



Geneva Alumni Council

Abridged Minutes of the Regular Meeting
May 10, 2014

Attendance

Council Members:

Katie Rhodes '07, President
Adam Shaffer '11, Vice President
Mark Sampson '93, Secretary
Kelly DeFilippo '09
Bob Rak '70
Jolynn Frey- Alumni Relations
Crystal Arrington '86
Mark Cowley '87
Barry Davis '75
Carolyn Mollenkopf '62
Special Guest:
Laura DePietro '07 Alumni Department
Meredith Cowley – Mark's wife - welcome

Council Members:

Absent:
Bruce Backensto '69, Board of Trustees
Representative
Jeff Jones, VP of Institutional Advancement
Ken Smith ' President,
Ted Kay '71
Holly Magnuson '02

1. Opening Prayer

Barry Davis opened in prayer.

2. Welcome and Updates

- There was discussion on the Council concerning the communication tone over the past few months in light of the difficult situation that Geneva (and other educational institutions) find themselves in. There needs to be a balance in communication leveraging the truth of the difficult situation and positive items that emphasize the historic mission of the college, the work that the Lord is doing currently, and the work He has done in the past.

3. Alumni Relations Update

Jolynn gave the update on the Alumni Relations department:

- Please see the Alumni Update on the website for the latest happenings.
<https://www.geneva.edu/page/alumni>
- Printed copy of upcoming events was distributed to attendees. These are also noted on the website.
- Golf outing on September 8, 2014. Please encourage all of your golfing buddies to attend.
- Council members are encouraged to attend the regional Networking events. Please invite your friends.
- Harris Directory – online directory – should be available fall 2014. Due to the hard sell, this will not be an option in future years.
- Senior Send Off Dinner recap – 90 students in attendance. Jolynn provided a copy of her remarks. Numerous council members noted the wonderful efforts of those in charge of this weekend.

- Discussion around the use of technology for when unable to attend Alumni Counsel meetings physically. Will either set up conference call or Skype. Suggestion that members attempt to be physically present once a year. Jolynn to investigate if this is a bylaw issue or if this needs to be approved at another level beyond the council.
- Jolynn updated the council on her role. In addition to heading the Geneva Fund, she is continuing in this role with the alumni council. Ken Smith is still the recognized face of Geneva alumni.
- **Proposed Geneva College Distinguished Service Young Alumnus (Alumna) Award**
 - Have graduated from Geneva within 10 years of when the award is being presented
 - Have made an outstanding contribution to his/her avocation or occupation.
 - Have made such an accomplishment which demonstrates an enthusiasm or vigor which typifies and represents the spirit of both students and recent graduates
 - Have exhibited a significant concern for and contribution to the development and success Geneva College following their graduation
 - Have made such accomplishments while maintain a Christ-honoring perspective in every aspect of their lives.
 - This award may not be presented every year.
 - Discussion of Tom Johnson as a DSA recipient.
 - Young alum (< 10 years graduated) also possible.
 - Council members encouraged to make recommendations.

6. Homecoming

- The class of 1974 is planning a 40 year reunion and is hoping to raise \$25,000 toward an endowed scholarship. They will have a dinner on Saturday night at the Sheraton Four Points in Cranberry.
- Postcards have been sent out to 8 classes, which include: 1969, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, and 2009. The card invites them to be volunteers to help serve on their reunion committees. Very little response back.
- Exploring the idea of food trucks.
- Crafters will not participate this year.
- Student groups will still be participating.
- Rifle team affinity group has become very active and they will be sponsoring an event.
- Looking to sponsor two academic affinity groups, engineering and teaching. Can those departments help host these events.
- Updated schedule for Homecoming was provided.
- The Homecoming Football Game will be at 2:00 this year.
- Brunch becomes breakfast to accommodate the earlier football game.
- The Fall Fest will be combined with Homecoming this year.
- Roll Parent's Weekend into everything, driving participation, energy, and excitement.
- Parade update – Homecoming is always a challenge with a parade being almost a second event. Geneva administration is not yet prepared to add a huge undertaking such as this. There was a very robust discussion with incredible passion about the various aspects of a parade.

7. Alumni Council Membership

- Kaitlin Rhodes, Kelly DeFilippo, Adam Shaffer, and Mark Sampson will stay on Council.
- Officers will be President – Kaitlin Rhodes, Vice-President – Adam Shaffer, Secretary – Mark Sampson.

8. Adjournment and Next Meeting

Katie adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be August 23, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m.

