

Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 2, 2015
6:00 PM, Bloustein School, Room 170

Board Members Attending: Aaron Richton (teleconference), Ngozi Obi (teleconference), Yirgu Wolde, Jim Zullo, Peter Amari (teleconference), Tony Marchetta (teleconference), David Greenblatt
Bloustein School: Chantelle Brown, Hillary Bardwell, Meera Ananth
Other: Patrick Clark (RAPPS)

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of November 24, 2014 were distributed.

YirguW made a motion to approve the minutes. PeterA seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Board Elections

- JimZ recapped that annual elections were due, per the BSAA By-Laws. He also welcomed nominations from the floor.
- PeterA nominated AaronR as Secretary. YirguW seconded the nomination. AaronR was elected Secretary in a unanimous vote.
- PeterA nominated YirguW as Treasurer. AaronR seconded the nomination. YirguW was elected Treasurer in a unanimous vote.
- PeterA nominated DavidG as Vice President. YirguW seconded the nomination. DavidG was elected Vice President in a unanimous vote.
- PeterA nominated JimZ as President. YirguW seconded the nomination. JimZ was elected President in a unanimous vote.
- TonyM, Dan Benson, Gina Fischetti, and Scott Bauman held BSAA Council seats that expired on January 1, 2015. DavidG nominated the slate for reappointment. AaronR seconded the nomination. The slate was elected to the Council in a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

- YirguW recapped the history leading to a Memorandum of Understanding conference call with the Dean's Office.
- The BSAA BoA account remains subject to a \$18 monthly fee due to a low balance.
- YirguW requested disbursement from the Foundation to increase the BoA account balance. However, the Foundation cannot do this due to BSAA's lapsed 501(c)(3) status.
- The School has proposed that they host an operating account for the BSAA. Moving forward, we would close the BoA account, and use the School's Business Office to conduct BSAA's financial affairs.
- Dean Hughes provided a draft MOU embodying that proposal. JimZ recapped the key points of the conference call to the Board. YirguW stressed the importance of Board support.
- DavidG inquired about exploring banks other than BoA. YirguW said that some of the smaller New Brunswick banks may offer an appropriate account.
- HillaryB cautioned that, with lapsed 501(c)(3) status, we may have issues with new accounts.
- JimZ pointed out that, with the School handling expenses for the AoY event, the BSAA's operational requirements are minimal at this time. He was also concerned over a potential of attaching personal SSNs to Association accounts.
- JimZ asked how the operating account could be replenished moving forward. YirguW asked about allocating some of the AoY proceeds. ChantelleB said that Rutgers accounting can handle splits of proceeds.
- PeterA asked about expenses such as the honoree's chair. ChantelleB said that this might be considered an event expense in future years.
- MeeraA said that we could revisit the tax-deductible percentage of proceeds in future years.
- AaronR pointed out, although the Fellowship has been the main beneficiary, prior invitations

noted proceeds may be used for other “scholarship efforts.”

- YirguW asked about the role of the Treasurer under the MOU. JimZ and PeterA discussed the importance of reconciliation and monitoring of both School and Foundation accounts, and retrieving ad-hoc statements as necessary. YirguW said he would follow up with ChantelleB on this matter.
- AaronR moved to accept the MOU to move funds to the School exclusively for BSAA purposes. YirguW seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- ChantelleB said that the Foundation is still working on a gift breakdown report.

Regional Alumni Group Updates

Newark PoP Topic

- HillaryB reached out to Liz Thompson of NJTPA. They may be able to host a Newark PoP topic; a short list of dates is under evaluation.
- The topic would be transportation-related. TonyM has reached out to NJDOT Commissioner Jamie Fox.
- TonyM suggested contacting PlanSmart, NJ Future, and other groups for potential panelists.

NYC Group

- An alumni mixer was scheduled for February 5, 2015.

Washington, D.C. Group

- The next D.C. PoP Topic will be “Conflict Resolution Locally & Globally.”
- The panel is scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- The location will be the GAO, 441 G St NW, Washington, DC 20548.
- HillaryB says that Linda Stamato and Sandy Jaffe, co-directors of the Center for Negotiation and Conflict Resolution, were confirmed for the panel.

Philadelphia Group

- An alumni mixer was scheduled for March 5, 2015.
- Venue selection is underway by the Philadelphia group co-chairs.

Chicago

- A few recent graduates had just moved to Chicago, the latest in a growing group of alums.
- Four members have volunteered to lead the new group.

2015 Alumni Awards

Nomination Page/Deadline

- JimZ asked about making a schedule, working backwards from the event. HillaryB will coordinate this with the School.

Criteria and Awards

- JimZ asked about the quantity and categories of awards for 2015. He felt that the 2+2+1 (faculty) seemed OK.
- TonyM said that 2+2 worked well, but that too many names could become cumbersome. Discussion ensued and concerns were expressed over the event length.

Selection Committee

- Last year's Committee rankings were on the basis of write-ups. HillaryB said that the write-ups varied in composition. HillaryB asked if the Board had other methods for consideration.
- PeterA asked who was eligible to enter nominations. HillaryB said that the broadcast went all alum and faculty, but co-workers and spouses had also entered nominations.
- JimZ asked if it's common practice to restrict nominators. Nobody present could recount examples from Bloustein nor peer institutions.
- AaronR pointed out that Board feedback last year focused on distributing general criteria so the nominators could compose with the criteria in mind, rather than dictating a precise evaluation method.
- JimZ asked about word limits for the write-ups.
- HillaryB pointed out that other Rutgers awards sometimes involve precisely-titled awards with precisely-defined criteria.
- AaronR felt that level of precision isn't yet necessary for the BSAA awards, but that getting general criteria published might help nominators and the Committee through the process.
- JimZ asked the School to research peer awards and report back to the Board.

25th Anniversary of the Bloustein School

- MeeraA mentioned that the School was in initial discussions of Anniversary events.
- Potential events include seminars, galas, etc. Meera asked if the events would hold BSAA interest.
- JimZ asked if dates were selected. HillaryB said the target was the 2016-2017 academic year.
- Discussion ensued; BSAA members felt the idea deserves exploration. DavidG suggested forming a committee to consider BSAA Anniversary efforts.
- JimZ asked that the School report with potential BSAA tie-ins.
- MeeraA also mentioned that November 2015-November 2016 is Rutgers' 250th anniversary.

Other Business/Next Meeting

- Patrick Clark, the President of RAPPS, expressed its appreciation to the BSAA for its efforts with students.
- JimZ mentioned that RAPPS can coordinate through HillaryB if any student events would benefit from BSAA participation.
- A 2015 meeting schedule was distributed. The next conference call will be held on February 16.
- AaronR made a motion to adjourn. NgoziO seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.