

Ross A. Nielsen Fund Board of Directors Meeting  
April 26, 2006  
6:30 p.m.-8:00 CST

I. Roll (x=present)

- X Barbara Lounsberry, President, Alumna, and current UNI Faculty Representative
- X Joan Duea, Past President and Emeritus Representative
- X Sue Savereide, Vice President and former PLS Faculty Representative
- X Becky Hawbaker, Secretary, Alumna, Parent, Current PLS Secondary Faculty Representative
- X Nancy Stevenson, Treasurer, Alumni Representative
- Trev Alberts, Alumni Representative
- X Leander Brown, former PLS Faculty Representative
- Norm Granger, PLS Parent Representative
- Les Hale, Emeritus Representative
- X Bob Hellman, Alumni Representative
- X Mackenzie Carlisle, PLS Student Representative (class of 2006)
- X Bob Stephens, Alumni Representative
- Drew Stonewall, PLS Student Representative (class of 2007)
- X Clare Struck, Current PLS Elementary Faculty Representative
- X Nadene Davidson, UNI Faculty Friend Representative

Ex Officio Members and Guests:

- X Jeffrey Cornett, Dean of the College of Education, PLS Parent
- X Bill Callahan, Director of PLS and Interim Head of the Department of Teaching
- X Sherry Kluender, UNI Foundation
- X Dave Smith, NU High Principal and Associate Director of PLS
- J.D. Cryer, PLS Elementary and Middle School Principal, alumni

II. Introductions and opening remarks by the President

Members introduced themselves and Lounsberry introduced Sherry Kluender who has joined the UNI Foundation for the College of Education.

III. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved with no changes.

IV. Approval of the Minutes:

Cornett noted that the Dean's Excellence Fund noted in the minutes is for the entire College of Education, not just for the lab school. Nadene Davidson was present at the meeting. With these corrections, the minutes were approved.

V. Treasurer's Report, Nancy Stevenson

Stevenson gave overview of the financial summary, and noted that more than \$100,000 has been raised or pledged to date, including \$8,770 in new pledge payments since our last meeting. She commended the Board for its work. Hellman asked about the policy for payout from the quasi-endowment fund, and Lounsberry replied that a committee has been discussing this question and will report later in the meeting. Stevenson stated that no payments from the quasi-endowment fund have been made to this point, just from the scholarship fund.

## VI. Ex-Officio Reports

- A. Dean Cornett stated that he believes Price Lab School remains central to the core mission of the university. He reported on initiatives at the school, including Care and Excellence, First Amendment School, the citizenship program, high school reform, teacher work sample, and an (unsuccessful) \$2 million dollar grant application for character education. He stated that PLS is pursuing new partnerships with the Iowa Department of Education and shared several recent awards PLS teachers have earned this year. Hellman asked about status of the lab school's mission in providing an excellent preK-12 education.
- B. Principal and Associate Director Dave Smith reported on initiatives in the school, test data, and extracurricular activities participation rates that speak to Hellman's question, as well as publication and presentations by faculty, new partnerships, and in particular the school's efforts in high school reform begun by Davidson. He noted that the reform efforts in rigor and relevance support all three parts of the lab school mission by improving the program for students, becoming an important resource for the State Department of Education, and providing an important model for our teacher education students.
- C. Callahan reported on the State Model Core Curriculum work in Math and Language Arts and R4 (rigor, relevance, relationships, and reflection) that resulted from a presentation by Duea and two lab school teachers at the High School Summit. He shared the specific example of courses in Chinese and possibly Arabic that have been or will be offered at PLS. He emphasized that this work is helping to raise the profile of PLS across the state. Stevenson asked how PLS students compare to students from other schools in the state, and Stephens asked for data on SATs as well as ACT. Smith said he would bring data on student profile and achievement to the next meeting.

## IV. Old Business

- A. Spring Mailing and Fundraising: Duea reported that the fundraising brochure has gone out to everyone in the AFPLS database (~2600 names). She plans to organize a group of current NU students to complete follow up phone calls to meet our goal of raising an additional \$150,000.
- B. Report from Prospects Committee: Barbara Lounsberry shared that the committee met several times to develop a list of prospects for potentially large and medium sized gifts. She recommended that a 'point person' or class giving officer should be identified to coordinate fundraising initiatives and challenges. She has created a list of class officers from 1950 to the present to begin this effort.
- C. Report of the Quasi-Endowment  
Hawbaker distributed a written report summarizing the discussions and recommendations of the Committee on the use of the Quasi-Endowment.

Duea/Creeden moved that the Executive Board should develop criteria and an application form that closely parallels the language that established the Fund. The motion passed.

Stevenson/Stephens moved to institute an “annual appeal” letter or brochure that is sent out each year. The motion passed.

Kluender, Hawbaker, Savereide, and Lounsberry will meet to develop a specific recommendation regarding how much of the fund can be responsibly awarded and to develop a fundraising strategy for the PLS Scholarship part of the fund.

- D. Report from the RAN Interface with other PLS Support Groups Committee:  
Creeden read from a written report submitted by AFPLS President Michelle Swanson which recommended that the fundraising activities of the NU Booster Club, AFPLS, and other groups be collapsed into one umbrella organization. Stephens suggested that coordination is necessary, but consolidation of the various groups may not be wise. Stevenson questioned where RAN would fit in the umbrella. Lounsberry suggested that the groups meet again to discuss issues further.
- E. Web Page Update: Hawbaker reported that the nuhighalumni.com site is up to over 200 registered users and that the website she maintains for AFPLS and RAN averages about 250 hits per month and generates around three address corrections per month.

VII. New Business

VIII. Next meeting

Lounsberry will suggest October 2006 meeting dates by email in the near future.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Hawbaker