

**Nursing Alumni Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, December 6, 2011
Alumni Center Board Room**

Board Members Present: Pam Carothers, DeLisa Flynn, Kathy Hutson, Julie Eastes, Melissa Mathews, Jan Noel, Brandy Renz, Linda Siktberg, Sue Taylor, Kathy Thomas and Ruth Ann Tolle.

President Brandy Renz called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. and asked for any corrections and/or additions to the minutes of September 6, 2011. Kathy Hutson made a motion to approve the minutes, Ruth Ann Tolle seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Budget Approval and Transfer of Funds - Sue Taylor reported on the budget stating that since the last meeting a balance of Alumni Nursing Fund #6302 was requested from University Foundation. It revealed the fund to be in a deficit of approximately \$5,500. This prompted a meeting between Taylor and Linda Siktberg to discuss the budget in detail. Siktberg transferred funds from the department budget #6301 to fund #6302 to cover the budget and banquet expenses from 2011. Several board members spoke up and said they were under the impression the Nursing Alumni Fund had plenty of money in it to cover the expenses for at least the next several years. Kathy Hutson made a motion to have the accounting books examined from the last five years. Hutson and Jan Noel volunteered to examine the books and to then report back to the board. A discussion ensued on how expenses could be cut Budget approval has been tabled until the next board meeting. Taylor suggested utilizing push email for the LINK in the spring, and mailing only to those who don't have email. This could save a considerable amount on postage and printing costs.

December Class Meeting Report – DeLisa Flynn reported she met with the December class in regards to the upcoming pinning ceremony. There will be 45 graduates in attendance. Due to the small class, the venue was changed from Emens Auditorium to Cardinal Hall in the Student Center. This will also reduce costs.

Nursing Pinning Ceremony Reminders – December 16, 2011 – Brandy Renz reported there are enough scissors to be given to this class. More will need to be ordered at a later date. Siktberg will order and make arrangements for flowers to be delivered. Hutson and Renz will present flowers as well as attend the pinning practice on December 15 along with Flynn. Presenters of the flowers and scissors during the ceremony will be Flynn and Hutson. We have 6 volunteers from the May class to pass out programs to guests.

Confirm Committee Assignments and Meeting Dates – Committees were assigned by Renz and will meet one hour prior to the start of the next meeting. The Scholarship committee will consist of Kathy Hutson, Kristin Reedy, Brandy Renz and Kathy Thomas. The Outstanding Nursing Alumni Award Recommendations committee includes Pam Carothers, DeLisa Flynn, Melissa Matthews, Jan Noel and Ruth Ann Tolle. Taylor asked for clarification of question #4 on the scholarship application form which read:

First Generation Student: Yes or No. It was suggested it read: First Generation Student (i.e. parents have not graduated from *any* college) Yes or No. Hutson made a motion for approval, Tolle seconded and it was passed by voice vote.

Department Update – Siktberg reported the department accreditation is still moving along. There were 80 students admitted for the spring semester. 120 out of 200 applications had a GPA of 3.0 or higher for beginning programs, making the choice of who gets in even more challenging. Yet some students are not meeting the minimum criteria, and the department is seeing students at an alarming rate with a lack of professionalism during the interview process, or having poor writing skills but high GPA's. The graduate student programs deadline was announced so those students know their expected dates.

Other Business – Taylor reported on a Super Bowl project called “Baskets of Hope.” The project was created by former Indianapolis Colts head coach, Tony Dungy. Ball State is in need of input on a variety of ways a notebook and pen could be used in children's hospital rooms when included in a gift basket for them. The baskets, which could include items such as games, toys, art supplies, toiletries, etc, would be given to children admitted to children's hospitals' in 24 NFL cities. The Nursing Alumni Society provided these ideas for ways the notebook and pen could be utilized during a hospital stay; visitor autographs/sign-ins, notes to caregivers, daily log; draw a picture, journaling, record daily medication and treatment, place stickers inside, and playing games.

Siktberg reported she had received a few emails from students asking if they could be pinned by more than one relative during the ceremony, and an email asking whether aunt was considered immediate family. The board discussed the items and decided only one immediate family member may pin a student during the ceremony and immediate family is defined as mother, father, grandparent, brother or sister. Carothers moved for approval, Thomas seconded and motion was passed by voice vote.

Upcoming Dates –

December Pinning Practice – Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 2pm, Cardinal Hall

December Pinning Ceremony – Friday, December 16, 2011 at 7pm, Cardinal Hall

Outstanding Nursing Alumni Award committee meeting – Thursday, February 9, 2012,
4:30 p.m. conference room #1

Nursing Scholarship Committee meeting – Thursday, February 9, 2012,
4:30 p.m. conference room #2

Next board meeting – Thursday, February 9, 2012 at 5:30 p.m., in the board room

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Eastes, Communications Assistant
Nursing Alumni Society Liaison