



October Monthly Meeting October 5, 2009 – GMU, Arlington Campus

Board Members Present (alphabetically): Chris Casto, Beth Frank, Mike Hanpeter, Chris Maurer, Bekah Meyerowitz, Kate Phillips, Steve Piekarec, Lamont Rooker, Dennick Skeels, and Mark Tallarico.

Schools Present (alphabetically): Alabama, Arizona State, Clemson, Colorado, Connecticut, Cornell, Delaware, Duke, Elon, Georgetown, Georgia Tech, Johns Hopkins, Maryland, Miami (FL), Miami (OH), Michigan, New Mexico State, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Penn, Penn State, Pitt, Providence, Purdue, Richmond, South Carolina, Stanford, Tennessee, Tulane, Tulsa, Virginia Tech, Washington State, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Xavier, and Yale.

Meeting began 7:20PM

I. Attendees' Introductions and Sign-In

- a. Introductions – name, school and upcoming events.
- b. **Please be sure to post your event on your chapter page on the website by the 15th of every month. These are also visible on the Chapter Events Calendar of the homepage and some will be included in the monthly CAN Happenings e-newsletter.**

II. Organizational Status Report

- a. Bylaws
 - i. The AC voted last week to adopt the proposed changes to the bylaws (Changing the Sports Chair position to allow for Co-Chairs; and adding language to allow for Assistant Chair positions for all Committee Chairs)
- b. CAN Scholarship Fund
 - i. Background: Through the sponsorships obtained for the softball tournament, CAN now has a little over \$4,000 set aside as the foundation for the CAN Scholarship Fund (the "Fund"). The plan is to submit an application to obtain 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status in the near future, and to do so we need to show that we present charitable donations – which this allotment of money will provide. The \$700 awarded to chapters' scholarship funds through the NPC 5k will come from this money with the remaining for future awards.
The tentative plans are for the Board to create an ad hoc Committee to oversee the Scholarship Fund, such that the Board only controls how much is given out per year. The Committee would determine, on its own, the criteria used for the applications, qualifications and the number of scholarships given, on a calendar-year basis – hopefully to begin January 2010.
 - ii. After discussing this at last month's meeting, only three people expressed interest in becoming involved in the planning. Mark would like to have more people assist in shaping the fund and asked that those interested get in touch with him by October 12.
 - iii. If there is an obvious lack of interest, the Board will reconsider moving forward with this as there is no point in implementing a fund that could benefit chapters if the chapters themselves are not interested. Participants at last month's meeting

mentioned that some chapters do not have their own scholarship funds, which is helpful feedback that will hopefully guide the ad hoc committee in the development of the criteria for the Fund. The goal is to design a plan that will enable all chapters to benefit. Therefore, the Board would ideally like to have a well-rounded spectrum of voices involved in the creation of the plan that will implement the Fund.

- c. Board Openings - The board of directors is currently looking to fill the following openings: Community Service Chair and Assistant Chair(s), Business Development Chair, and Sports Co-Chair and Assistant Chair. Interested applicants should complete the application online (www.dcalum.org) prior to Friday October 16th at Noon. Experienced and current chapter leaders are encouraged to apply.

III. Committee Break-Outs

- a. Business Development
- b. Communications
- c. Community Service
- d. Social
- e. Sports

IV. Committee Break-Out Recaps

- a. Business Development
 - i. The plan is to build upon the success of the softball tournament and continue the momentum which will hopefully enable CAN to obtain year-long and/or sport-specific sponsorships beginning in January 2010. This effort will be led by Dennick and Mark.
 - ii. Mark asked that people contact him if they are interested in serving on the committee and/or have contacts that could possibly be a good fit for sponsorship.
- b. Communications
 - i. Members of the committee discussed a four (4)–pronged approach:
 - 1. Reach out to chapters to encourage highlighting all that they are doing in their own national alumni association newsletters
 - 2. The committee will format information about CAN and chapter involvement (i.e. boilerplates, etc.) for easy reference
 - 3. The committee would provide these resources to the chapters to use when speaking about CAN
 - 4. Ensure there is more focus on chapter events – on the website (perhaps a scrolling list of upcoming chapter events, in addition to the chapter events calendar in existence) and in meetings.
- c. Community Service
 - i. There is a need for more people to become involved and help lead the efforts discussed
 - ii. People would like to add a community service component to the mid-season flag party – perhaps a food or clothing drive, with an incentive such as bringing ‘x’ number of products and in return the person will receive a discount at the door
 - iii. It might be in the best interest for the committee to focus on one organization to support and build a relationship with them – whether that be Capital Area Food Bank or DC Central Kitchen
 - iv. Also, maybe CCSP could have boxes for food/clothing collection throughout football season to be used by those attending game watches
 - v. Melissa Green and Amy Landry let people know that they have applied to be Assistant Chairs of the committee, with the hopes of adding to what chapters are doing, not to take away.
- d. Social
 - i. The remaining three (3) kegs from the softball tournament will be used at a party to take place Friday, October 16 at The Exchange. Wristbands can be purchased

for \$10 which will provide access to the kegs. If people are not interested in taking part in the “all u can drink”, CAN specials will also be in effect. The name of the party is the Ugliest Tie Party with prizes awarded for the ugliest tie. Ties at the end of the evening will be donated to charity. For more information visit www.dcalum.org.

- ii. The mid-season flag football party is taking place at CCSP on Friday, November 6. For more information visit www.dcalum.org.
 - iii. The gala that had been previously mentioned as a partnership with ACS is now moving forward as a CAN Awards Gala, to take place in January or February 2010.
 - iv. Ticket specials are available for an upcoming opera at the Kennedy Center – get more details on www.dcalum.org.
 - v. CAN is partnering with Shamrock Fest in March to offer special ticket pricing to CAN members and to provide a “private area” for participants. This is similar to what University Row provides at Gold Cup. Chapter leaders will be getting an email this week asking if they’d like to participate and they will then receive a specific discount code – that will earn them cash back for their chapter from each ticket sold.
 - vi. New ideas that were mentioned: CAN trivia night, CAN wine trip, CAN trip to Mt. Vernon.
- e. Sports
- i. The main topic of discussion in the break-out was the CAN rules – as all admit they can and should be improved. How to improve this process was discussed and will continue to be an ongoing discussion.
 - ii. A CAN tennis tournament was mentioned again and Erryn Gallasch and Nick Palatiello (both Elon) volunteered to coordinate.
 - iii. People have given a lot of positive feedback to CAN’s initial running event (partnering with the National Press Club for their 5k) and would like to see more events like that – perhaps even a series of races.
 - iv. Tony Meehan (Tulsa) inquired about the alumni rule in sports. Maurer answered that the basic rule is 75%, with some exceptions (i.e. softball and at-bats).

V. New Business

- a. Florida State shared information about an upcoming leadership conference – ‘Excellence in Leadership Seminar’. You can find out more by going to www.smartheartleadership.eventbrite.com.
- b. Erryn Gallasch shared information about an upcoming event at the Verizon Center – ‘Kaleidoscope - Nationally Televised Skating Event Featuring Scott Hamilton and Dorothy Hamill’ – taking place November 16. Enter the promotion code ‘GROUP’ and get \$60 tickets for \$22.

VI. Next Meeting:

Monday, November 2

Meeting adjourned 8:30PM

Respectfully submitted by Bekah Meyerowitz, CAN Secretary/Membership – 10/6/09

Motion to approve made by Lamont Rooker, CAN President – 10/8/09

Motion seconded by Chris Casto, CAN Advisory Committee Director – 10/8/09