SIU Alumni Association
Executive Committee Meeting
Kaplan Hall Conference Room
Saturday, July 22, 2017
10:00 a.m.

The Executive Committee of the SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors met in the Kaplan Hall Conference Room on Saturday, July 22, 2017. The meeting was called to order by President Larry Mieldezis at 10:05 a.m. The following committee members, staff, and legal counsel were physically present unless otherwise noted:

Gary Heflin
Molly Hudgins-CC
Dede Ittner
Mike Kasser
Larry Mieldezis
Scott Moller
Laura Soucy
Rick Wysocki
Greg Wright
Michelle Suarez (Executive Director)
Patrice DeBlois (Asst. Treasurer/Controller)
John Huffman (Legal Counsel)
Tina Shingleton (Corporate Secretary)

Mr. Mieldezis recognized Vice Chancellor, Jim Salmo, attending by conference call. Also recognized in attendance were legal counsel, Mr. John Huffman and Acting Chancellor, Randy Dunn.

ACTION ON MINUTES
Mr. Mieldezis asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the April 28, 2017 Executive Committee meeting. Gary Heflin made the motion to accept, seconded by Dede Ittner. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mieldezis asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the June 14, 2017 Executive Committee conference call meeting. Scott Moller made the motion to accept, seconded by Laura Soucy. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS – Larry Mieldezis
Mr. Mieldezis feels the position we are in today versus where we were last year at this time is quite different and optimistic compared to the uncertainty of last year. Without getting involved in a political discussion, it sounds like there are still many problems that have been left unsolved, but being given a surplus of air in a huge water tank of state government, alleviates the terror of drowning for now.
Having a new permanent Chancellor, coming in on August 15, is a great step forward in stability. We will build the relationship between the Chancellor’s Office and this organization and he is excited to learn more about Chancellor Carlo Montemagno’s perspective, experience and direction for our university. As a board, this offers great opportunities for the AA and SIU.

With this said, the challenges we have faced over the last couple years has caused us to stop, study, understand, and begin discussions on how to do things differently in order to survive. Reinventing ourselves, is a trademark of the most historically successful institutions and industry leaders of our time.

We have pondered the future of the AA and how we might look going forward.

- Do we belong more closely integrated with other parts of the university system – for example the foundation?
- Will we lose independence as an association?
- Will our “mission” and “vision” for the AA be sacrificed?
- How do we make sure the answer to all these questions remain in the best interest of the AA?

In his opinion, the best way to ensure this is to explore and discover all options available to us, and as a board, ensure we remain in control in the best interest of our Association.

He believes we can consider change, change that might not be the de-facto popular consideration, but in the long run change that might not only make the Association a better entity, but also make our institution (SIU) stronger.

This is the ultimate concept of “GETTING WAY OUTSIDE THE BOX”. There was a time when industries, such as Uber, Amazon, NetFlix, and Phoenix University came out with their ideas of how they were going to exist and serve their constituents, a lot of people said no way, this is too hard and covered with challenges that can never be accepted, and we see how that turned out.

We have a CHALLENGE and opportunity at our feet. We have a very strong SIU Foundation, and a very creative SIU Alumni Association. What opportunities lie between these two organizations to become a more leveraged entity to support or institution? With that said, the drivers to consider are:

- Cost Savings?
- Do we charge for membership?
- Effectiveness?
- Building a cohesive end-end story?
- Inspire

Mr. Mieldezis believes all the above. In the end these two organizations may have different measures, metrics to obtain and goals to achieve – but we can all agree we have the same single
common objective "MAKE THIS UNIVERSITY GREAT" and telling the world about it whether through fund raising or engagement with alumni.

We have talked and talked about these ideas for over a year now with sub-committees, working sessions, third party assessments, and more. We have a tremendous amount of data in front of us, and this Executive Committee has the experience, talent and overarching commitment to this university, allowing us to weigh the data points and make some moves, make some recommendations – to make us a better organization.

Mr. Mieldezis proposed the following:

- The EC will function as a sub-committee of the SIU Alumni Association Board representing the best interest of the AA specifically to address this SIU Foundation/AA opportunity.
- Form a joint committee between the SIU Foundation and Association leadership to take all the data points, determine our objectives (Foundation/AA) and come up with an agreed to recommendation on leverage and change for both the Foundation and Association that will answer those questions of cost savings, leverage, and a better end result. This joint committee will be made up of a subset of members from the Association EC and Foundation EC.
- He would challenge a time-box effort, with a hard deliverable date
- Ending in a final deliverable that the joint committee both agrees to present to their constituent organizations for consideration (Foundation and Association).
- Would result in a consideration and vote to the Alumni Association board.
- Would challenge us to work in concert to present a recommendation by the end of 2017, and a vote by our boards on steps forward by end of the first quarter, 2018.

Mr. Wysocki asked Mr. Huffman how this might affect the Association as a non-profit organization and also keep their independence. Mr. Huffman stated it would depend on the desired outcome. Mr. Huffman believes language could be drafted to protect the corporate independence 501 3(C) status of both organizations. Legal counsel would not necessarily need to be present at all meetings but there would be certain subjects discussed that an attorney would need to be present to hear what is being said to be able to come back and give appropriate input. In regard to the Association maintaining their independence that would depend on the Committee and how well they are able to interact. The relationship between the Association and Foundation is very positive which has not always been the case.

If this EC is in agreement, he would like to engage in a discussion with the current SIU/AA/SIUF Joint Subcommittee (Larry Mieldezis, Rick Wysocki, Roger Tedrick, Susie Rashid) to form a joint team between the two organization (4 representatives from each for a total of 8) to begin this work, and layout a timeline that commences with a recommendation by end of 2017. We need to think about what we want to achieve out of this as we represent the Association. The initial conversation of the joint team will be more of a conceptual discussion around this model. Homework will need to be done before the conversation takes place. Mr. Mieldezis would like to sketch out a timeline and concept to present to the Executive Committee.
Mr. Kasser suggested that someone with Association history and financial knowledge be included on this committee. He volunteered to make himself available. Mr. Mieldezis agreed.

As CEO of the SIU Foundation, Mr. Salmo stated that the Foundation has not had much discussion regarding this. He has always taken the position with the Foundation that a lot of this should come from the Association and believes in talking with Susie, Roger, and other people on the Foundation board informally and that they will think open mindedly and be willing to do what we think is best for both organizations. He wants to make sure that everyone knows the Foundation is willing and able but there has not been much discussion about this amongst the board or the leadership so they will need to be brought up to speed when things start moving.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Michelle Suarez
Typically, Ms. Suarez shares the engagement statistics for the last quarter at the beginning of her report. Now that Patrice is on board – she will provide the Engagement Report at the end of her comments.

This summer has been extremely busy, especially last week with two events out of town and a reunion on campus. Ms. Suarez acknowledged the efforts of the Association team in this busy summer season.

In the materials distributed, the mission and vision statements of the Association were included.

Mission: The goal of the organization has been the long-standing mission for decades

Vision: The position the organization desires and the path taken to achieve its goal;

The second page is entitled strategic objectives. These statements provide an overview of specific ways in which the organization will follow the vision to achieve its mission. Through discussion, the team determined the addition of these statements would provide greater insight to how the Association would serve SIU and alumni.

The purpose in sharing these with the EC was to get their feedback. A discussion took place regarding the wording and several suggestions were provided by Executive Committee members. Mr. Huffman suggested going back to look at the Corporate Charter. It probably refers to Alumni first. The Corporate Charter may need to be amended.

Dr. Dunn suggested the Association consider putting this on hold until they see what emerges from the outcome of the discussions with the Foundation. The Association and Foundation must define themselves. Input from different areas is good data gathering but ultimately the decision will need to come from this group. Ms. Suarez agreed.

Mr. Salmo stated that he has had a conversation with the new Chancellor and he is aware the Association is going through a discussion now and different things are being thought about.
Ms. Suarez confirmed from this discussion that the next step would be to distribute the Corporate Charter for review and have further discussion. Mr. Mieldezs stated it could be rolled into a subset of the discussion with the Foundation. Mr. Huffman offered historical documents he has at this office.

- **Student Alumni Mentoring Program (SAMP):**
  - Career Services will support and provide training for all three facets of this program; mentoring, job shadowing, internships, as well as job postings.
  - The Extern program will evolve into this program – this would be the job shadowing opportunities offered to students. Alumni would be encouraged to support this program much in the same manner as they have in the past. However, greater flexibility may be an option.
  - The Extern program has traditionally occurred the week of spring break. The process to assess participants and match students with shadowing opportunities is extremely labor intensive. With the new software platform the matching process could occur electronically. Additionally, this electronic platform could provide support for a time during the year other than spring break for a shadowing experience.
  - Regular meetings with campus stakeholders are taking place now to finalize training, platform population etc. in order to roll out the program this fall.
  - Potential name is, **Saluki Career Experience** – experience is the name of the software module that will be accessed by users – career because of the varying opportunities afforded by the platform.

- **Eclipse:** Plans continue for the Eclipse and the thousands of visitors expected that weekend. Ms. Suarez believes NASA will be back on campus next week for additional planning meetings. She asked those in attendance if they planned to be in town for the Eclipse on August 21? Eclipse glasses were distributed and everyone was asked if a photo of the group wearing the glasses could be taken for the Association’s social media.

- **Coast-to-Coast:** June 28-July 2 the second, in the series of Coast-to-Coast events, were held in Washington DC. There were four events -
  - Nationals baseball games,
  - an evening reception,
  - a micro-brew event – featuring Matt McCarroll
  - and a brunch.

The attendees were very excited to get together and appreciative of SIU traveling to their region.

Meetings have been held with alumni in Chicago and Nashville. We’ll have to circle back and get these groups reconvened for the next conversation in planning.
Ms. DeBlois presented the Engagement Report:

- Membership - Total Membership is up by 40 since last quarter. The increase was seen in annual, life, and 3 year memberships, while we saw a drop off in students and recent graduates.
- Events/Attendance - Since last quarter, we have had some big events including SIU Day at Busch and SIU Day at Wrigley with total captured attendance increasing from 7,533 to 8,868.
- Student Engagement - Total scholarship committee awards for the year came to a total of $42,772. Chapter scholarships were awarded, bringing other scholarships administered numbers to 38 totaling $44,556.
- Communications -
  - Email distributions increased from 1.7M to 2.4M
  - Facebook fans increased by approximately 1K
  - Twitter followers increased by 63
  - LinkedIn Group members decreased by 5
  - Instagram followers increased by 86
  - Website Page views increased by 2.2K
- Data Stats - There was an increase in the number of records of approximately 500, however I saw a small decrease in the number of addressable graduates and phoneable graduates. May have been some clean-up of bad data.
- Alumni Engagement - Nothing much notable in this section. Volunteer SIU numbers increased by 4.

**ACTING CHANCELLOR’S COMMENTS** – Randy Dunn

Dr. Dunn thanked everyone for their service.

- A state budget was approved in July. The state appropriation as a whole for the system is about 20% of the overall system budget which is a little higher for our campus. There was a 10% hit but it is something we can deal with, it is predictable, it allows us to move forward in that sense is sustainable and we just need to have something to finally unfreeze this crisis. The campus is still moving forward at the campus level with a Financial Sustainability Plan that was put together in the spring in order to address what might happen if a state budget was not passed. With a budget being passed this plan was able to be scaled back somewhat. Campus had been asked to figure out how to reduce expenditures by $30 million but with the state budget this is now not as severe. We know we will continue to see potential for cost shift from the State which includes a small pension cost share for highly compensated employees, which will hit hard from the School of Medicine; employee health insurance; and possible minimum wage increase. We also have not looked at some type of salary increase on this campus for years and need to take that competitiveness into account. In addition, there is one half billion dollars of deferred maintenance on this campus that has not been touched in about five years because of no capital bill in Illinois. To keep
operations generally moving forward in the fashion before the state budget crisis, $90 million of unrestricted reserves pulled from all SIU campuses, which will have to repaid, and is a part of the Financial Sustainability Plan to move forward. Decisions will be made throughout the course of the year and implemented.

- Dr. Carlo Montemagno will start as Chancellor on August 15. Acting Chancellor Dunn thanked members of the Association who participated in receptions and/or forums with Chancellor Candidates.

- For a number of years discussions have taken place regarding removal of the towers and figuring out a plan for new student residential housing. Earlier this year the BOT gave authority to enter into a public/private partnership. An analysis/study had to be done before this could move forward. Given where we stand financially at this time and enrollment challenges, the study showed it is not feasible at this time. Our long-standing financial advisors stated this as well.

The long term plan is to bring down two of the towers and see where we go from there. Cost of demolition of the towers is currently $3 million each. Mention was also made regarding demolition of Southern Hills and The Barracks.

Dr. Dunn suggested that maybe we made need to come with fresh eyes and think about getting out of student housing on east campus. If eventually there is new construction maybe everything should be pulled to west campus, have one big dining hall, and use east campus for more recreation fields.

VICE CHANCELLOR’S COMMENTS – Jim Salmo
- Mr. Salmo thanked Association Board members who attended dinners for Chancellor candidates. He felt it was important to have representation from both the Association and Foundation boards. He also thanked the Association staff for stepping up the last six months. To help morale and thank both the Association and Foundation staff, lunches are being hosted and snacks or treats are being brought in. Expense will be minimal.

- The Division is working on a transition plan for the new Chancellor.

- The Division of Development and Alumni Relations had a $166,000 cut this year. The Development side will take on the full amount, however, there is a seven year payback. The first year will be $33,000 that can come from any source and can change from year to year. A plan will be created, in the next month, or so for the first year payback to the University to determine how much will come from Development and how much from the Association.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Greg Wright
Mr. Wright thanked the alumni staff for their support and is honored to join the Board and Executive Committee in this role. We have exciting and challenging times ahead and hopes he is able to make a contribution.
The Financial Report was provided to the Committee. The following was noted:

- Assets are up 10.79% for a total of $847,495.
- Liabilities are down slightly 5.5%. This is due to timing in some payables and accruals made between this year and last year.
- Under Revenues, event fees are up due to two Wrigley Field days in the year. There were almost $1 million in Investment Gains this year compared to Losses in 2016 of a little more than $455,000.
- Expenses are down this year about 10% driven by unfilled positions.
- Off-Campus Programs are up due to 2 Wrigley Field games in one year.

Mr. Mieldezis asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Gary Heflin made the motion to accept, seconded by Scott Moller. Motion carried unanimously.

**OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Larry Mieldezis

Mr. Mieldezis asked committee chairs if they have anything that needs to be brought up.

**Audit Committee** – Greg Wright

Grey, Hunter, Stenn have been engaged to work on the FY17 audit. They will begin on August 14.

**Communications** – Molly Hudgins

_The following was included in the Communications report provided but was not brought forth in the meeting._

- Fall Magazine - Work on the fall edition of *SIU Alumni* magazine is underway. The issue will be mailed to all alumni beginning in late September. The theme of the fall magazine is engagement. Throughout the magazine, alumni will discover specific ways they can become involved in the university. Some examples include an overview of the Saluki Food Pantry, university sustainability outreach efforts, the Forever SIU Campaign for Students, and an alumni-student mentorship program put together with the help of the Association. The goal of the publication is to inform alumni for the coming year how and where exactly they can get engaged and stay active in the life of the university.

- Website - Earlier this year the Association launched its redesigned website, siualumni.com, with a format that makes the site navigable on smartphones. Response to the redesign has been positive, and the ease of navigating the site on a smart device has made the process of registering for memberships and events a much better experience for users. The website continues to be a consistent top performer in the Association acquiring new and renewed memberships. This redesign was an important step in ensuring the site met usability standards for such purposes.

**Investments** – Scott Moller

Investments are doing great and are capturing the market. Our mix is 70/30 in terms of stock vs. mixed income. At each conversation with our investment firm Mr. Moller asks if percentages need to be changed or left as is. At this point no changes are being recommended.
Member Services – Rick Wysocki

- Directline Spring Membership Campaign - DirectLine Technologies, Inc., which performs membership calling campaigns on behalf of the Association, recently completed its spring membership calling. DirectLine was given approximately 18,950 records of never- and lapsed members. The campaign generated 645 membership pledges, worth an estimated $78,000. To date, roughly 300 of those pledges have been fulfilled. DirectLine was pleased to report the positive response to this campaign improved over last year.

The Association has not budgeted for a membership calling campaign in FY18, as it and the SIU Foundation will be working out some overarching strategies related to alumni who are targeted for membership and alumni who are targeted for donations.

*The following was included in the Member Services report provided but was not brought forth in the meeting.*

- Membership’s Future - This past year, the Association staff has discussed whether or not the membership program would continue in the future as it exists today. The main questions: If the Association dropped its dues-based membership requirement would it be freed to focus entirely on engagement between the university and as many alumni as possible? And in doing so, how would it make up for nearly a quarter million dollars in operating revenue lost without those membership dues?

The short answer is this: Membership dues are critical to keep the organization solvent at this time. The Association determined it would have significant operations shortfalls without them, and it would be highly unlikely the organization could maintain consistent programming and communications for alumni engagement without its own self-generating revenue source. During the course of these discussions, additional funding for the Association from the university was suggested, but in light of the fact the board of trustees recently approved roughly $20 million in permanent cuts to SIU, it seems unlikely additional funding for the Association would be a priority at this point.

The Association maintains a fully functional mechanism of generating revenue in its membership program. Right now it shouldn’t be sacrificed, but it can be simplified. The membership services committee and Association staff will be working toward this goal and will deliver a proposal to the full board during the fall meeting.

Policy and Organization – Rick Wysocki
Nothing to report at this time.

Scholarships – Gary Heflin
In FY17, the Association budgeted $50,200 in scholarship support. The Association funded a variety of scholarships and retention activities for approximately 100 students in FY17 for a total of $42,772. The actual expenditures can be seen in the Scholarship Report.
According to the scholarship fund guidelines approved through electronic voting on June 23, at the end of the fiscal year, the Association will designate as the next fiscal year’s scholarship fund distribution whichever is greater - $30,000 or 10% of the sum of the total investment gains/losses and interest dividends earned throughout the fiscal year not to exceed $100,000 total. Any remaining amount not distributed in a fiscal year will carry over into the next fiscal year. This remaining amount shall be included in the next fiscal years’ Scholarship Proposal. In FY17, the total scholarship investment earnings were $168,516. Per the guidelines, 10% or $16,851 is less than the minimum amount noted above. Therefore, $30,000 in investments will be allocated for FY18. In addition, a carryover of $20,749 including an un-awarded balance of $7,428 remained from FY17. Through the textbook return policy initiated during the spring awards, additional funds have been recognized. With this in mind, it is suggested that the Scholarship Committee bring forth recommendations to fund $50,729 plus the amount recognized through textbook returns in scholarships in FY18.

Proposals are being sought for the FY18 allocations. The committee will be meeting to determine funding priorities that can be met with the limited budget to allow the Association to continue to meet its goal of assisting the university in recruiting and retaining students.

Student Relations – Laura Soucy
The following was included in the Student Relations report provided but was not brought forth in the meeting.

Student Alumni Council Officers for 2017-2018
President-Kevin Jenkins
Vice-President-Karli Illum
Treasurer-AnnaMarie Radecki
Secretary-Rachel Seay
Community Service-John Lindt
Social Media-Fred Dodson
Engagement-Cornelius Moore
Academics-Jena Adreasen

The SAC Executive Committee has been having conference calls to plan events for the upcoming semester. They are working on a new incentive and point system for participation. They have created a structure for the general meetings for this year. They are also paying closer attention to what events they volunteer for and want to make sure they are scheduling them in advance to ensure better participation.

Some of the events which the officers are working on include:

Community Service
Move In Weekend
Saluki Start Up
Weeks of Welcome
St. Jude Up Until Dawn (November 14)
Relay for Life
Recurring events- Humane Society and Irish Festival with the Park District

Engagement
RSO Fair (August 24)
New Member Night (August 31)
Dawgs Nite Out – T-shirt swap
Welcome Back BBQ
Game/Movie Night
Fitness- work out 3 times a week at the rec

Academics
Incentives for attending study events
Pizza study party
Goal is 3.0 GPA

OLD BUSINESS – Larry Mieldezis
- Historian Update – Mrs. Ittnin provided a handout regarding long-range interests/goals of the SU Alumni Association Saluki Legacy History. One of the objectives this year is to gather CDs of our alumni magazines of the corporate history from 1946 on. Some of the earlier records were destroyed in a house fire. Through conversations with former long-time Corporate Secretary, Nadine Lucas, we are now ready to start digitizing some items. Mrs. Ittnin will start exploring ways to print the 1940 materials that we have in hard copy. We will then move on to digitize the first set of minutes from the 1990’s on that we think Gene Green may have access to.

The second item is to make sure we are collecting materials in hard copy or electronically from our outstanding programs and events like the Extern program, Student Alumni Council, Half-Century Club, etc. Ideally these reports/records/minutes can be added to our growing collection in Morris Library’s Special Collections.

- Forever SIU Campaign – Mr. Salmo provided an update on the campaign which officially kicked off on January 1 and announced at the May 1 kickoff of the 75th Anniversary of the SIU Foundation. A minimum goal of $75 was announced and have to date raised $35 million. Have set a goal of $40 million or more by December. The Foundation plans to reach out to each alumnus to get them to support the campaign. He has been made aware that the Association would like to be pro-active in doing something for the campaign. He is bringing this up as a concept to see if this is true. If the group would like to do something on behalf of the Association, there if some power in numbers that we have. He has looked at the last three years of giving of the full Board and it is well over $145,000. If the top three gifts are removed, the average per Board member is roughly $2,250. With our number of board members it is feasible for the Association board to create something as part of the campaign and then open up to any alumni who wanted to do so. The bulk of the project should come from the Association board and any additional funds that come from alumni is more of the icing. The first thing he recommends is whatever is done has to be a passion project of the Board. He has seen in
other places where the University seal is placed somewhere on campus and honored with a special display and highlighted so students and visiting alumni recognize this is a place of honor at the University. Another University put up a metal fence in the heart of campus with the symbol of the University with a plaque of each of the classes currently on campus. Then when that class graduates the plaque of that class moves from that spot to another spot on campus to join other alumni class plaques. Others have created an area when a student comes on campus it becomes symbolic hat they enter the campus and when they leave there is a different function or ceremony that allows them to demonstrate they are moving out into the community. He thinks the first question to be answered by the Executive Committee/Board is does the group want to try and pull something together as an Association or be better suited to have the Foundation to approach everyone as an individual alumnum? Mr. Miel dezis thinks this is something to reflect on and think about. He asked Mr. Salmo if there is a time frame for a decision. He responded if it is done as a group project the fundraisers will have to be advised not to approach Association board members until a decision is made. A second consideration is timing of when the project would hit. They would like to allow five years for payments to be made.

Mr. Miel dezis asked for a motion that the Executive Committee lead the exploration of a Board funded opportunity in support of the Forever SIU campaign. Dede Ittner made the motion to accept, seconded by Gary Heflin. Motion carried unanimously.

- Results of Advocacy Resolution/Scholarship Guidelines Electronic Voting – Mr. Miel dezis advised the Executive Committee that the Advocacy Resolution passed 20 Aye/1 Naye and the Scholarship Guidelines passed unanimously with 20 votes. He has had some interaction with Board member, Steve Brown, on moving forward. Mr. Brown had expressed his desire to have had the Resolution passed prior to the final outcome of the balance of the budget but from the understanding of a first time electronic ballot and getting this off the ground he understood. Now that the budget has passed he would like to open up to the Executive Committee any suggestions or ideas on going forward or hold as a Resolution. Ms. Suarez commented that staff from Carbondale, Edwardsville, and the School of Medicine met at Stone Center and Marissa Brewer from the University of Illinois was there to share how the Advocacy program works. With where it is right now we should stay in step with what is happening at the system level because we can communicate out but we shouldn’t necessarily be crafting those messages. With all of the activity in Springfield, John Charles has been quite busy focused on that but Ms. Suarez thinks we are to circle back and put together a plan on how to execute things. It was agreed that nothing should be sent unless approved by the University and legal counsel. Mr. Miel dezis thanked Mr. Huffman for his legal advice provided to the Association through this process.

- Shared Services – Mr. Miel dezis stated this will be a topic on a broader subject that was mentioned earlier in terms of shared services across the Foundation and Association.
NEW BUSINESS – Larry Mieldezis

- Constituent Relations - As Executive Director, Ms. Suarez asked the Executive Committee to consider taking a look at the Constituent Organization network for a couple of reasons. Just as a little background, Chapters and Clubs are geographically based and Groups are affinity based. The current model is more than 25 years old. We need to take a look at how these groups are financed with events they put on or whatever they might be producing. They may need a greater focus on vision and support of the University and a clear understanding of expectations and accountability and would appreciate a Task Force to take a look at this.

Something of a more immediate nature is the Black Alumni Group. The reunion this year was absolutely awful. Ms. Suarez provided some background on the group. There is a sheer lack of collaboration amongst the officers and with the staff, there is a real pursuit of personal agendas, there is a lack of commitment to support the Association and the University which cannot continue. There was a complete disregard for the guidelines and the fact that the Association is the umbrella organization for the BAG. However, at the same time, when being affiliated with the Association was beneficial – (room rate rental, or use of the Association’s good name to make gains) the BAG officers claimed a connection to the Association. We had rogue individuals and behaviors that cannot be tolerated.

Just before the reunion: two of the officers informed the Association team that they, as volunteers were in charge and the Association team worked at the pleasure of the group. Not all of the officers took this position, one continually tried to bring the group together and pay attention to the BAG mission and needs of its membership. One officer stayed silent most of the time, he is now the President. Newly elected BAG officers are:
President Kevin Winstead
Vice President Lolita Mack
Treasurer Fred Anderson
Secretary Dara Weaver-Holmes

Ms. Suarez added that Associate VC – Diversity, Dr. Lewin has been kept in the loop regarding this situation.

After a discussion among the Executive Committee it was determined that a Task Force – Ad Hoc Committee be put together to review all of the constituent groups and current Constituent Organization Handbook, determine why we have them, what guideline we should have for them, and advise how to move forward. Some suggestions for members on the Task Force were Dr. Lewin, Molly Hudgins, and Liz Walker-Smith.

- Committee Assignments – Larry Mieldezis
Mr. Mieldezis asked the Committee Chairs to look at their committees and submit any ideas or suggestions regarding any adjustments in terms of committee membership.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

- SIU Day at Guaranteed Rate Field (formerly SIU Day at US Cellular Field) - July 27, 2017

- Football Tailgate for SIU vs. Memphis – Saturday, September 23, 2017(Tentative)


- Fall 2017 Executive Committee Meeting – Thursday, October 12, 2017

- Fall 2017 Board of Directors Meeting – Friday, October 13, 2017

- Half Century Club and Class of 1967 Banquet – Friday, October 13, 2017

- Alumni Band Group Reunion – Friday, October 13, 2017

- SIU Homecoming Tailgate – Saturday, October 14, 2017

- Homecoming Football Game – Saturday, October 14, 2017 – SIU vs. Illinois State

*Visit www.siualumni.com for a complete list of events.

ADJOURNMENT
Gary Heflin made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Laura Soucy. Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

[Signature]
Corporate Secretary