

## MINUTES

Alumni Society Board of Governors

May 16, 2011

Pearson Museum

Present:

Linda Allison, MD

Doug Carlson, MD

Deborah Case

Elizabeth Cavanagh, MD

Erik Constance, MD

James Cunnar, MD

Denise Davis, MD

J. Kevin Dorsey, MD

Gordon Grado, MD

Nedra Joyner, MD

Sheryl Lloyd

Fritz Lower, MD

Niva Lubin-Johnson, MD

Cris Milliken

Adolfo Napolez, MD

Elizabeth O'Brien, MD

James Phoenix, MD

Julie Robbs

Wesley Robinson-McNeese, MD

Sara Rubenacker, Class of 2011

Gary Rull, MD

Alison Saulog, Class of 2012

Nicole Sommer, MD

Christine Waller, MD

Matthew Winkleman, MD

President Doug Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

1. New members Gordon Grado, Niva Lubin-Johnson, Adolfo Napolez, Nicole Sommer and Christine Waller were welcomed.

2. The Minutes of the November 15, 2010 meeting were approved.

3. **Dean's Report** – Dr. Dorsey commented on the State of Illinois fiscal situation. He noted that in his 10 years as Dean, there has only been one year that there had been an increase in funding. He stated that at this time, the State still has no budget. St. John's Hospital and Memorial Medical Center are contributing as much funding as the State towards faculty salaries. Dr. Dorsey stated that results from the Graduation Questionnaire published by the AAMC show that we are in the top 5% in student education satisfaction. He added that 83% of our graduates received their first choice in the residency match, and that the national average is 81%. If the percentage was higher, it would indicate that our students were setting their sights too low. Two Surgery faculty members received University-level "Excellence Through Commitment" awards which recognizes top SIUC campus achievers. Michael Neumeister, MD was recognized as the University's Top Scholar for 2011, and Gary Dunnington, MD was recognized as SIUC Outstanding Teacher. Two faculty members received the College-level Excellence awards. Laura Rogers, MD, was recognized for her outstanding scholarly work. Tracy Lower, MD '88, was recognized for her outstanding teaching. Alexander Claussen, a third-year medical student, has been awarded a fellowship in the Clinical Research Training Program (CRTP) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He is the first student at SIU to receive this award which was given to only 30 medical and dental students in the U.S. this year.

**4. Student Activity Report** – Dr. McNeese reported that his office is conducting a survey of other departments to see what they are doing in regards to diversity at the School. He stated that the Physician Pipeline Preparatory Program (P4) program is now two years old and has twenty students. The minority health elective with the Southern IL Healthcare Foundation has again received funding. The admission's process is done for this year. Forty-nine applicants underrepresented in medicine were interviewed; 18 were accepted, 9 currently holding acceptances and 4 were on the "accept when place available" list. Fifty-seven percent of our students are from towns less than 25K; each class has approximately 11 students who are children of physicians. To date, there are 1,264 MEDPREP alumni, just over 200 have attended or do attend SIU SOM. Eighty-seven percent of these students find placement in professional schools. Seventy-six percent of SIU SOM faculty is white. There has been an increased growth in minority faculty from 20% in 2005 to 24% currently. Blacks, Hispanics and American Indian/Alaskan Natives are still significantly underrepresented among the civil service employee category.

Dr. Constance reported that Commencement is May 21 at Sangamon Auditorium. The seniors did well in Match. He said that despite the state's woes, we maintain tuition as best we can, and that nationwide, we are right in the middle. The average graduate has \$160,000 in debts and most students finance their loan for 30 years to pay it off. Residents now have to pay on their loan and cannot defer anymore. He reported that while many other medical schools are growing larger and that AAMC has called for 3,000 more medical school slots, we have resisted because we feel that quality is better than quantity. While the number of medical school slots has grown, the residency positions have not. This resulted, last year, in 200 U.S. seniors with no residency positions, and next year it could be as many as 1,000. He stated that he recently reviewed the financial aid report, and that he would like to see more support for scholarships. He added that our alumni base is still relatively young, but appreciates any support for the students. Board members inquired about the Match list. He noted that the Match list was not published in Aspects.

**5. Student Report** – Ms. Rubenacker reported that her class was enjoying Senior Week activities, and that graduation will be bittersweet. Ms. Robbs added that the senior class will be welcomed into the SIU SOM Alumni Society at their commencement rehearsal.

Ms. Saulog reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> year students are finishing up clerkships and working on 4<sup>th</sup> year schedules. They will soon have a meeting about their Match.

Mr. Austin reported via an email to Dr. Carlson, stating that his class wanted to thank the Alumni Board of Governors for the new microwave and seating in their student lounge in Carbondale. His class survived the Neuro unit and is preparing for the end of unit exams in June. His class has had many opportunities to talk to students from area schools and "tout" the medical school facility and curriculum. He reported that they had a team for Relay for Life and raised over \$1,600. He also stated that many of his class will be traveling all over the U.S. and world for MPEE (Mentored Professional Enrichment Experience) and CARE (Clinical and Research Experience).

6. **Foundation Report** – Ms. Case reported that the letter from Dr. Carlson for the Student Resource Fund has been mailed and they have received over \$6,000 so far. The annual fall letter has brought in about \$25,000, down from the past three years. She plans to continue to work to increase funds for student scholarships.

7. **Student Resource Fund Committee Recommendation** - Dr. Allison reported that the microwave and chairs for the Carbondale student lounge cost less than \$300 and were a definite need for the students. The bids for the student health club membership have been discussed by the committee and a group of the students toured the YMCA with Ms. Robbs. Dr. Allison stated that the students feel that the Gold's Gym membership is a better value right now, and clearly wanted to stay at Gold's Gym. The new YMCA and improvement to the downtown facility will not be done for a while. She said that the committee's recommendation is to go with a one year contract with Gold's Gym which includes direct family members, compared to the YMCA's bid which was substantially more and did not include family members. Dr. Constance commented that he would like to see the Board commit to returning to the YMCA the next year, citing it would be 'giving back to the community'. Dr Phoenix agreed. The motion was made and seconded to accept the one-year contract (January, 2012-December, 2012) for Gold's Gym. There was no opposition.

8. **Bylaws Review** – Dr. Allison reported that a committee started looking at updating the bylaws a few years ago, and that it has been a collaborative effort. She reported that the proposed bylaws contains a change in the makeup of the Alumni Society, and that now the bylaws read more clearly to include SIU SOM residency program graduates as Alumni Society members and will be eligible for the Board of Governors. She stated that the current Board would have to approve the changes and it would then have to be sent out to all alumni for approval. Dr. Joyner suggested that the Board set a time line for responses. A motion was made and seconded to send the bylaw revisions out to all alumni with a cover letter, giving alumni two weeks to reply. The Board of Governors will be notified as soon as that is completed. The motion passed.

9. **2010/2011 HOSTS Report** – Ms. Robbs distributed a 2010/2011 report of activity with the Helping Our Students to Succeed program. She reported that 80 alumni were contacted on behalf of the student requests. Twenty-four alumni hosted students (some included alumni couples), and 9 students took advantage of the HOSTS program multiple times this year. The HOSTS program was very busy between October and February. She stated that the HOSTS program had been a good experience for the alums and students alike, and there were many good stories about their adventures.

10. **2011 Alumni Report** – Ms. Robbs distributed a report of data regarding the practice status, specialties, and locations of SIU SOM Alumni for the classes of 1975 through 2007.

11. **Board Members & Officers with Expiring Terms** – Ms. Robbs reported that Drs. Carlson, Allison and Rull's terms will expire at the fall, 2011 meeting. New members and officers will be announced in the fall

12. **Nominating Committee Volunteers** - Dr. Carlson noted that Dr. Cunnar would Chair the Committee as Vice President, and asked for volunteers to serve on the committee. Drs. Rull, Cavanagh, Stalets, Phoenix, Grado, Woodward, and Napolez volunteered.

13. **Distinguished Alumni Award Committee Volunteers** – Drs. Sommer, Carlson, Cavanagh, Allison, Winkleman and Lower volunteered to serve on the committee.

14. **Other Business and Announcements** – Ms. Rubenacker stated this was her last meeting and thanked the Board for their support and letting her be part of SIU SOM. Dr. Allison stated that she would like to have a committee look at various recognition efforts acknowledging alumni, not to detract from the Distinguished Alumni Award. It was suggested that Aspects continue with something similar to the 40 at 40 format. Distinguished Alumni nominations are active for two years (many nominees do not know they have been nominated), and we would need to consider holding this information until that period. Dr. McNeese suggested having the Distinguished Alumni Award committee discuss and make recommendations.

**Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.