**ILRAA BOARD MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 2, 2018**

**PHILADELPHIA, PA**

Board Members Present: Joe Cartafalsa, Rich Lovely, Suzette Simon Rubinstein, Phil Capel, Elizabeth Greenidge, Patricia Fitzgerald, Alyssa O’Connor, Jacqueline Brady, Tom Barreca, Mark Dembo, Jennifer Thurston, Sue Sappington.

On phone: Beth Florin, Harvey Sanders, Marty Schmelkin, Jennifer Fitzpatrick, Dawn Levy-Weinstein.

Guests present: Angela DeSilva, Leona Barsky.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Joe Cartafalsa opened the meeting at 9:10 a.m. and asked for introductions from all attendees and those on the phone.

**MINUTES**

Motion to approve by Rich Lovely. Seconded by Phil Capel. Approved.

**CALC PARTICIPATION**

There was a discussion of ILRAA meeting times and today’s meeting at CALC. Angela DeSilva explained that in Class reunion years the officers, class council and reunion chairs all attend CALC. Often reunion chairs come the year before as well. Leona Barsky added that other alumni groups have board meetings during CALC, like Hillel. Tom Barreca suggested that if future meetings are held at CALC, the ILRAA could do something with Philadelphia based alumni [Chapter] or some kind of parallel programming. Mark Dembo suggested that making the most of CALC and trying to do outreach to non-NYC alumni are two different goals, not necessarily met by the same event. Leona Barsky explained that the most relevant aspects of the CALC program are the leadership skills sessions. Angela DeSilva added that the target audience of CALC was originally class officers, but it has been expanded to include all other alumni organization leaders. Tom Barreca mentioned that all ILRies who attend CALC should be invited to any future ILRAA/CALC functions. Jennifer Thurston thinks this is a good idea. Friday afternoon was discussed as a more flexible time slot. Rich Lovely said that getting Board exposure outside of NYC is a good idea. Alyssa O’Connor said that three of her ILR classmates were attending CALC and she will follow up with them to see what they think would be helpful. Also, the further someone travels, the greater the need there is for related events. Joe added that he would like to have less of an NYC focus.

Switching to outreach goals, Tom Barreca suggested an alumni event where we would invite teenagers to “contact” with the school. Jennifer Thurston said she can reach out to alumni affairs to see if this would be welcome. Jacqui Brady suggested that maybe a “family friendly” event is a way to engage a different population. Angela DeSilva suggested that the Board members try to meet with local based alumni when they travel for business. Harvey Sanders said that having meetings outside of NYC is a good idea, especially in locations where there are Chapters. Patricia Fitzgerald seconded this idea and added that the return to the classroom concept would be great to incorporate. Joe Cartafalsa said something to remember that events outside NYC do not draw a big ILR crowd and need to be targeted more widely toward all Cornellians.

Other programming ideas were also discussed: There is widespread interest in touring the Cornell Tech Campus. Liz Greenidge asked whether we can try to coordinate ILRAA Board Meeting with the Groat/Alpern or try to move to Saturdays. Young Alumni do the post Award meet-up. Joe Cartafalsa explained that the school is tapped out around the Groat/Alpern because they already do a Dean’s council meeting the next day, so this maybe difficult. Tom Barreca said he will do an event around Cornell Hockey, if they play in Connecticut.

For the Fall 2018 meeting in Ithaca, there is no weekend set yet. Scheduling this event is always difficult with so many competing fall campus events. Susan Youngblood, Jacqui Brady and Ames Collins will be in charge of programming. Jennifer Thurston said that we may want to consider Homecoming weekend or the first weekend in October. The third weekend in September is already booked for the ILR Advisory Council and September 22 will be the second Sports Leadership Summit in NYC.

**CHAPTER REPORT**

Summary Attached. We are still looking for a co-coordinator to try and expand communication with the chapters.

**ALUMNI AFFAIRS REPORT**

The January social event at the Cornell Club was a success. Jennifer Thurston explained it was a high cost event; there was no admissions charge. Registration was high and some on the wait list had to be turned away; attendance was about 2/3 of the registered attendees. For future events like this we will need to work our attendance/cost issues. The time of year worked well because the Dean was in NYC. Susan Panepento added that there was a broad population age-wise and many faces that do not attend a lot of NYC based events. Those who attended agreed that this should be an annual event.

**NEW NYC EXT OFFICE LOCATION**

The University signed a lease for space for the ILR Extension Office at 51st and Lexington Ave. There was a cost savings and a 10 year lease was negotiated. The landlord is building out the space and it will be ready January 2019. It will have larger and better conference room space. Jennifer Thurston suggested that we could have the January 2019 reception there or push the reception to when the new space is ready later in 2019.

**DEAN’S REPORT**

Jennifer Thurston gave the report. The Groat/Alpern is scheduled for April 12 at the Pierre Hotel, from 6:00 -9:00 p.m. The School’s new theme project is “Technology and the Evolution of Work.” This is an effort to bring ILR community on campus and involve alumni. The school put out a call for theme projects and awarded 13 projects. On April 20, the student government is doing a reception at the school on one of the projects on HR Analytics. Curriculum review underway, first since 1980; Prof. Alex Colvin is the Chair. Curriculum is controlled by the Faculty. Currently, the University also has a social sciences curriculum review committee and ILR is part of this.

Sports initiatives at the College are intended to capitalize on the success of alumni in this industry. The Leadership summit was a very successful event coordinated with the University. This summer the school will sponsor a sports leadership camp for high school students. The school is working with the Sports Business Society to develop the curriculum. Jennifer Thurston is asking us to spread the word.

On February 24 in DC, ILR is hosting a student debate at a law firm on the effects of social media by the University’s debate society. The school is also planning to host a similar event at the State theater in Ithaca hosted by SE Cupp.

Cornell-wide initiatives have begun to review what alumni status means for executive education participants. This is a growing population, especially ILR, since its executive education program has grown. Jennifer Thurston is on the University committee. The University is also moving toward making the Tower Club a $10,000 contribution level. The ILR School has a 10% participation rate from its Alumni. Only about 100 people give at high level. While Rich Lovely strongly supports giving to the University, he feels that the rise in Tower Club funding level is too high and a mistake. It is doubling the price and devaluing all those who previously gave $5,000. Jennifer Thurston reported that the announcement is being rolled out to alumni. Cornell Giving Day is March 20, 2018. We do have matching funds on that day; asking that the Alumni Board send a reminder.

Last year ILR applications went down 24%. This year applications decreased another 9%. Hotel was similarly affected. Nevertheless, the school feels that the quality of the students applying has increased. The application drop in 2016 coincided with the first year of the Dyson/SE Johnson undergraduate business program and an increase in CALS applications. On a related note, ILR is launching a branding initiative to hone in on streamline the message and brand.

A Social Justice Career Fair, Labor Roundtable and speaker Philip Jennings, president of UNI Global Union, will be held all in one week in the Spring.

Leona Barsky made a Motion to Amend the June 23, 2016 and October 15, 2016 minutes. She explained that the June 23, 2016 minutes currently state that the Women’s Network Proposal was attached, but the proposal is not available with the minutes on the website. She wants this proposal attached to the minutes on line. Susan Panepento offered that the Executive Board will check and correct what is online, if there is an error. Joe Cartafalsa asked for the content amendment sought in the October 2016 minutes and advised that he will circulate the proposed amendments and the Board will consider it next meeting. Leona Barsky is not a Board Member so she cannot make the motion, but the Board may consider a friendly amendment. Leona Barsky agreed to forward her clarifications to the Board President.

**COMMITTEE NEEDS**

Joe Cartafalsa solicited Election Committee volunteers: Patricia Fitzgerald, Suzette Simon Rubinstein and Dawn Levy-Weinstein volunteered. Joe Cartafalsa would like Board Members to encourage alumni in the labor community to run for the Board. Jacqui Brady asked that we add to the June’s agenda a discussion about how to hold ourselves accountable and plan how to put our ideas into action. Joe Cartafalsa said he would like to formalize committees more. Also he would like to find roles for those who are coming off the Board and have guidelines for new members. Patricia said she would work on new member guidelines.

**BUDGET**

A motion to approve the budget was made by Rich Lovely; seconded by Patricia Fitzgerald and approved. Joe Cartafalsa extended thanks to Sue Sappington for the undated format.

**SUPPORT THE SCHOOL**

Joe Cartafalsa encouraged Board Members to attend alumni events and contribute to the ILR school in any way they can. Rich Lovely said any contribution is appreciated; the goal is still 100% participation and we have not met it.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Dawn Levy-Weinstein wants to see greater participation from the Affinity Groups on the Board and suggested making the heads Board members. Susan Panepento reported that amendment was considered by the committee when the minutes were revised last year, but not included. However, she noted that the executive committee with board approval can include the Affinity Group leaders. The Executive Committee will consider this and report back to the Board in June. Current Affinity groups are: Finance, Women’s Network, MILRSO, and Graduate. Patricia Fitzgerald said the groups should be on the website.

The meeting ended at 12:00 pm.