

Minutes, D'61 Class Officers' Conference Call  
September 2, 2015

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Attending the Call: Denny Denniston, Ken DeHaven, Vic Rich, Maynard Wheeler, Hank Eberhardt, Jim Baum, Roger McArt

Absent from the Call: Ivar Jozus, Harris McKee, Robert Conn, Pete Bleyler, Dave Prewitt, Peter Palin, John Damon, Michael Murphy, Oscar Arslanian, Nyla Arslanian, Tom Conger

Invited Guests: None

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

**Re: Class Officers Weekend:** Approximately 10 class officers are expected to attend Class Officers Weekend later in September, which would be a good turnout.

**Re: Dartmouth College Fund (DCF):** A 3 hour meeting/conference was held recently at the NYC regional Dartmouth office at which the head DCF person from Dartmouth attended along with Denny and others from the class reunion giving committee. After much analysis of our class "potential" (we are a very small class and not a particularly wealthy class) and much discussion, it was agreed that the dollar goal for our 55th Reunion would be a reasonable and very achievable \$610,000 and our participation goal would be a healthy but also very achievable 80%. It was noted that our class exceeded (slightly) its participation goal of 75% for the current year and that two classes (1954 and 1953) had exceeded 80% participation for the year just completed. The class officers in attendance on the conference call all endorsed and approved the DCF dollar and participation goals referred to above for the fiscal year 2015/2016. Denny also mentioned that Hop Homberg had agreed to be the DCF participation chair for our 55th Reunion.

**Re: 55th Reunion:** Jim Baum, 55th Reunion Chair, reported that the first notice for the reunion has been written and will be going out to all classmates in October. The purpose of this letter is to serve as a "save the date" notice and to obtain preliminary responses of who is planning attend and with whom. Vic Rich suggested that we institute a "Invite a Classmate to Reunion" program to make sure that in addition to the various class letters and email/class newsletter notices, as many classmates as possible are called or otherwise spoken to personally about attending the reunion next June 13-16, 2016. Vic said that he started off the program by specifically inviting an inactive classmate in his Class Notes article for the Nov./Dec. issue of the Dartmouth alumni Magazine. Denny stated that a resource team comprised of Hop,

Hank Eberhardt, Harris McKee and Denny would act as the resource to obtain and distribute as necessary the addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses for all classmates. Someone suggested that Nyla Arslanian and her '61 Women's initiative Committee should also be involved in any program to increase reunion attendance and maximize DCF contributions.

Denny also led a discussion of the published results of a 20 question survey sent out to all '60 classmates who attended their 55th reunion last June. Probably the biggest takeaways were that each class should avoid having too many class events jammed into each day and evening, emphasize quality programs over quantity, have some special group tie-in events (various athletic teams, fraternities, clubs, etc.), create a welcome environment in advance and during the reunion for those classmates who have not attended class unions for some extended period of time, and prepare and promote the schedule of preliminary and then finalized reunion events.

**Re: Class Mini-Reunions:**

It was decided that because of our pending 55th reunion in June of 2016, we would not have any multi-day off-campus mini-reunions during the current fiscal year. However, it was suggested that the class hold numerous dinners or luncheons in several prominent locations around the country, between November 2015 and April 2016, with the primary objectives of getting as many local resident classmates as possible to attend (especially those classmates who have been inactive within the class for an extended period of time) and to promote our upcoming 55th Reunion, which because of advancing age and health issues may well be our last heavily attended reunion. To be successful, it would be necessary for at least one classmate in each location to take charge of securing a location and organizing the dinner or luncheon. After discussion, it was agreed that this was a great idea and that the primary locations to be considered would be New York, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Tampa/St. Petersburg (during the winter), Palm Beach/Boca Raton (during the winter) and Naples/Fort Meyers (during the winter) and Tucson/Phoenix (during the winter). Other areas mentioned for serious consideration were San Francisco, Chicago, Washington, DC and Boston.

The next '61 class officers conference call will be on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 1PM EDT.

Denny adjourned the meeting at 2:05PM EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, Class Secretary