

Penn State Higher Education Program Alumni Council (HEPAC)

An Affiliated Program Group of the College of Education Alumni Society & Penn State Alumni Association

Board of Directors Meeting Saturday, April 14, 2007 RAMADA INN, BOARD ROOM 114

Minutes

Present:

Angelique M. Bacon-Woodard, Michael J. Dooris, Mary Anne Fedrick, David S. Guthrie, John Ikenberry, Sara Parks, Susan Ruth Richardson, Susan Fleck, Roger Geiger, Robert M. Hendrickson, Craig Eozzo, Suzanne Hickey, Kip Sorgen, Christian K. Anderson

Present via telephone:

Betsy Palmer, Richard H. Dorman

Absent:

Ann Kieffer Bragg, James T. Harris III, Jason E. Lane, Karen Paulson, Stanley E. Latta, John W. Moore, Alan J. Sturtz, Carol L. Colbeck, Jacqueline Stefkovich

The HEPAC committees met separately from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. John Ikenberry called the general meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

General Session

President's Remarks

All present introduced themselves. John gave an overview of the meeting.

I. Approval of the October 21, 2006 minutes

The minutes were approved by acclamation.

II. Program and College Reports

HEP Professor-in-Charge – Roger Geiger

Roger announced that Chris Brown had become dean of the College of Education at UNLV and that Shaun Harper had taken a position at the University of Pennsylvania. He announced that the applicant pool was very strong and that the incoming doctoral class would have about eight doctoral students. The program is now ranked first in the country. He mentioned that a number of the applicants mentioned that they preferred Penn State over Michigan. The program is facing some important issues and the department will hold a strategic planning meeting soon to discuss issues such as the growing institutional research program. Bob Hendrickson mentioned that Shaun Harper's position, a joint higher education and student affairs position, will be filled. Bob mentioned that Bob Reason, professor-in-charge of the CSA program, has been able to grow the CSA program and has secured about a dozen assistantships and internships with the Division of Student Affairs. Roger also mentioned that Bob Reason received a College teaching award, Pat Terenzini was awarded the first "Sphere of Influence" award from NASPA, and Roger received the College Career Achievement Award. John asked if the program was considering other certificate or online programs like the IR program. Roger and Bob both said that none are in the works and that doing so would require significantly shifting resources away from the strong doctoral and master's programs.

CSHE Director – Carol Colbeck

Carol was not present to give an update. Bob Hendrickson passed around the new CSHE brochure and gave an update about the Center's progress and success in bringing in grant money.

HESA President – Suzie Hickey

Suzie told that several students had won national awards for dissertation research (Pete Villareal, Lorenzo Baber, and Betty Harper). Volume 5 of *Higher Education in Review* will be published this month with five articles and a reception will be held on Friday, April 27th. The new editors will be selected and will begin their duties in May. Suzie is attempting to try to create a partnership to do a community service project with a local Habitat for Humanity house. She mentioned that more part-time students have begun to attend more social events. John said that local alumni might be interested in participating in the Habitat program. Susan Richardson encouraged HESA to continue to do the brown bag series because they seem very engaging to her, even though she is not able to attend (but wishes she could). Suzie explained how these brown bags can have a positive effect on networking.

Alumni Relations – Craig Eozzo

The College is sponsoring a Cycle-Thon on April 22, 2007 and he encouraged everyone to participate or to help sponsor the event. An interactive online program, EdLion, is sponsored by the College to bring people together to discuss hot topics in education. He reminded the group that they could use Angel to store HEPAC and committee files but he needed everyone's Friends of Penn State account to sign them to the site. The College of Education will sponsor a night at the Spikes baseball game on June 22, 2007 (call Zack Weiss at 814-272-1711 x. 327 for tickets). The College recently honored Patrick Vennebush, mathematician with the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, at its Alumni Recognition event. The College of Education Alumni magazine will be sent out to alumni within the next month.

Director of Development – Susan Fleck

The College has raised about 69% of its annual goal and has raised 9 of 10 million dollars of its most recent campaign goal. There are nine new endowments in the College and another four or five that are in the works, which represents a doubling of endowments over the past year, including the Robert M. Hendrickson Endowment and the Richard and Beverly Dorman Dissertation Endowment. Bob Hendrickson also mentioned that there is another graduate fellowship, the Turner Fellowship, which has translated into five graduate fellowships. The upcoming seven-year College campaign has a goal of raising \$18 million. Roger mentioned that the higher education programs two candidates for Graduate Fellowships were highly ranked (first and third this year) and one will be coming to Penn State in the fall. John mentioned that the HEPAC solicitation letter raised about \$2,000 since last fall. Rick asked if the recent top ranking could be used in some way to maximizing fundraising. Susan said that even informing alumni of the ranking and of some of the recent accomplishments to "warm the hearts" of the alumni to then do a solicitation. John mentioned that in the future letters there should be something from a student demonstrating how the gift has been of benefit to them.

III. Committee Reports

John Ikenberry mentioned that Christian Anderson has taken a job as assistant professor at the University of South Carolina and thanked him for serving as executive secretary. He mentioned that the HEPAC board will invite another student to replace him.

Alumni Relations – Susan Richardson

Susan said that the committee is trying to plan a reunion/symposium to be held June 27-29, 2008. She mentioned that the several symposia have been held by the program in the past decade including the anniversary celebration in 2000 and the Symposium in 2005 as part of Penn State's sesquicentennial on the future of the American public research university. This symposium will be held at the Nittany Lion Inn, near the program and the Alumni Center, and will focus on alumni and their contributions. Rick mentioned that the committee needs to get out a "save the date" announcement soon followed up by updates and a formal announcement to build excitement for the event. Susan said the cost for the symposium would be around \$100 per person, not including lodging. Lodging would be offered at a discounted rate, about \$125 per night. Susan said that HEPAC members should help spread the word at conferences such as ASHE. Dave discussed the program for the event and the committee is continuing to refine it. The main purpose is to bring faculty, students, and alumni together and to have some kind of intellectual experience in addition to a "good time." He said they want to balance the need to have a time to "get together" and enjoy reuniting with friends with having an intellectual component. Dave said he would like to invite students to do a poster session to show their scholarship. Kip said that students would be most interested in attending if they knew the types of alumni that would be involved and if there would be a discounted rate. Suzie mentioned that she would ask if there is a student who would be interested in being a part of the planning committee. She also said that this might be a good way to formally create networking opportunities. Mary Ann mentioned that alumni could pay a higher cost than the \$100 that would allow for a student price. Roger Williams said the Alumni Association would be willing to help promote the event as much as possible. Rick mentioned that doing registration in a way that allows participants to see who else will be coming. Dave said the program would be staffed by alumni and faculty of the program instead of having invited speakers, especially given the resources available among the alumni. These sessions could focus around clusters on panels about the presidency, about being a faculty member, about other roles that alumni have taken. Susan asked for an endorsement from HEPAC to continue with the program which was unanimously approved. Other events such as campus tours, a golf tournament, trips to the new Creamery, etc. could be incorporated.

Student Development – Angelique Bacon-Woodard

Angelique mentioned that some of the types of things related to networking students with alumni are highly related to the goals the Alumni Relations committee is trying to accomplish with the upcoming reunion event. She said that she wishes to renew the mentoring program with the new HESA leaders and Suzie and Kip will work with students to see what kind of involvement students would like with mentoring. A letter will be sent out to solicit information from alumni and hopefully to have alumni submit information on a College or department web site. She also asked for ideas on how to connect with the CSA alumni. Bob recommended Angelique get in touch with Bob Reason about how to best contact them, and to perhaps involve one of the program's alumni on HEPAC.

Awards & Recognition – Stanley Latta

Stanley Latta was not present to give an update. John mentioned that the idea was to recommend our alumni for Penn State awards. Roger Williams mentioned that the group should keep young alumni in mind for the Alumni Achievement Award, which is given to alumni under 35 years old, and for the Alumni Fellows Award. The program has had two fellows, Jim Harris and Miguel Escala. John recommended we stay aware of possible candidates, in consultation with the program's faculty, for awards that HEPAC could send to the College of Education Alumni Office.

Communications – Alan Sturtz

Sara Parks reported that the main audiences for communications from HEPAC include the program, CSHE, and the alumni. Three possible alternatives for action: 1) dissolve the committee if it doesn't hold a real purpose, 2) explore new activities for the committee, 3) assigning its functions to other committees. She said the combination of dissolving the committee and distributing its responsibilities to the other committees. John reminded the group that other committees have come and gone as needed, such as the nominating committee, which could have some use again now that new committee members. Mike said this doesn't have to be set in stone and that these duties can be distributed among the other committees, related directly to their activities. Bob said that he would like to see the online HEPAC directory to be developed and would hate to see this initiative disappear if the communications committee were disbanded. John said that if the committee were disbanded he wants to make sure this project is not lost and that perhaps the committee could be restructured around this project.

IV. New Business

Susan Richardson made a motion that the nominees be re-elected, seconded by Sara Parks. The motion was approved unanimously. The following Board Members were re-elected for an additional three-year term:

Michael J. Dooris, Ph.D. '92
Richard H. Dorman, D.Ed. '90
James T. Harris III, D.Ed. '88
John Ikenberry, Ph.D. '99
Stanley E. Latta, D.Ed. '92
Karen Paulson, Ph.D. '96
Roger L. Williams, D.Ed. '88

Susan Richardson nominated Michael J. Dooris for president of HEPAC, seconded by Sara Parks. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mike gave his inauguration speech, thanking his predecessors in the HEPAC presidency and the members of the HEPAC board. He said that he believed that HEPAC was evolving to become a special and unique institution, much as HESA has over the years.

Sara Parks nominated Susan Richardson for Vice President and Roger Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. Old Business

There were no additional items of business.

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Christian K. Anderson (cka108@psu.edu).