

PSU Nutrition & Dietetics Alumni Society Board

Minutes from Conference Call Monday, April 6, 2015

Present: Jen Pullman (Pres), Sandy Schlicker (Past Pres), Lily Hsu (Treas), Barb Kochanowski (Sec), Alex Blatt Hast, Katie Bridgens, Brenda Eissenstat, Kristi Stoehr, Shana Adise (NGSA), Kristen Hendrix, Gwen Chodur, Gordon Jensen, Sarah Geskes, Melissa Altman-Traub

Absent: Morgan Cooper (SNA), Karen Weisen, Madelyn Barrows, Maureen Spill, Michelle McGavin, Lucy Song

Routine Business

Minutes Approval

The March 2, 2015 meeting minutes were approved via email following the conference call. .

Treasurer's Report

Lily Hsu reported that there is a balance of \$3759.87 in the NDAS account. The increase is due to registrations and donations for the brunch. We have not yet been billed for brunch-related expenses.

New Members/Board Changes

Sarah Geskes has joined the Awards Committees. Jen Pullman that Maureen Spill is leaving the board.

Reports from Department and Student Liaisons

Shana Adise reported that the graduate students held elections. Gordon Jensen reported that the branding initiative was a big success, with excellent turnout and keynote speakers. The brand is "Nutrition – Our science, your health". The branding was presented at Experimental Biology in Boston, where Gordon was interviewed on video by ASN. The department has interviewed 4 candidates for 2 nutrigenomics faculty positions. One to two more candidates will be interviewed, with offers wrapped up in the next 6 weeks, so the new faculty can start in the fall. The department has commitments from 7 new graduate students, selected from over 60 applicants. Penny Kris-Etherton and Lynn Parker-Klees are leading development of an online Master's Program. First courses will be held in about 1 ½ years.

MACS

MACS: Mentoring

- Speed networking held before the brunch was very successful, with at least 50 students attending. Most students were undergraduates (4-5 graduate students) as there was a conflict for many graduate students.
- It was suggested that we include a graduate student on a future career panel.

- The mentoring dinner sponsored by the college, held in advance of the brunch, went well. Jen Pullman and Karen Wiesen attended. There were 31 students and 22 mentors, so increased participation by mentors would be appreciated.

MACS: Awards

- Board and committee members are asked to keep looking for possible awards candidates over the next few months. Nominating activity will begin in the fall.
- Regan Bailey's nomination was submitted on March 1st.

MACS: Communication

- No new requests or activity
- An announcement about the reception for graduating seniors will be posted on LinkedIn
- An announcement seeking potential candidates for Board positions will be posted on LinkedIn

MACS: Social/Professional Activities

- The brunch was a success, with 31 alumni attending, up from about 20 last year. Forty students attended.
- A reception for graduating seniors will be held on April 22nd in the Living Center from 5:45 – 7 p.m. NDAS members are invited. Jen Pullman will provide Gordon Jensen with a PowerPoint slide highlighting key points about NDAS to encourage graduates to register. A local speaker would be welcome, as there are no funds to sponsor an out of town speaker.

Other Business

- Board update
 - Maureen Spill is resigning from the Board
 - An updated rotation schedule has been developed, showing significant turnover at the end of 2015. Jen Pullman will share this with the board.
 - The Board will discuss options for improving transitions on the July and August calls
 - Barb Kochanowski will circulate Melissa Froehlich's resume as a candidate for the Board
 - A new VP and chair for Awards is needed.
- The next call will be July 6, 2015 at 7 p.m. (Board only)

Submitted by: Barbara Kochanowski