UW-Platteville Distance Education Alumni Board
Quarterly Meeting
January 17, 2013

Members Present: Melissa Gavin, Lucky Pataky, Doug Ducklow, Kate O’Connor, Megan Hujet, Dan Avenarius, Ron Bonlender, Brianna Ramirez, Jill Bisco, Tom Gunderson, Cindy McCullum, Eric Pleiss, Ryan Adamus, Ben Schnelle, Scott Anderson, Kristine Westra, Steve Johnson, Beth Bland

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm CT.

I. Introductions
   • Melissa welcomed everyone to the meeting.
   • Board members introduced themselves. The largest representation is in project management.

II. Board Expectations
   • Melissa reviewed conference call etiquette.
   • The full board meets quarterly on the third Thursday—January, April, July, and October. The subcommittees meet during the “off” months.
   • The agenda for the full board meetings are prepared by Melissa. If there is an item you’d like to submit, please forward it to Melissa.
   • Please be sure your bio on the website is up to date.

III. UWP Alumni Association Update
   • We are a constituent chapter and in the process of appointing a representative from our group. They meet on a Saturday in January, April, and July. If anyone is interested in the position, please let Melissa know.
   • The Board should have received an invitation to “An Evening in Monte Carlo” in Madison. Please see Melissa with any questions.

IV. Resignation
   • Melissa noted Dan Chlebos has resigned from the Board as Vice President. Doug Ducklow has been selected to take his place.

V. DLC Updates
   • 35th Anniversary: Dan A. is working with a committee of DLC staff to plan the event around the time of the Monte Carlo event and in the Madison area because it is centrally located.
   • Homecoming: The group is planning a float for the parade.
   • November: Distance Education Week. A series of events are being planned mainly geared toward the campus and community.
• PM Conference: PM, Engineering, and Supply Chain Management grouped together to generate more interest in the conference. The Engineering piece didn’t come together but the other two will move forward. Dates are May 22-23. The information should come out in the next few weeks.

VI. Alumni Engagement
• Began in earnest last year. Our board was characterized as an advisory board and the alums didn’t feel they were connected to us. We wanted them to help propose ideas and help with solutions. Re-arranging the board is a start to that process.
• First Year Experience: The subcommittee is trying to help alumni remain connected to UWP.
• Excellence: This group has the task to market the UWP distance education brand.
• Mentoring: Helps the current students and oversees two groups on LinkedIn.
• Executive: Looking at the website, member selection and recruitment to the board. Planning to update the board’s constitution and bylaws.
• Each subcommittee will look at the website and discuss its value and how it could be changed or improved.
• Communication with alums: The Pioneer Connection is mostly a student publication with some alum information. The subcommittees should review it for its value—what would you like to see, hard copy or online version, app, etc.
• Would someone like to try to write an alumni column for TPC? It is not always easy to get information from alumni for articles or blurbs.
• Surveys are sent out but the information isn’t all that usable. How does the information collected help UWP serve the alums? Return rates on the survey? How the questions are written?

VII. Events
• Ron and his team will be taking charge of this area.
• There is a very small budget for events.
• E-mail Melissa or DLC reps with any event ideas.

VIII. Other
• Our “homework” is to work hard in our subcommittees and come back with good ideas.
• For April, think about something you would like to accomplish. How would you engage alum? What would you like your subcommittee to accomplish? What can we accomplish as a board?

Meeting adjourned 7:10 pm CT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Bland, Secretary