

# Adelphi University Parents Association

## Minutes of Meeting, November 8, 2004

Board Members Present: Michael Cohen, President; Paula Hardway, Treasurer; Joyce Serra, Secretary, Eight additional parents were in attendance, Dean Kessler and Jeremy Marchese from Student Affairs and David Kloiber from Residential Life.

President, Michael Cohen, called meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. Introductions were made around the table, with parents attending from as far away as Tarrytown and Brooklyn.

The minutes from both the September 9th and October 9th meetings were voted on and approved.

David Kloiber was the guest speaker from Residential Life. School is at 103% occupancy with 23 converted triples. Department is fully staffed with both professional and para-professionals - hall attendants. The guest policy is being reviewed and Hall Councils will be used as sounding boards in discussions. Example: How many nights can guests stay, 2 consecutive nights or 3 nights per month? Will there be exceptions for siblings? During breaks? Provisions needed to allow roommate to say "no" to certain circumstances. No abuses of policy will be allowed. Hall to hall is still a guest. In case of emergency, they need to be able to track people. Singles don't have bathrooms. There are 542 rooms on campus only 15 singles. Too many guests put a strain on facilities also.

Parent had concerns about move in day being the day before classes for students, other than freshmen. Too stressful. This is due to training of staff and the freshman coming in earlier. Residential Life feels that stress is less for returning students, but parents do not agree. Parents want some sort of dolly or transport available for move-in day. Too long a trek from the parking lot, and most other schools have dollies or carts available for parents to use.

Conferences and camps held at Adelphi during the summer means that facilities are in use. Time is needed for maintenance. This was first year that Orientation for freshman did not occur the week before. January is more flexible for move-in when students return. Most personal items are already in place.

Parent not happy with cost of meal plan. Daughter does not utilize the full amount and money is lost. Wants declining meal plan and more food choices. Discussion followed about Lackmann Culinary Services and all that they have done since last year to improve the services and choices for the students. Themes, music, show cooking, periodically a sushi chef. They try hard to break the monotony and to improve service. School is under contract and this is the lowest meal plan price - \$1100 that they can offer. Food Services will be presenting at a future meeting and will go over all the details.

Other Res. Life news - security is good. Ceramics and Facilities building will be undergoing some construction and they will be expanding the parking lot at the southside of Stiles Field (gravel). Size of parking spaces is being changed to standard size from small size (6'-8').

Room selection will be online for Fall. Any student on probation during the registration process will have to go through the Residential Life office. They can assist with finding off-campus housing, but very little is available nearby.

Craft Fair update - still waiting for a finalized date and approval by the Business Office. Dates will probably be April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> with a raindate of May 8<sup>th</sup>. Bernie would like to see

campus groups - sororities, fraternities, or clubs, using space if they desire. Dean Kessler said he would offer them space/tables. Bernie mentioned a Ms. Carney from the Heart Association who attends every show.

Parent Handbook needs to be revised again for the earlier admission date. Three parents were selected for the Handbook committee - Joyce Serra, Sharon Dym, and Marjorie Guttenplan. We will meet in January to review and make suggestions.

Paula Hardway gave the Treasurer's report. We started in September with \$621.18 in the PA account. After orientation and family weekend raffles and expenses for prizes the total is now \$994.18.

The need for more fundraising ideas in order to reach our scholarship goals was discussed, also the need to improve communications with other parents. It was suggested that we have a parent event/reception to tie in with a campus social event - possibly a show at the theatre or Dance Adelphi - and meeting with the President of Adelphi. Dean Kessler will try to find out dates coming up for events in February.

Dean Kessler also suggested writing a fundraising letter asking parents outright for donations. Letter will suggest various levels of giving and will include some statements from former winners of the scholarship. This will help build a better foundation for us to give scholarships and have money remaining to carryover to the next year.

Next meeting, Tuesday, December 7th, at 7:30 pm, in Room 216. Lackmann Culinary Services will be the guest speaker. Additional meeting dates were set for Monday, January 10, 2005 - Monday, February 7, 2005 - Monday, March 14, 2005 - Monday, April 11, 2005 - Monday, May 9, 2005 - Monday, June 13, 2005. Orientation will be August 26<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.