

**Ball State University Alumni Association
Miller College of Business Alumni
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, May 12, 2011**

Attendance: Rebecca Baer, Carl Davis, Michael Earley, Ray Ferguson, Jim Ittenbach, Michelle Johnson, Jeff Klee, Raj Sanyal, and Sue Taylor. Guests: Tammy Estep.

Call to Order

Earley called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. at the Alumni Center

Dean's Report

Dean Sanyal reported that 382 students graduated from the Miller College of Business on Saturday, May 7. The keynote speaker for the college was Ted Baker, '80, executive director of Muncie's Innovation Connector and chair of the Entrepreneurship Advisory Board.

The Accounting Department hosted its second annual Alumni Awards Banquet. Next year's event has been set for April 20, 2012.

The Miller College has been reaccredited for another five years, and the fourth batch of Miller Scholars has been selected. Eleven new Miller Scholars will arrive this fall. Additional mentors are welcome.

Sanyal reported that one of the current focuses of the university is online education. Jennifer Bott has been charged with taking on this initiative with the Provost's office. More online courses and programs will be offered in the future.

Alumni Council Report

Ittenbach said the Alumni Council met on April 30. Three key issues were discussed, the first being an update on the Bold Campaign, which has met its financial goal. However, the alumni involvement challenge goal has not been met. If 21,000 alumni make a contribution of any amount by June 30, a \$1 million gift will be made by an anonymous donor.

The second topic was state budget cuts that are facing the university. Ball State tends to have several graduates in the "five year plan." Although Ball State's efficiencies are above other universities in the state, we are targeted for nearly 20% reduction in the budget. However, in all actuality, this will likely be down to 10 - 15%. The overall academic prowess of the incoming students continues to rise every year.

The third area touched upon was the affinity card with JP Morgan Chase. This program had a \$75,000 impact on the Alumni Association. A new card proposal is currently underway. Additional affinity programs include the BSU license plate, which is now completely accessible through the BMV,

and no longer requires completing paperwork at the Alumni Association office. This convenience has doubled the number of plate sales. The insurance program is also gaining popularity among alumni. Details are online at www.bsu.edu/alumni .

A number of 2011 alumni who will be honored at Homecoming will be announced in the next *Alumnus* magazine. Recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award, The Benny Award, and the Graduate of the Last Decade Awards will be honored at the BSU Alumni Association Awards Dinner October 7. Several MCOB alumni are among those to be recognized.

MCOB Awards

Earley presented the following slate, approved by the Awards Committee:

Hall of Fame:

- Umit Taftali, BS 85–Finance, Suna and Inan Kirac Foundation

Award of Distinction

- Kevin Ervin, BS82–Accounting, Managing Director, Market Street Wealth Management, Indianapolis, IN
- Bob Hunt, BS 69–Business Administration, President, Hunt Construction Group, Scottsdale, AZ
- Kevin Walbridge, BS 82– Management, Exec. Vice President – Operations, Republic Services, Phoenix, AZ

Award of Achievement

- Charlie Brown, BS 71–Business Administration, Owner and Vice President, Southern Bells, Indianapolis, IN
- Mary Cook , AA 72–Secretarial, BS 74–Marketing, Principal, Mary Cook, LLC; Career Consultant/Senior Leadership Coach, Right Management, Indianapolis, IN
- Jim Fields, BS 97–Entrepreneurship & Small Business Management and M.I.S., Associate Partner, Oliver Wyman, Chicago, IL
- Eric Olson, BS 83 Marketing, President/Owner, T–E Inc., Fort Wayne, IN

Dialogue Days

Ittenbach surveyed participants, and suggested that it is again time for a format change in the Dialogue Days structure. He recommended having a panel discussion for alumni, students and anyone interested in attending, followed by a large lunch for all alumni to attend and network with each other. Additionally, he would add a post panel networking time. Another suggestion was alternating years for having the in–class presentations. A rotation may renew and refresh the program. Davis suggested a Ted X conference, which is a 90– minute block for short speeches. Students who couldn't attend could view the video online. He mentioned that a Ted X conference

could generate a lot of energy. Ittenbach also suggested some tele-presentations from remote locations. Clubs from the college could help emcee the panels and organize the whole session. Dean Sanyal mentioned having both a panel and speaker for those who prefer one over the other. Ittenbach noticed the students seemed to resonate more with the youthful speakers/alumni. Dean Sanyal and Estep will work on the suggestions over the summer. The target is a February 2012 date.

Outreach Activities

The Indianapolis Cardinal Business Forum is set for June 2. Baer said that there may be more for the board to do after the Bold Campaign is completed, if the board wishes to take ownership of this type of event. The current event is sponsor supported and Development office administered, and it costs \$15 for participants to attend. Baer will report back after she gets more information on how the event might be handled. The topic will be placed on the July agenda.

Open Board Positions

The board voted on two open positions on the board. Tim Pierce, a 1989 management major and vice president at the Ball State Federal Credit Union, has accepted one position.

Next Board Meeting

- Tuesday, July 19 at 2:30 p.m. at Cooper's Hawk, 3815 E. 96th Street, Indianapolis.

Important Upcoming Dates

- BSUAA Homecoming and Alumni Awards Dinner, Friday, October 7, 2011
- Homecoming parade, Football and related events, Saturday, October 8, 2011
- MCOB Alumni Awards dinner, Friday, October 21, 2011, 5– 9 p.m.