Phi Kappa Phi UNR Chapter Meeting  
Minutes: April 16, 2014

Present: John Pettey (President), Tamara Valentine (Treasurer), Daniel Villanueva (Secretary), Nancy Markee, Kevin Stevens, Stephanie Bor, Reena Spansail, Lara Niehues, Luke Tanaka, Brianna Mehlhaff, Dagny Signorelli

Absent: Derek Furukawa (Vice President)

The meeting was called to order at 3:00PM by Chapter President Pettey, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously (Spansail/Stevens).

Old Business
1. Literacy Grant: Spansail announced that the PKP Literacy Grant application had been submitted.

New Business
1. Appreciation for the Work Done at the Recent Induction Ceremony: Pettey expressed appreciation to the Student VP's present for their assistance, and Bor was thanked on behalf of the Chapter for her keynote address.

2. Debriefing on Last Induction Ceremony: Pettey led a discussion among the assembled members as to what went well and what could be improved for next year. The following are abridged comments regarding this point:

Niehues said she particularly appreciated the explanation of the PKP symbolism.

Pettey said it was good to keep the ceremony “short and sweet,” and he had the feeling that particularly the student members and inductees appreciated this.

Pettey asked if it were possible to create the program earlier than is currently done. Valentine responded it is possible but not desirable, since day-of acceptances are received.

Bor suggested Alan Deutschman be a new faculty inductee in 2015. Valentine mentioned that Journalism was willing to fund their students' initial induction and membership fees. Markee said that having Colleges and Departments fund their students' fees, even partially, would be good. Each college could be required or strongly encouraged to fund their students' fees in the future.

Pettey asked, in this connection, why there were fewer attendees this year. Reasons given by Valentine and others included the fact that PKP HQ had a computer glitch, several students reported to current members that they could not afford the fees, and that the event took place too early in the day.

To increase attendance, Spansail and Tanaka suggested a later starting time (4:00 PM or even later; Valentine asked if 6:00 PM was what was best), and lending more of an air of
formality by providing more catered and formal food service (Stevens). There was little formality to the information sessions and these could also be made more “formal.” Valentine suggested comparing the names of those who came to the info session and who attended the induction ceremony, to see if there was a large discrepancy. Valentine also asked if people would be willing to pay more to fund more formal food, or if a weekend induction ceremony would be best. Pettey responded (agreement from Spansail, Tanaka) that Fridays would be preferable – indeed, if the 3:00 PM time was to be kept, then having the ceremony on a Friday would be best.

Valentine made the point that Colleges and Departments should be encouraging their students to join on an individual basis. Pettey responded that this has been discussed before, but is there enough College/Department buy-in to do that?

Valentine asked how many T-shirts were sold at the event, and Villanueva confirmed two had been sold. He felt this was partially due to the fact that the shirts were not displayed prominently with the rest of the PKP merchandise for sale. Bor asked the students if the shirts were something they would often wear, and in what contexts, to see if shirts were indeed something students would automatically want to buy, and at $10, or if a lesser amount would be better. She also suggested that T-shirts could be included in fees for other social events (BBQ, etc.) so students would receive them and possibly wear them more, but actually pay for other events they might find more interesting.

3. New Plans for the Future: Pettey noted that Furukawa was not able to be in attendance but has several ideas for the future as listed below, and will outline more such ideas later:

a) Have Student Vice-Presidents meet and organize events separately from the faculty members, with one Student VP being nominated to attend the monthly faculty Chapter meeting. Valentine suggested calling it “PKP Club” or similar, to have a nominal but not formal association with Chapter 08. Tanaka said that Derek would like to form a student organization similar to the current Honors Pack.

b) Not have students nominate or take votes on faculty membership in the future. Valentine commented that, in general, the Chapter needs to hold more to our by-laws and sustain the relationship between student and faculty members of PKP outlined therein. Pettey stated that Furukawa was indeed reading and reviewing the by-laws.

4. Student Applications for Scholarships: Valentine reported that no students of which she was aware had applied for any of the available PKP scholarships, and the deadline had now passed to apply.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 19th at 10:00 AM, Honors Program. NOTE: Meeting date subsequently changed to Wednesday, June 4th at 4:00 PM, Honors Program.

Meeting adjourned by Pettey at 4:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Daniel Villanueva (Secretary)