Gateway Tigers – Mizzou Alumni Association

Tuesday, December 4th

Present: Mark Andracsek, Carlie Edmund, Rob Edwards, Elizabeth Gaines, Vanessa Ferguson, Courtney Hinton, Amanda LePoire, Matt LePoire, Mark Mannion, Jayson Meyer, Tabitha Tomko, Jennifer Volk

President's Update

Courtney got things started by talking about some upcoming **SEC Events.** Courtney attended the president's meeting last month and they've planned out events for the rest of the year. They're having at**rivia night** in February as well. It's scheduled for the 23rd, the week after ours. The group is holding a series of **Happy Hours**. There was a great turnout last week from Tennessee. Mizzou had about 6-7 people show up and they were outside of the chapter board. Happy hours will be set up by pairings of schools throughout the year. The next happy hour will be spearheaded by Georgia and Tennessee. There is an **SEC Olympics** set tentatively for April. Additionally, the group will combine the kickoff party and softball game into an all-day event in August.

Courtney was approached last month by Shannon Miller, the president of the STL Chapter of the Alabama Alumni Association. She suggested chartering a bus for fans of both schools to head to Columbia for the Tuesday night **Alabama game on January 8th**. Jayson mentioned there would be extra single game tickets available because students will be gone at that time. We also have a chapter board meeting that evening so there are several potential conflicts. Concerns were raised that the timing would be difficult and filling the bus could be problematic. In the end, the board decided to pass on the opportunity.

The chapter was approached last week by the development office about a **scholarship pitch.** The University recently received $1.1 million in state appropriations. They would like to create a minimum 56 need-based scholarships. We would take $20,000 out of chapter funds and it would be matched by $20,000 from the University through the matching program. Each endowed scholarship would initially be for $1,800 and the Columbia campus would receive nine of these scholarships. Right now, the paperwork indicates the financial aid office would select the winners, but we are going to see how we can be involved to have more input on who receives the scholarships. Amanda moved to take $20,000 from chapter funds to create an endowed scholarship. Jennifer Volk seconded. The vote was unanimous and we approved the proposal.

MAA Staff Liaison Remarks

Jayson began by talking about the upcoming **Braggin' Rights** game and concert. There are two possibilities we are trying to lock down in the next day or so. Carlie set up information about having a party at Mike Shannon's. Jayson mentioned it's not an indoor facility so it might be cool and drafty on a December evening. We could probably do a program fairly easily in that space. It's not that conducive to having Golden Girls/Bands/Etc. Because it's a little far away from the Scottrade Center. However, we could definitely have dignitaries like Mike Alden, etc. The second option would be at Union Station. We discussed pros/cons for each option and feel Union Station would not be a suitable option. Mike Shannon's or the Sheraton seemed to be options that received more approval and Jayson said there should be a decision worked out this week. But most feel the closer we can get to Scottrade the better.

Other events

The **student bowling event** is still something we want to do on January 5th. Amanda is happy to investigate a venue and we'd like to partner with the AASB types in St. Louis to help get some people out here. Flamingo, Moolah, Pinup, Tropicana are all options.

**Trivia night** is February 16th. There was email communication sent out this afternoon to chapter members. At the January meeting we will discuss volunteer opportunities for board members.

We are going to send out **scholarship letters** this weekend to schools that haven't had students apply for our scholarships. This letter will encourage their participation as we prepare to award our annual scholarship. The applications are due to Columbia February 1st. Generally, they will be given to us sometime around Valentine's Day.

Our **skating event** will be on January 20th from 11-3 at Steinberg. Jennifer has worked out all of the details and we should be good to go. Now we just need promotion and brainstorm some other ways to get Mizzou activities involved (temporary tattoos, pictures, etc.). We're going to ask Truman to attend from 12-2.

The board discussed **scholarship appeals.** We are planning to send an appeal letter now and follow that up with a direct mail “save the date for 2013” postcard. We will then regroup and see how the newsletter is coming along.

Planning for **Soiree in Stripes** is ramping up and Carlie will hold a meeting on December 12 to get things rolling.

Tabitha is working on our volunteer opportunity in April for **Ronald McDonald** house. She has resubmitted choices and hopefully we should hear back by next week.

We are considering planning a **basketball watch party** for the road game at Kentucky on February 23rd.

The next meeting will be on **January 8th.** We may try a new location to hold our meeting, so stay tuned!!!