

Business Alumni Network (BAN) Meeting Minutes

Saturday, March 5, 2016

8:30 am, Executive Conference Room, Motherhouse 3rd Floor

Attendees: Ed Wisniowski, Caryn Jakielski, Sara Niedrich, Donna Eakle, Tim Wills, Aubrey Knight, Orlando Griegio, Karen Ciarlette, Katie Thayer, Karen Ende, Bob Bodach, Karen Miklic, April Smith, Anne-Christine Tompkins, Bob Herling (phone), Judy Bulat (phone), Joseph Ferrallo (phone)

- Introduction & Prayer
 - Welcome and call for January 2016 minutes (emailed for review)
- Alumni News/Events (Aubrey Knight, Director of Alumni & Family Relations)
 - Career Networking night was a success- thank you!
 - Sips & Splatters Paint Night- Thursday, March 10 (6-8pm)
 - READ for Educators (EAN)- Saturday, March 12 (8am-2pm)
 - Easter Eggstravaganza- Saturday, March 12 (9-11am)
 - Blackhawks Game- Tuesday, April 5 (5:30 pm departure from USF)
 - USF Career Fair- Friday, April 8 (9am-noon)
 - USF Relay for Life- Friday, April 15 (USF Recreation Center) 6pm- midnight
 - Joliet Hope Center Service Day- Saturday, May 7 directly following the BAN Meeting
 - 10 am- noon
 - Bring non-perishable items to donate
 - Wear close-toed shoes and a jacket (warehouse may be cold)
 - Four regularly-scheduled meetings for all Alumni Networks to meet on the same days throughout the year
 - This will bring all alumni networks together
 - Food will be provided in a community room for all of the networks to mingle
 - Large group of alumni will create awareness to current students
 - This new format will begin in September for Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend
 - Invite STAT members to their corresponding Alumni Network meetings- invite all students or all juniors/seniors?
 - SAM Program
 - Ends mid-April (4th year)
 - Almost 400 participants
 - Aubrey Knight received the innovative award for the SAM program from Dr. Arvid Johnson last week
 - Aubrey Knight will be presenting at the NASPA national conference in regards to this program in Indianapolis and the impact this program has on student retention
 - Looking for students and alumni to apply for next year!
 - Reach out to Alumni Knight or stfrancis.edu/SAM for more information
 - October-April time frame with monthly topics for discussion, meetings, networking events, etc.
 - New Alumni Chapter- Mass Communications and Journalism
 - Commencement Volunteers Needed- Saturday, May 14

- 7:30-9; 10-11:30; 11:30-1; 2-3:30
 - Alumni Summer BBQ & Concert on the Quad- Saturday, June 4 (12-3pm)
 - BAN Bowling Party- Friday, July 29 (6pm)
 - April 30- All fall events must be determined to make it into the Alumni marketing pieces. Focus on creative programming and less focus on events.
 - Caritas at the Bolingbrook Country Club was a success- broke a record for donation amount (~\$400,000)
- BAN positions available
 - Secretary Position available immediately (Thanks to Tim Wills for his years of service!)
 - President-Elect position will become available in January (must be determined by September)
 - Nominate/Vote- Volunteers being asked to contact Caryn or Aubrey for these fun positions
- Service Opportunities
 - Joliet Hope Center Service Day
 - Sunny Hill Gardening Day- Saturday, May 21 (9:30am- noon)
 - Sign up to volunteer/ donate flowers and vegetables
- COBHA Update- Dr. Orlando Griegio
 - “Purple Cow” analogy- what makes our group unique and stand out as a University and as a Network?
 - Program in the Czech Republic- fly the faculty here for programming
 - Chairs under the Dean of COBHA
 - Bonnie Covelli
 - Michael Stowe
 - David Gordon
 - New programming for Masters Degrees- more flexible and great opportunities going forward
 - Healthcare Administration group in Albuquerque- strides to implement this segment
 - Judy Bulat space at Plaster Center
 - Donation provided by Judy to incorporate into the Plaster center
 - Working with David Gordon to focus on Judy’s ideas for this center
 - LinkedIn search
 - USF CEO network to get connected with other successful alumni
 - Ideas for BAN
 - Word of mouth- network with everyone about USF and foster relationships
 - Get more individuals to join BAN through fun events and professional opportunities
 - Think of ideas/programming that may take a large donation amount for to incorporate into the Plaster Center
 - Speaker Series- to help bridge the gap between alumni and students and development opportunities
- Business Incubator
 - They are now accepting applications for startup businesses and entrepreneurs
 - Professional offices are located in downtown Joliet across from the Rialto

- Startups will receive the following services: desk space at the University's facility; connection to mentors; access to University resources, faculty, and students; access to free wireless internet; phone service; access to wireless printer and copier.
- Required to: submit application; sign access agreement upon acceptance into Incubator; provide criminal background check and insurance; pay a small monthly usage fee.
- Current Incubator members: Acer Report; Custom Community Creations; Don't Quit; Health Markets Insurance Agency; Premium Security & Associates; Quasar Design; Sciexperience; Student Speakers.
- Contacts for the Incubator: Dr. Bonnie Covelli & Dr. Orlando Griego.
- Application can be found at <http://www.stfrancis.edu/incubator>
- BAN Newsletter
 - Diego Garcia and Diana Viveros, COBHA students working on this actively
 - Caryn Jakielski and Joseph Ferrallo working closely with these students
 - Topics of focus: New Dean and Logistics instructor, Campus expansion, Business Incubator, BAN Panel in November, Dr. LaRocco Scholarship, Joy Thompson Scholarship, Caritas, BAN events and service days, etc.
 - Fall newsletter idea: Dr. Griego interview
- BAN Facebook Page
 - Aubrey Knight deleted old Facebook group
 - "Like" the BAN page & "Share" it to spread the word
 - Series of mini videos for social media through the Alumni page- student videos around graduation, etc.
 - Contact Aubrey Knight with any video clip ideas
 - Ed created QR codes for marketing pieces
 - Click "following" on BAN Facebook page to make sure to see BAN updates in your news feed
 - Send all BAN Facebook page ideas/updates to Anne-Christine Tompkins via email, Facebook message, etc. (annechristinetompkins@stfrancis.edu)
- BAN page on USF website
 - Alumni Office making changes to the website
 - Check out the page and contact Aubrey Knight with ideas
 - Agendas posted on website?
 - #StFrancisFriday- please participate by posting a picture on social media with this hashtag
- Service Recognition
 - Congrats to Aubrey Knight on presenting at the national conference in Indianapolis!
- BAN Brick Purchase 2016- or other ideas for BAN to give back?
 - Give back to student scholarships- Dr. LaRocco & Joy Thompson Scholarships
- Upcoming Meetings
 - Saturday, May 7, 2016
 - Saturday, September 24, 2016
 - Saturday, February 4, 2017
 - Saturday, April 1, 2017
 - Adjournment