

**Parents' Association  
Parents' Advisory Council Meeting  
February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Welcome:** President Joe Higginson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**Present:** Toni Barrett, Marla Carter, Frank and Kathy Coll, Collette Crown, Bob and Sara DeMuth, Mark and Ann Esterle, Joe and Barbara Higginson, David and Juli McCay, George and Connie Morgan, Glen Mowbray, and Cindy Wilkins

**Absent:** Ronnie Barrett, Harry and Elaine Bush, David Carter, Richard and Sharron Clouse, Stuart and Sara Cox, Tim and Ruth Culver, Tonya Hanson, Robert and Patti Hinton, Bob Wilkins, Deuce and Joellen Kuhn, Joe and Lisa McCarty, Kreis and Betty McGuire, Tamara Neel, Richard and Leighann Quinlan, Neil and Janet Rumohr, Jeff and Terri Shaw, Derron and Krista Steenbergen, Les and Rene Stevens, Monica Tharp, Lynda Weeks, Shaun and Sharon Winters, and David and Janet Yates

**Guests:** Becky Tinker, Career Services; Mr. Brian Kuster, Housing and Residence Life; Dr. Peggy Crowe, Housing and Residence Life

**Minutes:** Ann Esterle made the motion to approve the minutes from the September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 meeting, seconded by Colette Crown. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Blair Silliman presented the financial report. Joe Higginson made the motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Connie Morgan (*Attachment A*). Motion carried.

**Staff Reports:**

**Mrs. Becky Tinker, Career Services:** Mrs. Tinker reminded the Council members that Career Services will soon be making the move to the Garrett Conference Center as the next phase of the Downing University Center renovation begins. In the meantime, the space is being utilized to best serve students; the on-going MASH service has allowed the staff and Peer Counselors to address the career concerns of many students. The [careerhelp@wku.edu](mailto:careerhelp@wku.edu) allows students to send questions via e-mail regarding their careers and job searches. The CSC staff is continuing to travel to the regional campuses to serve those students as well. Mrs. Tinker encouraged the PAC members in attendance to tour the facility and leave their mark on the mural wall in the CSC lobby. In addition, she provided a handout outlining all of the up-coming CSC programs including the Spring Job Fair (March 20<sup>th</sup>) and Nursing Day event (April 5<sup>th</sup>).

**Mr. Brian Kuster, Housing and Residence Life:** Mr. Kuster reported the successful opening of the department's first apartment-style residence hall in the fall of 2012 and announced the department would be breaking ground on their second apartment-style residence hall spring of 2013 (to open fall 2014) on Kentucky Street. The building will have 220 beds in one and two-bedroom configurations. The building will initially house primarily junior and senior students but will eventually house International students, graduate students, married students, non-traditional students, and veterans. Kuster also reported that Housing and Residence Life will be

sending a full-time professional staff member (Coordinator level) to travel with WKU students engaging in the Semester-at-Sea program.

**Dr. Peggy Crowe, Housing and Residence Life:** Dr. Crowe presented data recently collected via the MAP-Works assessment tool. MAP-Works requires students to input information about their transition and intent to stay/leave the institution; this information is then made accessible to staff members who can intervene and talk with students who may be academically or socially at-risk of leaving the institution. The data showed that students who completed the MAP-Works Fall Transition survey were retained at a 71.7% rate from the first semester to second semester, students who did not complete the survey were retained at a 56.2% rate. Crowe urged the PAC members not to be too swayed by the data, sharing that the students who took the initiative to complete the survey were most likely at a lower risk of leaving the institution to begin with. Crowe concluded by sharing information about up-coming partnership programs with OIP and Study Abroad taking place in the halls.

**Old Business:** Blair Silliman presented on “The Future of the Parents’ Association.” During her presentation, Silliman provided a brief overview of the foundation of the Association and also presented rationale supporting the move of the Parents’ Association from the division of Development and Alumni Relations to the division of Student Affairs and the department of Housing and Residence Life. The majority of her presentation centered on the current and future Structure of the Association. She presented several different structural models from other institutions. Much of the discussion reflected concern over a reliable revenue stream for the organization and collection of quality parent contact information. Silliman had planned to go on to discuss the mission, goals, and objectives of the Association, as well as strategies for accomplishing those goals, but unfortunately ran out of time. As Silliman concluded her presentation, the PAC members voted to develop a sub-committee of members tasked to conduct additional research on other institutions’ Association structures and present a new structure proposal. In the meantime, the Council agreed to continue to collect quality parent information, encourage donations, and then follow up with interested parents about annual gifts to the Association.

**New Business:**

**Counseling and Testing Center:** Elizabeth Madariaga presented Counseling and Testing’s proposal requesting \$2,000 to purchase Take Back the Night T-shirts for student participants. Take Back the Night is an annual event that takes place during Sexual Assault Awareness Month (March). During the event, students march around Bowling Green, “taking back the night” from perpetrators and giving a voice to victims of sexual assault. (*Attachment B*).

**Military Student Services** – Tonya Archey presented Military Student Services’ proposal requesting \$6,000 for the department’s “Textbooks for Troops” program, which provides free textbooks to WKU’s Active Duty, National Guard, Reservists, and military Veterans who do not receive book stipends. The books are loaned out on a per semester basis and then returned for other students to use the following semester. Currently, over 400 WKU students are eligible for the program; additional funding from the Parents’ Association would purchase more books and help extend the program to military spouses and dependent children attending WKU (*Attachment C*).

**Intramural Recreational Sports** – Nichole Merchant, Jarrode Davis, Kelsea Schultz, and Malcolm Lunceford presented on behalf of the Intramural Recreational Sports department,

requesting \$1,500 to send departmental Graduate Assistants and current undergraduate student staff members to the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association 2013 National Conference in Las Vegas, NV. The additional funding would help off-set the costs of transportation and food at the conference. Conference attendees benefit from the opportunity to attend educational sessions, engage in professional networking, and interview for graduate assistantships and professional positions. (*Attachment D*).

**Campus Beautification:** Helen Siewers WKU's Planning, Design, and Construction Landscape Artist presented her proposal for \$3,600 to purchase and install three benches at the Grise Grotto. The benches would provide a quiet, outdoor seating area for relaxation, reading, and studying. A plaque on one of the benches would recognize the Parents' Association's gift to the beautification of campus (*Attachment E*).

**Housing and Residence Life:** Sarah Haught presented Housing and Residence Life's TOMS Campaign proposal for \$150 which would cover the shipping for 150 pairs of shoes to be sold during WKU's inaugural TOMS Campaign. The TOMS "One for One" program guarantees with every purchase of a pair of shoes, the provision of another pair of shoes to a child in need. HRL is launching WKU's inaugural TOMS Campaign with the support of many other departments on campus in an effort to educate students about responsible consumerism and civic responsibility (*Attachment F*).

**Discussion:** After much discussion, the PAC members decided to award the following:

Group	Requested	Actual Award
Counseling and Testing	\$2,000	\$1,000
Military Student Services	\$6,000	\$2,000
Intramural Recreational Sports	\$1,500	\$0
Campus Beautification	\$3,600	\$1,300
Housing and Residence Life	\$150	\$150

Collette Crown made the motion to approve the amounts awarded (listed above) to total \$4,350; Marla Carter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** President Joe Higginson suggested the next meeting take place Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in the new Augenstein Alumni Center. Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> was mentioned as a back-up date. He adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m. and thanked all for coming.