

RAMFAM Association Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2008 – 10:00-noon – Student Recreation Center-Horsetooth Lounge

Members Present: Joe Garrity, Lynda Zeringue, Laura & Bob Huff, Cecelia Luhrs, Judy Sayre Grim, Glenna & Greg Brissey, Jody Donovan, Kacee Collard

Members Present via Dial-In: Steve Lococo, Betty Weiner, Marie (please send me your last name for our records)

Guests: Sarah Morgan (University Development), Shannon Medicott (Office of Annual Giving), Quinn Girrens (ASCSU Vice President)

- After introductions of all present members, Jody gave an update on the search for a Chancellor/President of CSU.
 - During the most recent meeting of the Board of Governors, no decision was made on whether or not to split the current position of President into two positions of President (internal) and Chancellor (external) so the search has not moved forward
 - Current Interim President, Dr. Tony Frank, has agreed to stay on in an interim capacity for up to two years
 - Internally, we are sensing a holding-pattern to allow Dr. Frank to gain experience and see if he wants the permanent position of President
 - When Dr. Frank was promoted, his job of Provost became vacant. The institution has been moving to fill his position in an interim capacity. Dr. Sandy Woods, Dean of Engineering and Dr. Rick Miranda, Dean of Natural Sciences are seeking the position of Interim Provost.
 - For the candidate hired, there will then be a search to fill the Interim Dean position for that college.
 - Conversation ensued around budget issues related to two positions (Chancellor and President), the need for a presence in Denver, the Board of Governors as the search committee for the next President of CSU, and rumors of other candidates for the position. According to Michelle McKinney, no conversations have been had with potential candidates because the decision between one or two positions for Chancellor/President has not been made.
 - Jody indicated she has put in a request to allow space for parents and families during a President or Chancellor open forum (with a speaker phone for those that are unable to physically attend) and has not heard back.
 - During the meeting, we talked about sending parents and families opinions or suggestions related to the search for the Chancellor or President to an email link on the Board of Governor's website. Jody asked that you identify yourself as a parent or family member of a current CSU student. In speaking with the Board of Governor's staff, this link has not yet been created. The Board of Governors will vote on whether or not to create this email link during their next meeting.
- Sarah Morgan and Shannon Medicott attended the meeting to speak about fundraising options for the RAMFAM Association
 - Shannon updated the group on the Office of Annual Giving activities
 - Just finalized Call-a-Ram, which is a phone campaign to benefit the Parents Fund at CSU
 - The office will send a follow-up mailing in the spring, as well as complete "clean-up" calls to those parents and family members missed in the fall during Call-a-Ram
 - Sarah provided many suggestions for fundraising opportunities in the community
 - Parents and families have the opportunity to give leadership gifts

- Many companies have 501C3 programs available to match individual employee donations. This is an easy way to double parent and family donations
 - Sarah asked if RAMFAM members could work with their employers on a matching program
 - After that, parents and families wouldn't necessarily be responsible for asking for donations; more telling your story to friends and other parent and family members
 - RAMFAM will work with Sarah and Shannon to develop a letter campaign around matching gifts
 - Sarah and Shannon could help identify local businesses to sponsor the RAMFAM Association
 - Sarah offered to talk to John Parry at the CSU bookstore about selling RAMFAM merchandise, which helps with advertising, but not a main fundraising effort
 - Parents and family members were concerned that Jody have her own funding stream. We explained the Parents Fund is Jody's funding stream for parent and family programs and student grants on campus. This fundraising would benefit both the Parents Fund and the RAMFAM Association fund
 - Shannon indicated half of the money raised from Call-a-Ram went to the Parents Fund and half went to the other areas in the university
 - Jody said company sponsorships would be beneficial because she gets many inquiries from parents and families about hotel recommendations, storage unit recommendations, mechanics, etc.
 - CSU is not interested in selling parent and family contact information to companies, but maybe there is a way to link opportunities via the Parent and Family Newsletter to allow people to opt-in to coupons and discounts for parents and families of CSU students
 - Members asked if the student callers could ask parents and families to join RAMFAM during Call-a-Ram
 - Fundraising ideas: RAMFAM discount cards and sponsored banners
 - Shannon suggested starting with a fundraising goal and working backward from that goal
 - Sarah indicated she would create a menu of prices to go out to local businesses for sponsorships. For example, for \$10,000, you will receive this level of advertising
 - Then, as a RAMFAM Association service, we could provide a list of "RAMFAM Approved" businesses
 - Members asked for a list of events/programs/items supported by RAMFAM
 - Members asked Laura, Lynda, Glenna and Jeff to sit on a subcommittee with Sarah, Shannon, Jody and Kacee to develop strategies for fundraising. This group will likely meet on Saturday, January 10 during the RAMFAM Association's regularly scheduled meeting time in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Administration Building, Room 201
- Quinn Girrens, Vice President of the Associated Students of CSU (ASCSU), the student government body on campus, attended the meeting to speak on current student issues
 - She identified the two biggest campus-wide issues as the resignation of President Penley and transparency of student fee use
 - When asked about ASCSU's involvement with the presidential election, Quinn indicated ASCSU registered close to 8,000 students to vote and got 20,000+ people to pledge to vote

- through [Vote CSU!](#). ASCSU hosted educational forums and provided voting “cheat sheets” to help students with the issues before they had to go to the polls
- ASCSU has been working with the City of Fort Collins on the [3-Unrelated Ordinance](#) to help the city get more student input on the issue. The City Council will vote on the ordinance and any changes in February.
 - She gave a background on [ASCSU](#)’s responsibilities and structure and indicated they are pushing to have a student be a voting member of CSU’s Board of Governors.
 - Conversation ensued around student fees, parking on campus, and the CSU partnership with Transfort and ideas to extend bus route hours
- Members asked if they could access the Collegian online. It is available online through this [link](#). We also offered a link to [Today@CSU](#). Changes to Today@CSU include:
 - A focus on key constituent groups (faculty, staff, students, and alumni) allowing news and information to be easily located and targeted.
 - Absorbing Student FYI with announcements for students.
 - Main tab sections - Campus News, Events, Student Life, Working @ CSU, Sports, Alumni Corner
 - Multimedia features - Weather (temperature and forecast), Slideshows, Videos, Reader polls, Ask Cam, an interactive Q & A tool where users can submit University-related questions
 - Events
 - Announcements of all University-sponsored events (including athletics events, academic events, programs, seminars, concerts, celebrations, etc.) posted to the online calendar
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- Finally, members asked about a RAMFAM Association dinner during Spring Ram Welcome. We are still finalizing the details of the event, but members who are available should plan to attend a parent and family dinner on Thursday, January 15, 2009. We will send out a separate email with details and a sign-up sheet as soon as the information has been finalized.
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- The January 10, 2009 meeting has been cancelled because classes are not in session, so the next RAMFAM Association meeting will be held on Saturday, February 14, 2009 on campus.