

Gateway Tigers Chapter Board Meeting
April 10, 2012

Present: Mark Andracsek, Carlie Edmund, Elizabeth Gaines, Tom Gudenkauf, Courtney Hinton, Amanda LePoire, Matt LePoire, Mark Mannion, Amy McLard, Jayson Meyer, Tabitha Meyer, Elyse Pickle

Guests

The board welcomed guests from the **Missouri College Advising Corps (MCAC)**, an organization based at Mizzou that places high school graduates in post-secondary schools around the country. Advisors help students find the best school for them, as well as institutional aid and private scholarships. Mizzou's program was one of 10 inaugural programs nationally. MCAC is in 10 schools in the St. Louis area where it can benefit the greatest number of students. Many of the students are the first in their families to go to college and come from low-income families or underrepresented communities in urban schools. *The board will look at how it can highlight the work of MCAC and the Mizzou graduates working in the program, as well as any connections it can help MCAC make.*

Dudley McCarter, treasurer of the Mizzou Alumni Association national governing board, joined the board to learn more about what the chapter is doing and provide an update from the national board. Dudley shared that Mizzou is seeing more highly qualified students applying, with 50 percent from outside Missouri – a sign that Mizzou's national reputation is growing. Dudley reported that the final budget won't go through the general assembly until the beginning of May. *He encouraged everyone to sign up for the Mizzou Legislative Network*, which has more than 3,000 members.

Dudley also told the board about Citizens for a Healthy Missouri, an initiative to increase the tobacco tax in Missouri, which would increase money to education. Missouri currently has the lowest taxation on cigarettes. He encouraged alumni to consider purchasing a Mizzou license plate, which includes a donation to the Mizzou Alumni Association. He also encouraged alumni to consider becoming a life member of the Mizzou Alumni Association. Life membership is the highest it's ever been, and a five-year payment plan is available.

The alumni association held focus groups in St. Louis in March. One interesting finding was that people are less likely to come to an event if they don't think they'll know anyone there.

President's update

Mark reminded the board about the following upcoming events:

- Wednesday, April 11 – Mizzou v. Illinois baseball game; tickets are \$15. The chapter will have a tent in the Kilroy's parking lot (southeast corner of 8th and Cerre) to meet alumni, hand out giveaways and promote Soiree.
- Saturday, April 14 – spring football game in Columbia
- Thursday, April 26 – alumni happy hour at 360 (last day to buy discounted Soiree tickets)

- Thursday, April 26 – Mizzou MBA alumni happy hour. Joe Stephens, former chapter board member and director of the MBA program, is coordinating this. The board will send Soiree information to Joe to promote.

MAA Update

Jayson asked if anyone would be available to attend the Saturday, May 12 installation of the new Harris-Stowe State University president. Courtney may be available to attend. *Anyone who is interested should contact Jayson.*

Scholarship

Liz thanked everyone who reviewed applications and interviewed the applicants. The committee interviewed 30 students, with 19 receiving scholarships ranging from \$4000 to \$1000. All recipients will receive a True Tiger membership from the chapter and an invitation to Soiree. *Liz will continue to work on a scholarship BBQ for July.*

Community Relations

Tabitha has been looking into the MODOT Adopt a Highway program. The chapter would need to sign a three-year agreement to pick up a stretch of highway four times per year. MODOT would install signs at the entry and exit points of the stretch and provide trash bags and vests. There is concern that we don't have a good volunteer base for a project like this, but Tabitha will continue to look into it.

KidSmart's Push for Pencils school supply drive is August 1-31. The chapter could start an online team to donate, purchase a virtual bookbag or volunteer during the month of August at the KidSmart store where teachers can shop for supplies.

The chapter agreed to reach out to other Mizzou groups such as Tiger Club, SEC Alumni Group and Marching Mizzou Alumni Band to staff a water station for the Rock n Roll marathon on October 21.

Soiree in Stripes

Elyse has lined up food trucks from Cha Cha and Sweet Divine to park outside Soiree from 10 p.m. – midnight. She's also contacted Two Girls Four Wheels. Tom will send Elyse info on Chop Shop.

Eighty-one tickets have already been sold. Approximately 40 ambassadors are each selling a 12-pack of tickets.

The chapter will have a table at Mike Shannon's for Cardinals' Opening Day on Friday, April 13, and will hand out coozies and sell Soiree tickets from 12-2 p.m.

There will be a Soiree decoration workday on Sunday, April 22 from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sponsorships/donations include Pearl, Red Bull, Anheuser-Busch, KMOV, Lounge Concepts, Greensfelder, Emerson, Mizzou College of Business (covering printing costs), MAA (donated printing costs of invitation).

There will be both a live and silent auction, as well as a Plinko board, wine raffle, and golden ticket chocolate bars. We will be able to swipe credit cards at the event. Shakespeare's pizza will be served at one of the food action stations.

Life at Play will have a photo booth at Soiree.

Hotel rooms are available at the Hilton at the Ballpark, which will run a shuttle to and from Soiree. *Mark noted that we need to know how late the shuttle will run.* Rooms are available until May 1.

The committee needs volunteers for different tasks during Soiree. There will be 5-6 AASB students volunteering. Setup at Lumen will be on Saturday.

Truman's boutique will have Soiree t-shirts, hats, coozies.

Carlie and the auction committee will let Mark A. know if they want any consignment items for Soiree.

Other business

The SEC Caravan will be in St. Louis on May 10, sponsored by Tiger Club.

Mark A. ordered six chapter season football tickets (seven home games). Mizzou is not selling individual game tickets until all season ticket orders are filled.

Next meeting

Tuesday, May 8

6:30 p.m.

Location TBD