

# **Adelphi University Parents Association**

## **Minutes of Meeting, March 14, 2005**

Board Members Present: Michael Cohen, President; Pat Arbore, Vice President; Paula Hardway, Treasurer; Joyce Serra, Secretary. Seven additional parents were in attendance, Neal and Kathy Beekman, Ron and Yvonne Johnson, Marjorie Guttenplan, Michael Rosenblum, and Silvia Lombardi. Jeremy Marchese from Student Affairs, and Debra Evans from Student Financial Services.

President, Michael Cohen, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. The new parent of a Freshman commuter student was introduced to all in attendance. Minutes of the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.

Debra Evans was the guest speaker from Student Financial Services. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the decision date for incoming freshman for 2005. 800 families had sent RSVPs for the recent accepted students event. Another accepted students day is being held on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Many schools have the same dates for events, so it is important to have 2 dates and a good sales pitch to get them to your event. A new format for the event was used, reducing the previous long lines for meeting with personnel to a 10 minute wait.

Due to high volume of calls, calls to Financial Services are answered within 48 hours. There is a phone queue. Must leave a message to get an answer. Calls are returned and a message left, but not enough staff to call continuously until call is picked up personally. Currently there is a full staff in place at the information desk.

Adelphi is partnering with Citibank, College Loan Corporation, and HSBC Bank. The banks also support the school by printing the awards folder.

Parent inquired about financial resources for Study Abroad. Stafford and Pell grants are portable. TAP grants may be portable, but University grants are not portable. 4-5 scholarships are available for Study Abroad. Adelphi has no formal SA program. There is a consortium agreement to accept credits - must do all paperwork before going overseas. Adelphi is considered the "home school". Financial aid is distributed through Adelphi, and paperwork must be completed at least a month before.

Parents always ask for information on their students - grades, financial info, etc. - but by law once child is 18, parents have no right to this information. If child is with you, government recognizes the ability to discuss this information together. Some schools have a waiver, Adelphi does not. If a graduate student, parent requests are refused. Students can mark their records as confidential, as many family situations make it imperative to protect a student's privacy.

It is important that financial aid presentation is given at freshman orientation before classes begin in the Fall.

The application for the Senior Award was available on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. Ads were posted and e-mail sent to faculty and students. 24 applications picked up so far. Date applications due - April 1, 2005. Reading of applications and essays - April 7, 2005 at 6:30 pm. Interviews for scholarships - April 18, 2005 at 7:00 pm.

April 8<sup>th</sup> reception will be in Room 313 with President Scott. No raffle at this event.

Plans for Family Weekend "Parent Tea", to be held on first day of homecoming weekend. Possibly a silent auction. Pat distributed information on how this works.

Treasurer's report - \$924.18 to start. With donations from recent fundraising letter to parents and a phone card sale, total is now \$2966.18. There are now sufficient funds for this year's scholarship. Discussion was held on the amount for awards. Currently suggested amounts of \$500, 250, and 150 were not agreed on. Final amounts will be determined when applications are in and read. If the impression were as strong as last year, the Board would like to increase the amount of the awards, yet still have a good base for beginning next year's process.

The raffle for October will include the TV and the quilt, so hopes are high for a good return and ample funds for next year's scholarship, unlike the difficulties we faced this year.

The Parent -Senior dinner where scholarship will be awarded is set for Saturday May 14, 2005. Graduation is May 15, 2005. 2600 students are expected to graduate, 820 incoming Freshmen for Fall 2005.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Next meeting, April 11, 2005 at 7:30 pm.