

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers Meeting/Conference Call

July 13, 2016

Attending the Meeting: Don O'Neill, Denny Denniston, Gerry Kaminsky, Vic Rich, Ivar Jozus, Harris McKee, Hank Eberhardt, Tom Conger, Red Facher, Dave Prewitt, Joan Prewitt, Oscar Arslanian, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich

Absent from the Meeting: Rog McArt, Dave Armstrong, Maynard Wheeler, Pete Bleyler, David Birney

Invited Guests: None

Denny Denniston, incoming class vice-president, called the meeting to order at 1PM EST by introducing Don O'Neill as the new class president. Don and Denny, leading the class call, then welcomed all of the returning class officers and those officers newly elected at the class meeting held June 13, 2016.

Dartmouth College Fund (DCF):

Denny and Hank reported on the final DCF statistics for our class for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. We raised \$758k, which greatly exceeded our class goal of \$610k by \$148k. Regarding class participation, we had 398 classmates contributing, which represented an outstanding 79% participation rate. This ranked our class #2 in class DCF participation for the year, which set a new record for all 55th reunion classes and which greatly exceeded the College's overall participation rate of approximately 42%. Denny specifically acknowledged Hop Holmberg, participation chair for our reunion year, and several others from our class as having done an excellent job and having achieved excellent results. Denny emphasized that going forward, the key to good participation is to maintain continuing personal contacts with all classmates.

[Note: We recently learned that, as a result our outstanding participation effort, the Class of '61 earned the Mark R. Alperin 1980 Award for achieving the highest participation in a reunion class AND the Harvey P. Hood 1918 Award for achieving a new reunion participation record.]

'61 Class Officers:

Don and Denny announced that the Class of '61 would have 19 class officers going forward. 13 Class Officers are returning, although not everyone in the same role (Denny, Vic, Ivar, Harris, Hank, Roger, Tom, Maynard, Dave, Oscar, Pete, Dave P., Nyla); 6 classmates are new officers (Don, Gerry, Dave A., Red, Joan, Patti). Two classmates originally elected to an officer position subsequently declined for personal reasons and one was replaced by another classmate.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS):

Although the class now has two new co-bequest chairs (Dave Armstrong and Red Facher), Don specifically thanked the two former co-bequest chairs, Pete Palin and John Damon, for their services to the class during the past 5 years and their accomplishments regarding the increase in the number of BTS members from our class during that period.

Class Annual Report (CAR):

Denny emphasized that the completed CAR must be submitted by July 31st and that every class officer needed to complete his section immediately, if not already completed, so that he, Don, Harris and/or Vic could review same and revise/expand where appropriate to clarify or make more meaningful. Vic, as a member of the Class Officers Association Executive Board that decided on the various Class of the Year and Special Recognition awards, stressed the importance of the CAR report being well written, complete and fully informative, since this was the primary document upon which the awards were determined.

The Class of the Year award is for outstanding "all-around program through the superior organization of class interest and participation to the benefit of College and higher education."

Class Mini-Reunion in Hanover (9/30-10/1, 2016):

Since the Dartmouth/Penn football game is now scheduled to be an evening game on Saturday, the class dinner will have to be moved up to an earlier hour. As an aside, for the Homecoming class parade on Friday evening, it was agreed that our class banner would be revised from white letters on a green background to green letters on a white background.

Class Necrologist Title:

Vic noted that there currently existed approximately six different names for the same class officer (Harris McKee) who writes up the class obituaries and publicizes same for both the class and all other College alumni. Our class had been using the title of "class necrologist" for this position, but numerous alumni and family members of deceased classmates who contacted us, and other classes, found the title of "class necrologist" to be confusing or too depressing. As a result, if Harris approves, the class will change his obit editor title from "class necrologist" to "class memorialist". No decision has been reached. Harris is also the class webmaster and the class communications officer.

Arts & Legacy Committee:

The goal of the class A & L Committee will be to focus on the opportunities to connect the Class of 1961 with all that is going on in Hopkins Center and the new Black Family Visual Arts Center and to consider at least one activity per year that will engage the class and either or both centers in some cooperative endeavor involving the talents of the class with those of the "D" students, similar to the '61 Frost Statue Art Contest that the class held during 2015/2016 in connection with our 55th Reunion.

Next Meeting

[Subsequent to the conference call, Don set the next class officers conference call for Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 1PM EDT - call # 712/432-1500, access code - 448111#.]

The meeting/conference call was adjourned at 2:10PM EDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Vic Rich, Class Secretary