

## **Minutes , D'61 Class Officers' Conference Call**

**August 12, 2015**

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Attending the Call: Denny Denniston, Ken DeHaven, Vic Rich, Harris McKee, Robert Conn, Jim Baum, Hank Eberhardt, Oscar Arslanian, Nyla Arslanian, Pete Palin, Rog McArt, Dave Prewitt

Absent from the Call: Ivar Jozus, John Damon, Tom Conger, Pete Bleyler, Mike Murphy, Maynard Wheeler

Invited Guests: None

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Denny Denniston, class president, called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM EDT.

**Re: Bartlett Tower Society (BTS):** Pete Palin confirmed the BTS goal of 55 members from our class by our 55th Reunion. We currently have 33 members (had 36, but 3 classmate BTS members deleted because they have passed away). We can make the goal, but it will require a concerted effort by Pete Palin and John Damon, as co-chairs of this effort.

**Re: Dartmouth College Fund (DCF):** Hank Eberhardt, co-chair, reported that thanks to the persistent ongoing efforts of several classmates, including but not limited to Denny Denniston and Harris McKee, our class exceeded BOTH of its goals, relating to total dollars contributed by our classmates and the total number of classmates who made contributions during the current year. First, we donated a total of \$384,143 (including "early bird" contributions), which greatly exceeded our dollar goal of \$260,000. Second, we achieved a participation rate of 75.1% (395 donors), which exceeded our goal of 75% and placed us with the third highest participation rate among ALL classes (the two classes with higher participation rates were 1954 with 82.7% and 1953 with 80.4%). On August 27th, a meeting was held in New York City, chaired by Denny Denniston and attended by '61 Reunion Giving Committee classmates from around the country in person or on a conference call; the purpose of the meeting was derive a dollar goal (not yet finalized at this meeting) and participation goal (80%) for our 55th Reunion. Because of our small class size and dearth of really wealthy classmates and big contributors, our class has been called "The Little Engine That Could", after the children's book of the same name.

**Re: Women's Initiative Committee:** Nyla Arslanian, chair, reported that the committee now has approximately 125 email contacts from classmate wives and significant others, which accounts for approximately 50% of the potential wives and significant others from

our class. Nyla reported that the committee's leadership group of about 10 women is in the process of developing a women's program for a segment of our 55th Reunion and a process to increase attendance at our 55th Reunion by communicating directly with the wives and significant others of our classmates.

**Re: Class of '61 Directory Update Publication:** Bob Conn, directory update chair, reported that the recent replacement of the College's Alumni Class Activities Coordinator has created a delay in the publication of our updated class directory. However, Bob anticipates that the new directory will still be in the mail to classmates by the end of the current calendar year.

**Re: '61 Fall Mini-Reunion:** Our annual Fall mini-reunion in Hanover, set for October 9-11, is now fully scheduled and ends with a class dinner on Saturday evening with our selected academic grant student from the Anthropology Dept. as a speaker. If any questions, contact Maynard Wheeler, on-campus mini-reunion chair. After discussion, it was agreed that any full-blown off-campus mini-reunion in 2016 would not be feasible as it would tend to compete with our 55th Reunion scheduled for June 13-16, 2016. However, several single evening cocktail parties and/or dinners at different locations around the country was a very appealing substitute, and could actually improve attendance at our 55th Reunion; several city locations mentioned (all of which have active classmates in residence) were New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Tucson (during the winter), Palm Beach (during the winter), Naples (during the winter), and Sarasota (during the winter). After further discussion and consideration during the next few months, a final decision will be made and appropriate cities selected.

**Re: 55th Reunion:** Jim Baum, 55th Reunion chair, reported that the Reunion committee has been finalized, there would be an early-bird discount for classmates who sign up early to attend, a reunion letter to classmates has been completed and will be mailed in early October. The 55th Reunion schedule is currently being discussed by the committee and prepared for approval by the class officers.

The next class officers conference call is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at 1PM EDT, to last approximately one hour.

Denny adjourned the meeting at 2PM EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary