

**PROFESSIONAL STAFF ORGANIZATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**AUGUST 19, 2008
142 GERBERDING HALL**

MINUTES

ATTENDING: Ethan Allen, Ellen Barker, Elizabeth Campbell, Shelby Fritz (phone), Ann Guss, Aaron Morello, Debbie Proctor, Peter Rackers (chair), Anne Doherty Renz, Bob Roseth

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The board lacked quorum; July minutes were reviewed but not voted upon. This record serves as notes from the meeting but is not an official record of meeting minutes.

DISCUSSION OF RETIREMENT SURVEY

Peter Rackers will meet with Pat Dougherty, director of the UW Retirement Center, again to discuss possible collaborative events and their draft survey for professional staff who are nearing retirement. Peter will report on the meeting to the Events Committee. Bob Roseth will share feedback he has received about the survey with the Retirement Center.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Communications Committee will meet again later in the week. Ann Guss will send out minutes following that meeting. Ann reported that the committee is working on the PSO fall newsletter. The committee is also discussing the creation of more structured subgroups with subcommittee heads.

Peter reported that UW Human Resources is reviving in-person new employee orientation and seeking input. Peter will attend an informational meeting about the new orientation sessions.

Elizabeth reported that the first draft of the PSO website redesign looks great. They have requested a second graphic design and logo template with a more contemporary look, which the company should be able to provide within a week. Aside from the design, the navigation and architectural structure of the site are great. Elizabeth has asked Judith Yarrow to update the board member names on the existing website in the meantime.

EVENTS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Ellen Barker reported that the Events Committee has finalized topics for the fall meeting and four brown bag lunches. The committee is now working to finalize speakers and dates, with a particular focus on the fall meeting.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

Ethan Allen distributed copies of the Scholarship Committee's revised application and the new internal application scoring sheet for committee members. Ethan will work with Suzanne St Peter and Judith Yarrow to replace the current application form on the website. Elizabeth suggested profiling scholarship recipients in the PSO newsletter.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Peter will ask Nancy Bradshaw whether the committee has any updates for the subsequent board meeting.

DISCUSSION OF REQUEST FOR THE PSO TO HOLD A DEBATE ON UNIONIZATION

The board agreed that it does not have a position on the question of unionization of professional staff. A professional staff member requested that the PSO hold a forum for debate on unionization. Members are welcome to submit an event proposal for the board to review.

DISCUSSION OF MENTORING AND NETWORKING EVENT

Ellen and Elizabeth discussed the possibility of hosting a networking event at the UW Club for professional staff. The purpose of the event would be networking, rather than focusing specifically on mentoring. The event might feature affinity groups so that staff can connect with other staff on non-work-related subjects of mutual interest.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.