



September Monthly Meeting September 14, 2009 – GMU, Arlington Campus

Board Members Present (alphabetically): Chris Casto, Melissa Coughlin, Beth Frank, Bekah Meyerowitz, Lamont Rooker, and Mark Tallarico.

Schools Present (alphabetically): Alabama, BU, Cal Berkeley, Clemson, Delaware, Duke, Elon, Georgetown, Kansas State, Maryland, Miami-Ohio, Michigan, Navy, Penn State, Pitt, Providence, Purdue, South Carolina, Stanford, Syracuse, Tulane, VA Tech, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

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. National Press Club 5k
 - i. CAN sponsored the race and had a CAN division created.
 - ii. Seven (7) teams participated in the CAN division, of which Pitt won the top team finisher and Wisconsin won both the top female and top male finishers. CAN is donating \$500 to Pitt's scholarship fund and \$200 in total to Wisconsin's scholarship fund.
- b. American Cancer Society – partnership update
 - i. At the last Monthly Meeting it was announced that the CAN Board was exploring a partnership with the ACS in the hopes of planning a joint gala event. Due to some staff cuts at ACS, CAN has decided to not move forward with this larger event at the present time. We are still exploring other opportunities for involvement such as happy hours and individual volunteering events.
- c. Bylaws
 - i. The Board has tentatively begun to revise the bylaws with two main goals in mind:
 1. Changing the Sports Chair position to officially be Co-Chairs, due to the amount of work involved
 2. Adding language to allow for Assistant Chair positions for all Committee Chairs
- d. CAN Scholarship Fund
 - i. Through the sponsorships obtained for the softball tournament, CAN now has a little over \$4,000 set aside as the basis for the base of a 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.

- ii. 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.
- iii. Donald Wine II (Duke/Miami) asked that if we are serious about this Fund, why not make it a permanent Committee versus an ad hoc? It was explained that since the application and selection process would be for a specific time period (approximately the last quarter of the year), the Committee at this point in time would not be engaged year-round.
- iv. Amy Thornton (WI) inquired as to where the funds would be directed once awarded and was told that the money would be given to a chapter's scholarship fund to do with it as they please.
She also suggested that perhaps we don't give all the money away every year, but set some aside to invest. The Board agrees and is looking into options to do so.
- v. Andy Hyson (Tulane) suggested awarding the scholarship to coincide with the school-year as opposed to the calendar-year to better assist incoming students. It was acknowledged as a fair point and one the Board will take into consideration.
- vi. David Johnson (Navy) asked if the Board has considered having a general CAN Scholarship for which area students could apply, not specific to a certain school as long as attending one of the member schools. He was told that his idea is what the Board initially had in mind and hopes to achieve in the future. Given the amount of time it would take to review scholarship applications from area high school students, coupled with the size of the current scholarship fund, the feeling is to start initially by providing scholarship funds to the individual chapters to pass along to students attending CAN schools and growing from there.
- vii. Andy suggested ensuring that the Committee is inclusive of the varying kinds of chapters, taking into account that not all chapters have scholarship funds – so that would need to be considered in the application process.
- viii. Rebecca Borghi (Pitt) recommended incorporating specific attributes into the application process such as proof of chapter events that were tied to the school, involved community service, etc.

III. Committee Updates

a. Advisory Committee

- i. The Committee has been quite active lately, discussing the bylaws that were sent around after Labor Day. Currently, an online tool is being set-up to allow voting. Please keep in mind that a 2/3 vote is required – so that at least 40 out of the 60 schools signed up on the AC need to respond.
- ii. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the AC has also been under discussion and a revised version will be sent to the AC within the week. Part of the delay has been in trying to revise the SOP to remove the point system and focus on getting people engaged.
- iii. Revisions to the sports rules were sent around at the end of August and have since been approved by the Board, effective September 1.
- iv. The next AC meeting is scheduled for September 28 at GMU where all of the above, as well as engaging the AC on other Committees, will be discussed.

b. Communications

- i. A survey regarding the softball tournament has been sent out and has had a good response to-date. Please continue to encourage your chapters to respond in a detailed manner by September 30.
- ii. The committee is working on the membership profile information for our trademark filing, as well as some significant website changes.

- iii. Please be sure to check your individual school page on the site as much information is outdated and much of this we don't know if it is incorrect
- c. Community Service
 - i. One organization that has recently been brought to our attention by Dru Parries (WI) is called Higher Achievement Program, HAP (higherachievement.org). It is a mentoring program that works with students in grades 5th-8th. They are looking for people to volunteer to be mentors one day a week (either Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday) from 6-8pm. The first half hour is big group activity, then the next hour is direct tutoring of 3-5 kids in a particular subject, and the last half hour is a big group activity again. You will stay with the same 3-5 kids all year, so you definitely build a bond with them. There is a free happy hour at the HAP Office (317 8th NE) this Wednesday 9/16 starting at 6pm.
- d. Membership
 - i. While there has not been an official Committee in place, the Board would like to find 3-5 dedicated people who can assist with Membership tasks as needed.
 - ii. A good amount of work has been done in response to membership inquiries, but the Board would like to take a more proactive approach, starting with doing an audit of the membership pages of the website. We would like to reach out to the schools who are less involved to: 1. Ensure their information is correct and 2. See how we can encourage their engagement in the organization more.
 - iii. A request has been made of the AC to volunteer for this group, which is in direct response to their appeal to the Board to provide more opportunities to assist within the organization.
 - iv. If interested, please contact Bekah at bekah@dcalum.org.
- e. Social
 - i. The College Football Kick-Off party was held on August 27 at Public Bar and proved to be quite successful – thanks to all who came out.
 - ii. JMU and Georgetown recently had their Last Team Standing party with beer donated by Bud Light and held at The Exchange.
 - iii. The mid-season flag football party is being planned – check www.dcalum.org for updates.
 - iv. CAN is planning an event at the Kennedy Center with an interested opera company – more details to soon be on www.dcalum.org.
 - v. CAN will be partnering with Shamrock Fest in March to offer special tickets to CAN members, as well as have an area at the event similar to University Row at Gold Cup.
 - vi. The gala that had been previously mentioned as a partnership with ACS is now being considered as a CAN Awards Gala, hoping to take place in January or February 2010.
- f. Sports
 - i. The softball tournament proved to be quite successful with JMU winning the title for a second year in a row and Pitt showing up in force for the DC Central Kitchen food drive (over 1,800 units donated from their chapter alone).
 - ii. The golf tournament was also a success, with Elon winning it by shooting an impressive 18-under par.
 - iii. The flag pre-season tournament was put on by Michigan, with Johns Hopkins defeating Michigan to win the title.
 - iv. Plans are getting underway for soccer and a request was made that if you have a connection to the National Park Service, to please contact Andy Hyson.

IV. New Business

- a. The Board would like to keep up the success of sponsorships received for the softball tournament by pursuing sponsors for flag football, albeit on a smaller scale, as well as general CAN year-long sponsors and even beginning outreach for next year's softball tournament. A request was sent to the AC for help with this initiative that will be led by

the CAN Treasurer and VP. Please contact Mark Tallarico through the CAN site if interested.

- b. The format of the Monthly Meetings has been discussed in terms of changing the style to make it more productive. To that end, at the October meeting, we will have Committee break-out sessions as was done at the June Monthly Meeting – and this will continue to be done at every other Monthly Meeting. If you have other thoughts or suggestions, please get in touch with any of the Board members.

V. Next Meeting:

Monday, October 5 – Committee break-out sessions will be held during the meeting

Meeting adjourned 8:20PM

Respectfully submitted by Bekah Meyerowitz, CAN Secretary/Membership – 9/15/09

Motion to approve by Melissa Coughlin, CAN Advisory Committee Director – 9/16/09

Motion seconded by Chris Casto, CAN Advisory Committee Director – 9/16/09