

CHBS Alumni Advisory Board

October 19, 2018

Board Members and University Officers: Mike Ashley, Rob Barrett, Jake Crocker, Patty DeLoache [remote], Jim Egbert, Sherril Fisher, Kim Gainer, Matt McGrady, Russell Pompa, Matt Smith, Lisa Throckmorton [remote], Carter Turner, John Sheehan [remote], Jonna McGraw [remote], Curtis Martin [remote], John Rainbolt [remote], Denise White

Guests: Jack Call, Professor, Criminal Justice, and winner of 2018 CHBS Distinguished Teacher Award; Luke Hunt, Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice; Pam Jackson, Professor, Psychology, and winner of 2018 CHBS Distinguished Researcher Award; Rachel Sharrett, Senior CHBS Ambassador, Political Science

- I. Rob Barrett, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.
- II. The minutes of the April 16, 2018, meeting were approved.
- III. Committee reports

1. Awards Committee

Jake Crocker reported that there had been no nominations for the Posthumous Alumni Award but that the Distinguished Alumni Award would be awarded to Anthony Terrell following the business meeting. Discussion followed on the need to encourage more nominations, to get the word out about the awards, and to better acknowledge recipients. RU Connected was mentioned as a possible venue for publicity. A concern was raised that if nominations come in from a larger group, the Advisory Board will not know as much about nominees, but the Dean's office does a search. Carter Turner stated that RU could send out a blast email soliciting nominations. Dr. Turner also suggested that a form with around three questions could serve as initial screen of nominees. Matt Smith reported that a perpetual plaque naming award recipients has been installed in the CHBS Dean's Suite.

2. Recruiting Committee

The Recruiting Committee has not been formally active, but Laura Turk, although not on the board, lets people know about events. The suggestion was made to change the Recruiting Committee to the Board Membership Committee. Also discussed was the need for a motion to amend the bylaws to allow for the removal of members who do not attend Board meetings. A two-week notice would be required before an amendment could be voted on. For such a motion to be put on the agenda for the spring meeting, it should be brought up under New Business and tabled. A motion was made and seconded to change the Recruiting Committee to the Board Membership Committee. The following have

agreed to serve on the newly-named Committee: Rob Barrett, Jake Crocker, Jim Egbert, Denise White. *[May have been a fifth name—KG]*

3. Fundraising Committee

Patty DeLoache reported on past fundraising for scholarship and LSAT prep courses. Wendy Lowery has in the past spoken to the Alumni Board. The Alumni Board has received a letter of appreciation from the student who received the Board's scholarship. Dr. Turner suggested that he, Dr. Smith, and the chair of the Alumni Board work to develop priorities. The following have agreed to serve on the Committee: Rob Barrett, John Rainbolt, Jonna McGraw, Russell Pompa, and John Sheehan.

4. Career Preparation Committee

The Career Preparation Committee currently has no chair or members. The following have agreed to serve going forward: Matt McGrady, Russell Pompa, John Sheehan.

5. *Pre-Law Committee*

Dr. Hunt Hunt, Criminal Justice, gave an update on trends in legal education. After a period of decrease, there is now an increase in the number of students seeking law degrees. On a competitive basis, students are receiving funding to take an LSAT prep-course. Alumni can help by providing opportunities for students to shadow them or in other ways serve informal internships. The Prelaw Society has been sponsoring a fall and a spring fall event. The prelaw program would be helped through promotion of fact that we have prelaw fund so that we can continue awards for the LSAT prep courses and through getting word out about informal internship opportunities.

IV. Action Items

Guests spoke in lieu of introduction of Action Items

CHBS Senior Ambassador: Rachel Sharrett

Ms. Sharrett is a Political Science Major and a French and Economics double minor. Her theme was the acknowledgement of faculty who provided her with opportunities.

CHBS Distinguished Researcher: Pam Jackson

Dr. Jackson commented on the state of research in college. Many faculty do research and incorporate both undergraduate and graduate students into their research programs. They take students to conferences, including international ones,

and publish with students. In answer to a question, she reported that funding is available for undergrads although it does not always cover full cost, with air fare an example of an obstacle. She reported that funding is less available for graduate students and that it would be nice to have boost in funding for these students.

CHBS Distinguished Teacher: Jack Call

Dr. Carter reported that there are more faculty and more majors in Criminal Justice. He also reported that there is increased emphasis on engaging students. Techniques for engagement include team-based assignments; discussions about hypotheticals; journal assignments, including reflections on hypotheticals; and the use of I-clickers for in-class responses.

V. University Updates

Dr. Turner, Associate Director for University Advancement, CHBS, reported that alumni help keep the university grounded in its understanding of what employers are looking for. Alumni also provide important financial support. Most donations go toward scholarships. He asked whether there would be interest in a fundraising initiative on the part of the Board. Opportunities exist, for example, for naming a room. He also reported that \$25,000 allows for the endowment of a scholarship. Mr. Barrett will send email to Ms. LeLoache to see whether she would work with Dr. Turner toward an endowed Board scholarship.

VI. New Business

1. The Board voted to extend the terms of members whose terms ended in June and who were present, including via link.
2. The Board voted to contact members not present whose terms ended in June to determine if they wished to continue to serve.
3. Rob Barrett was elected Chair of the Awards Committee.
4. Jake Crocker was elected Chair of the CHBS Advisory Board.
5. Lisa Throckmorton was elected Vice Chair of the CHBS Advisory Board.
6. Kathy Grimes was elected Secretary of the CHBS Advisory Board.

VII. Update from the Dean

Dr. Smith shared the mission statement for college. Part of the process of adopting the Strategic Plan was the drafting/updating of a mission statement from each college.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

