

Minutes
D'61 Class Officers Conference Call
May 10, 2017

Attending the Meeting: Don O'Neill, Denny Denniston, Gerry Kaminsky, Vic Rich, Harris McKee, Roger McArt, Hank Eberhardt, Dave Prewitt, Red Facher, Pete Bleyler, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich, Joan Prewitt

Absent from the Meeting: Ivar Jozus, Oscar Arslanian, Maynard Wheeler, Dave Armstrong, Tom Conger, David Birney

Invited Guests: Janet Rosa, Vince Wilson (both from Alumni Relations)

Don O'Neill, class president, called the meeting to order at noon EDT.

He then called for approval of the Minutes for the April 5, 2017 conference call/meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve such Minutes and they were approved unanimously.

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, class secretary, in the absence of Maynard Wheeler (chair of mini-reunions held in Hanover), reported that our Fall class mini-reunion this year will be October 6-8, 2017. This coincides with Homecoming Weekend, so rooms will be at a premium. Harris has previously sent out a detailed registration form by email. Maynard has requested that classmates who anticipate attending complete the registration form and return it to him so that he can plan class events accordingly.

Vic also reported that classmate Pete Holbrook had an exhibition of his excellent landscape paintings during April in St. Helena, CA. In addition, classmate John White recently self-published a book entitled *Celebrating America in Poem and Song: A Book of Patriotic Literature for the Classroom*, which is a book of patriotic literature for use in homes and classrooms. Finally, classmate Mike Kurst, Professor Emeritus of Education and Business Administration at Stanford University and the current president of the CA State Board of Education, recently co-authored a book entitled *Remaking College – The Changing Ecology of Higher Education*, published in 2015, and has recently written a new book entitled *Silicon Valley and Higher Education: Connected but Conflicted*, due out this summer.

Treasurer's Report

Don, in lieu of Ivar Jozus, class treasurer (unable to attend the call), reported that that our Class' cash balance currently is \$74,900, with no outstanding debts. Our class dues contributions were presently more than 56%, which is good, but could be better.

Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Report

Harris McKee, DCF class co-chair (along with Rog McArt and Hank Eberhardt), reported (via email) that the Class had received \$161,915 in cash and pledges through May 10th versus a class dollar goal of \$261,000, or 62.0% of our goal. He also reported that contributions through May 10th have come from 221 classmates versus our Class participation goal of 379 classmates, or 58.3% of our goal. In terms of participation to date, only the classes of '53 and '54 are ahead of us. But we still have a ways to go to reach our stated class participation goal of 78%. Therefore, if classmates get a call from another classmate during June soliciting a contribution, it is very important to contribute something ---- any amount that you feel comfortable with is ok. The class "SWAT Team" begins June 1st.

Harris reported that our top classmates through May 8th in obtaining contributions from other fellow classmates are: Ken DeHaven, Glen Gemelli, Bill Glenn, Art Kelton, Harris McKee and Al Rozycki.

In terms of our class competition with the '61 class from Princeton, we are ahead in dollars and pledges, but behind in participation, which is usually our class' strong point.

Webmaster's Report

Although Harris did not give a specific webmaster's report, it was noted that Harris' now weekly '61 Class Agents' Update Report was very informative. The one page report provides cash donations collected against goal, cash and pledges submitted against goal, dollars needed to reach our class goal, and the number of class contributors against goal – all with percentages. Also included are the achievement standings of all of the '61 DCF class agents, based on donations (regardless of amount) from the classmates on their respective lists. The emphasis clearly is on participation.

Harris, as class memorialist/necrologist, did report that during the last three months to date no classmates had passed away. This report was favorably received, but not expected to continue.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Report

Red Facher, BTS class co-chair, reported via email that there was no change in the status of our class BTS participation since our April class officers conference call; we remain at 53 members. Dave Armstrong, the other BTS class co-chair, reported via email that he had sent a letter to alumni personnel in the charitable gift planning and gift annuity program department. The letter outlined the approach that he and Red would be taking to increase the number of BTS participants from our class over the next few months, and what information they needed in order to achieve their objectives.

Class Project Selection

Pete Bleyler, co-chair of the Class Project Selection Committee along with Oscar Arslanian and Vic Rich, made the presentation of the two-part long-term class project that was currently being discussed but not yet fully agreed to by all committee members in all respects. The objective of the presentation was to obtain confirmation of the two-part project in general and to solicit thoughts with respect to many specific details still under discussion by the members of the committee. Lots of discussion ensued and several valuable suggestions were presented by various class officers. The Class Project Selection

Committee agreed to go back to the drawing board in order to derive the best projects which met all or most of our class officer stated objectives.

Rather than waste time with the prior more confusing earlier projects, presented below are the projects as revised and substantially agreed to by the Class Project Selection Committee within a week of the last class officers conference call.

The committee has agreed to propose two separately endowed class projects for funding by the Class from its existing treasury surplus to the extent of 50% and funding by donations from individual classmates over a period of 4 years to the extent of 50%. Pete has projected that our Class and classmates will have to come up with a total of approximately \$80,000, of which \$40,000 will come from our class treasury surplus currently in place.

Project #1 will be called "The Class of 1961 Robert Frost Literature Award" and will be awarded to an undergraduate "D" student who comes up with the best proposed literature project on any subject related to Robert Frost and/or the Robert Frost statue at Dartmouth. The annual recipient of the award will receive a minimum of \$1,500. This project will be administered by the English Dept., but the Class of '61 will seek to be a minority participant in the selection process, at its sole discretion, for a period of at least 5 years.

Project #2 will be called "The Class of 1961 Arts Initiative Award" and will be awarded to an undergraduate "D" student who comes up with the best proposed project in any form of the studio arts or visual arts. The recipient of the award will receive a minimum of \$1,500. This project will be administered by Hopkins Center, but the Class of '61 will seek to be a minority participant in the selection process, at its sole discretion, for a period of at least 5 years.

It should be noted that once these two projects get accepted and approved and are in process, the Class of 1961 will approach the Class of 2011 and seek to get that class involved in one or both proposed class projects referred to above. If the Class of 2011 agrees, then we would expand the project or projects proportionately based on the amount of financial contribution and degree of involvement by that class. By getting the Class of 2011 involved, we would be able to perpetuate one or both of these two excellent endowed projects for at least the next 50 or 60 years, long after all of our classmates are gone.

Women's Initiative Committee

Nyla Arslanian and Patti Rich, co-chairs, reported that the primary objective of the committee, after discussions with a few classmate wives and a few widows, was to be a support group to share life issues, develop/strengthen relationships among classmates and among their spouses/significant others/widows, especially during class reunions and mini-reunions. Nyla stated that they intend to set up a conference call in the near future to include the spouses and significant others of former '61 class presidents, current class officers and selected others who have shown an interest in enhancing and supporting the class.

Two immediate projects in progress are 1) written communications or telephone calls with widows and significant others of future deceased classmates and 2) regional lunches and/or dinners for wives and significant others (in Hanover, NH area; in NY metropolitan area; in LA, CA area; in Phila., PA area). In addition, the W.I. Committee periodically will contribute articles to the class newsletter and class website. Finally, Don proposed adding Joan Prewitt to the W.I. Committee, to which there were no objections.

Bruce Duthu, Newly Proposed Dean of the Dartmouth Faculty Issue

Gerry Kaminsky brought up the issue of the newly proposed Dean of the "D" Faculty within the context of "integration" and "inclusiveness", "bias" and "the boycott of selected (eg. Israeli) academic institutions". After some discussion, it was agreed that we needed all of the facts before considering any possible condemnation of the appointment. Vic stated that the issue was also just coming up before the Alumni Council and that he expected to learn more during the Council meeting scheduled for later in May. Gerry stated that he would seek to learn more from certain College personnel prior to while attending the graduation of his grandson from Dartmouth in early June. (Subsequent event: Shortly after the Alumni Council in May, Professor Duthu declined the appointment to be the Dean of the Dartmouth faculty.)

Mini-Reunions (off-campus)

No time to discuss during the conference call and no written report submitted subsequently.

Class and Classmate Alumni Awards Archive Project

No time to discuss during the conference call and no written report submitted subsequently.

Distinguished '61 Classmates Awards Committee

No time to discuss during the conference call and no written report submitted subsequently.

Don stated that the next class officers conference call/meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at noon EDT.

Don then adjourned the meeting at 1PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich '61 Class Secretary