

SLIS Alumni Board Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 6:38. In attendance were Jeff Prater (presiding), Margaret Weatherford, and faculty member Dr. Mary Edsall. Dean Martha Hale joined the meeting in progress. Attending via teleconference were Dr. Pat Evans and Linda Hasman. Board members Kathy Kelly and Christina Ramirez were unable to attend. Previous board members Jerome Offord, Barrie Howard, Larry Roeder, and Stephanie Salmon had resigned since the previous meeting. Margaret took minutes in Kathy's absence.

The minutes of the January 23, 2007 meeting were approved, with Jeff's observation that the date of the current meeting had been changed, so it was incorrect in the draft minutes.

Committee reports were addressed briefly. No constitution and bylaws report was given as the members have resigned from the board. The events and outreach committee reports were postponed until the discussion of old business.

In the discussion of old business, Jeff stated that he would address the concerns Kathy had sent him regarding the alumni listserv and website. Jeff asked if the board had sent in a nomination for a SLIS graduate for the CUA Alumni Achievement Award and Margaret reported that Kathy had nominated Judith Russell.

Margaret reported that as the outreach committee she had contacted Ken Megill, a SLIS graduate and former faculty member who now owns the Straits of Malay restaurant, regarding a possible SLIS alumni event, probably a happy hour, during the ALA convention. Ken had been interested in hosting the group and possibly offering a discount. Margaret suggested June 25th as a possible date for the event. Dr. Edsall, who is acting as the SLIS liaison to the CUA alumni association, stated that there will be a tour of SLIS and the Mullen Library's special collections for ALA attendees on the afternoon of the 25th. Dr. Edsall also reported that the CUA alumni association is planning an event in conjunction with the ALA convention. This event will be an opportunity for the alumni to meet the new dean and may be held at the Library of Congress.

Dr. Edsall reported on the dean search. The search committee has selected a candidate, the president and faculty of CUA have approved the candidate, and an offer has been extended. Dr. Edsall could not identify the candidate while the offer has not yet been accepted. Dr. Edsall believes that the new dean should be able to start this summer. Linda commented that it had been an unusually fast hiring process.

Dean Hale joined the meeting and Dr. Edsall updated her on the discussion regarding alumni events during the ALA convention. Dean Hale said that she thought that alumni would not want to attend two events. Dr. Evans suggested that the Museum of Women in the Arts would be a good location for an event if there will be only one event. Dr. Edsall agreed to contact the CUA alumni association to get the details of their planned event.

Dean Hale reported on the status of the Stone Lecture plans. The planning has been completed, including planning the program, ordering food, and sending invitations. At Kathy's suggestion,

Jeff asked about webcasting the lecture. Dean Hale reported that CPIT has been asked to webcast it but they might not be able to do it. Jeff observed that the speaker, Deanna Marcum, should be asked for her permission to webcast the lecture, and Dean Hale said that she would ask Dr. Marcum. Dean Hale said that Dr. Ingrid Hsieh-Yee would be bringing 20-30 of her students to the lecture, and there are currently 30 other RSVPs. Dean Hale expressed concern that there would be a low alumni turnout.

Dr. Evans commented that 63 alumni had filled out the survey regarding the webcasts of the presentations by the dean search candidates. Dr. Edsall said that she would send a thank-you to the alumni listserv after the new dean has accepted the position.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22. Dean Hale remarked that recent open houses have drawn 50, 20, and 20 potential students.

The next meeting will be on May 22nd at 6:30 in the Stone Conference Room at SLIS.