

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

### **November 8, 2017**

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**Attending the Meeting:** Don O'Neill, Denny Denniston, Gerry Kaminsky, Vic Rich, Ivar Jozus, Harris McKee, Rog McArt, Hank Eberhardt, Oscar Arslanian, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich

**Absent from the Meeting:** Pete Bleyler, Dave Prewitt, Red Facher, Maynard Wheeler, Tom Conger, Dave Armstrong, Joan Prewitt

**Invited Guests:** Vince Wilson

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Don O'Neill, class president, called the meeting to order at noon. Prior to the meeting, Don had submitted to all 18 class officers a list of the dates for class officer conference calls/class meetings (second Wednesday of each month at noon) for the next 13 months, ending December 31, 2018 (Dec. 13, 2017, Jan. 10, 2018, Feb. 14, 2018, Mar. 14, 2018, Apr. 11, 2018, May 9, 2018, June 13, 2018, July 11, 2018, Aug. 8, 2018, Sept. 12, 2018, Oct. 10, 2018, Nov. 14, 2018, Dec. 12, 2018).

Don congratulated everyone on the Class' receiving one of only three Special Recognition Awards at the annual Class Officers Weekend in September and stated that he was working on a token related remembrance for each class officer, since it was the class officers as a contributing and cohesive group which enabled the class to achieve this award and to be a finalist for Class of the Year.

Don then called for the approval of the Minutes for the October 7, 2017 class meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve such Minutes and they were approved unanimously.

#### **Secretary's Report**

Vic Rich, secretary, reported that "our" class-dedicated statue of Robert Frost was improving its status on campus. The recently revised online Dartmouth College Campus Video Tour, written by "D" graduates and published 3/1/2017 includes approximately 22 seconds devoted exclusively to the Robert Frost statue, out of a total of approximately 36.5 minutes for the entire video.

Vic reported that he was awarded the Class Secretary of the Year at Class Officers Weekend during September 2017.

Vic and Hank Eberhardt were part of the recent presentation of the Dartmouth Alumni Award to classmate Art Kelton during the Alumni Council meeting in Hanover during the latter part of October 2017. Also attending the presentation was Al Rozycki, who is also a current member of

the Alumni Council (representing the Medical School). The award was for his “long-standing and meritorious service to the College and his community, as well as achievement in his career”.

Vic stated that several classes had requested copies of our recently completed (about 10 months ago) Class Communications Plan, including two more in late October/early November.

Finally, Vic reported that a possible expansion of the undergraduate student body and an increase in needed undergraduate residential housing on campus, proposed initially for the College Park Area, was currently being studied by an outside consulting firm and a College appointed committee, with a written recommendation report anticipated by approximately March 2018.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Ivar Jozus, class treasurer, reported that the class treasury current had a cash balance of \$83,382, with no bills outstanding but \$50,000 committed to the recently approved proposed two-part endowed class project.

To date, approximately 41% of our classmates had paid their class dues for the 2017/2018 fiscal year. Ivar anticipated receiving class dues from another 12%-15% of our classmates by the end of the fiscal year (June 30<sup>th</sup>).

### **Dartmouth College Fund (DCF)**

Harris McKee, co-DCF chair, stated that the '61 DCF team planned to start their solicitation efforts earlier this year in order to give them a better chance of achieving, and hopefully exceeding, the class goals for total DCF dollars and for classmate DCF participation. Don added that this year's DCF dollar goal, not yet finalized, would attempt to be realistic for achievement. Denny and Gerry were scheduled to divide the class' leadership prospects and to proceed immediately to solicit same. Harris, Hank and Roger would concentrate their initial efforts on soliciting class agents and then the general solicitation of classmates other than the class' leadership donors.

### **Webmaster's Report**

Harris McKee, class webmaster, reported that there currently were some Dartmouth computer system-generated issues with the class' website that were in the process of being sorted out.

### **Bartlett Tower Society (BTS)**

Neither Red Facher nor Dave Armstrong, co-chairs of our class' BTS efforts, were available for the telephone conference meeting, due to Red's current health issues and Dave's ongoing condolence issues as a result of the passing of his wife several months ago. Don advised that he would speak with each of the aforementioned in order to determine whether each is still able

and willing to serve the class in their current position or whether another classmate should be added to the class BTS team.

### **Class Project**

Pete Bleyler, co-chair of the class project committee, was unexpectedly not available to present an update report and no report was submitted for presentation. There are some issues still to be overcome, but they appear to be getting close to being resolved.

### **Class Mini-Reunions (On-Campus)**

Although Maynard Wheeler, co-chair, was not available on the conference call due to an ongoing schedule conflict, every class officer who attended the class mini-reunion in Hanover during early October stated unanimously that they had a wonderful time. The weather was very good; the football game against Yale was one of the best wins, if not the best, ever achieved by a "D" football team; the College Homecoming Weekend alumni march and freshman bonfire were enjoyable and nostalgic; the four meals arranged by Maynard were all outstanding; the faculty speaker (new head of the Hood Museum) was excellent and the three '61 grant student recipients were all interesting and informative ---- nothing was missing. The date for next year's on-campus Fall mini-reunion in Hanover has yet to be finalized, but appears again likely to be during Homecoming Weekend (October 26-27, 2018).

### **Class Mini-Reunions (Off-Campus)**

Although Dave and Joan Prewitt, co-chairs, were not available to attend the conference call, it was confirmed that a strong turn-out was anticipated for the Newport, Rhode Island mini-reunion scheduled for May 20-23, 2018 at Gurney's Inn, with nearly all class officers signed up to attend. Don offered to have a cocktail party at his Rhode Island home, subject at least to no further complications with medical issues within Don's family. Someone suggested that the mini-reunion contain a musical segment of "oldies but goodies" during or after one of the dinners. Oscar, with a deep background in the "oldies but goodies" music entertainment arena, offered to follow up and put together a proposal.

### **Women's Initiative Committee (WIC)**

Patti Rich, co-chair of '61 WIC, reported that many (12) of the wives/significant others who attended the '61 Fall mini-reunion in Hanover in October got together to discuss their current lives, including both the high and low points, and the issues they were facing going forward (illnesses, at times severe, and subsequent complications; downsizing lifestyles and housing; permanent moving to different states; travel, or lack of same; physical activities, or downsizing of same; etc.).

Patti organized a luncheon October 2017 in Manhattan for '61 classmate spouses, significant others and widows from the New York City Metro Area. Six women attended, with another two

having to cancel out at the last minute. The issues discussed were similar to the issues discussed at the Fall class mini-reunion in Hanover. Those attending appeared to have had an enjoyable afternoon.

### **D'61 Classmate Awards Committee**

Dave Prewitt, committee chair, was not available to present a report, so Vic, a committee member, presented a report on his behalf. During the class' Fall mini-reunion dinner, the committee presented its first award to Harris McKee, current long-term class webmaster, class memorialist, class DCF co-chair, class on-line annual mini-reunion chair, former class president (twice, once while a student – senior class and once while an alumnus) and genial classmate go-to person when many class tasks need to be accomplished quickly, accurately and on time. Harris was a unanimous choice. The award was a framed formal citation.

It is anticipated that the next D'61 Classmate Award(s) will be presented at the upcoming mini-reunion in Newport, RI in May 2018 and that the recipient(s) will probably come from the list of highly qualified classmates already developed.

### **D'61 Archive of Class and Classmate Alumni Awards**

Denny Denniston, chair of this internal class project, reported that some portions of the archive have been completed and posted on the class website and other portions are still not yet completed.

### **New Business**

- As a result of the passing of Pete and Ruth's daughter, Tracy Bleyler, who had struggled with medical issues but achieved throughout her life, it was agreed that the class would contribute \$100 to the D'61 Arts Legacy in her honor, as it does with respect to all deceased classmates.
- After some discussion, it was agreed that our '61 Class Constitution should be revised to reflect several current realities and certain desired improvements (e.g. include spouses of current classmates and deceased classmates as "'61 classmates"; specify only one vote per '61 family entity; etc.). Don, et al, will seek out a classmate/lawyer to formalize the revision of the Class Constitution.

The next conference call/meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at noon EST.

Don adjourned the meeting at 12:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich '61 Class Secretary