on the slisalum and DC SLA listservs, be distributed on additional listservs such as MLA, VLA, and others. She mentioned she was closing down files for the 2007-2008 board year, and Jeff Prater turned in some votes cast over email during that year. She recommended that information products during the new board year be given a lot of time and collaborative work during their development.

New Business

Facebook and LinkedIn Groups

Jenny O'Shea discussed and displayed the pilot SLIS Alumni groups she had developed in the Facebook and LinkedIn social networking web sites, noting their usefulness for networking, announcements, and discussions. She noted that SLA and ALA have Facebook pages, and that Catholic University has an Alumni group on LinkedIn. The Board noted that Facebook and LinkedIn serve different demographics, and agreed to discuss administrative matters further to consider moving forward with the accounts.

Alumni e-newsletter

Mark Brzozowski noted the School had some interest in Constant Contact (<http://www.constantcontact.com/index.asp>) as a possible means of starting a SLIS Alumni newsletter. Several members expressed interest, and Mark indicated he'd talk more with the Dean about this prospect.

Holiday Party

The SLIS Holiday party will take place on December 2, 2008, from 6:30-9 p.m. in the Information Commons in Marist Hall. The Dean had suggested to a representative from AGLISS that the students might want to host the event with the Alumni. The Board will talk further about setup and cleanup issues, and agreed to include a cookie bake-off with a prize as part of the event.

Tabled agenda items

Three agenda items were tabled until the next meeting, due to time constraints: a Stone Lecture Program Committee, a Von Dran Award Committee, and the Alumni Strategy Report.

The next SLIS Alumni Board meeting will be November 19, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Stone Conference room in Marist Hall.