Rocky Mountain Harvard University Club
Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting, 12 February 2014

Present: Tracey Smith, Christina Gomez
Srinidhi Reddy, Junko Kim
Fred Ris, John Griffin

Excused: Steve Kregstein, Eric Eversley
Vincent Oletu, Phil Weintraub

(Numbering below references the meeting agenda)

Tracey called the meeting to order at 6:56 PM

1.) Preliminaries
   a.) Regrets
   b.) Guests: None
   c.) Agenda adopted

2.) Minutes adopted

3.) Financial Report
   – Christina sent out documents this morning
   – Very little activity in the past month beyond a few membership dues (a couple came out of GNN) and scholarship fund contributions

4.) Past Events
   A.) Harvard Alumni Association 2014 Alumni Leadership Conference
      o Tracey, Fred, Srinidhi and Junko attended this past weekend
      o HarvardX for Alumni
         ▪ Picked out 7 courses to give a short preview of during HAAx 1
         ▪ Will begin on March 22 and will roll out one segment every 2 weeks
         ▪ There will be 30-60 minutes of video from the actual class as well as some extras (interviews with professor, readings, study guides, etc.)
         ▪ HAA encourages the formation of discussion groups around the segments
         ▪ The purpose is alumni engagement (coincides with the Campaign)
         ▪ HAA has provided additional materials around the discussion groups (marketing materials, best practices, etc.)
         ▪ One idea is to bring in someone local who is familiar with the subject to moderate and lead discussion
         ▪ Send out an email blast asking for volunteers to lead the discussion groups
         ▪ Once we have people sign up, use SurveyMonkey to figure out a day and time for the group
Fred will put together a page on the website advertising the series as well as asking for volunteers.

We can have a two-part discussion group: the first is for people who haven’t watched the lecture, and the second part can immediately follow and be the actual discussion.

- First Generation Harvard
  - Kevin Jennings started the SIG to connect alums who were first generation with current students who are first generation
  - A few weeks ago, he had a discussion with students to find out about their experience
  - The main point of discussion was the Admitted Students Reception – often it is uncomfortable due to the country club setting, dress code, etc.
  - Suggestions included holding the event at a more neutral location such as a high school, make the dress code casual, explicitly state why students should attend
  - Our reception last year was well attended, and the three students who didn’t attend all decided to go to Stanford

- Miscellaneous
  - Have a point person on the board for other clubs (ex. HBS, Ivy+, SIGs)

5.) Upcoming events

A.) Schools Committee Applicant Interview Ranking, March 1
   - Interviews are underway
   - In about a week, we will hopefully get the list of names and have the ranking meeting
   - Last year, we offered a financial subsidy for students who wanted to visit Harvard and hadn’t before / hadn’t gone through the tours, etc.
   - We offered $300 per admitted student last year
   - We had 7 takers last year, but no one actually submitted the documentation
   - In the past, for students who were on the fence, it made a difference when they visited
   - This year we will offer $300 per admitted student for Visitas

B.) Soup Kitchen, March 14th
   - 11:20am to 1pm at Trinity Methodist Church on Broadway
   - Already on the website; Christina will send out an email to past volunteers
   - We can send out an email blast to the general email list for additional volunteers
   - There were no dates in April (didn’t want to introduce confusion by having it at the other location), but we are trying to set up a date for May through the volunteer coordinator (she is not the most responsive however)

C.) HAA1x:
   - See notes above

D.) GNN
   - Monday, June 23
Colorado Springs: an alum who just moved here has offered to host

6.) Events in Gestation

A.) March Young Alum Event
   - March 6th, 6pm – 8pm
   - The Cherry Cricket
   - Include drink specials in blurb on website and on Facebook

B.) Global Month of Service Event (TBD)
   - Usually arrange one or two events in April (different locations or days)
   - Options:
     - DUMB Friends League – Tracey
     - Boulder Shelter for the Homeless (Greg Harms) – Christina
     - Aurora Family Services? – Junko
     - Freedom Service Dogs (Englewood) – Tracey

C.) RMHUC Astro Event, Boulder
   - Options Saturday, May 10th or May 17th between 4pm and 8pm
   - They have offered to do a 20 minute presentation by a Harvard alum on the history of the universe followed by a 40 minute planetarium show
   - One of three planetariums in the nation that has that high of a resolution
   - After the show, attendees can use the telescopes in an adjacent building
   - Michael Banks will inquire about any age restrictions
   - Banks is willing to reserve the space for $200
   - We will have to take care of the catering (recommend Spice of Life, a higher end caterer, or we can bring our own refreshments)
   - We may need to charge per head to make sure people show up
   - Alcohol is allowed, but we will have to make sure to check age and only serve those in our party
   - May want to do a wine and cheese event
   - Banks wants to do an Ivy+ event; 100 attendees would be a successful event
   - Junko will try to confirm May 17th

D.) Anna Jones’ Women’s Pot Luck
   - Still waiting on date

E.) Possible Romanoff / Coffman Debate
   - Romanoff has already agreed to the event
   - Junko to call Coffman offices to find out if they are interested in a forum (Coffman might be more inclined to attend)
   - The format could be a short talk by each candidate followed by a question and answer session
   - We could open it up to the other Ivy+ schools

F.) Dr. Rina Shinn (AB ’86)
   - Tracey in contact
   - Need to make sure that attendance is decent

7.) Status Updates
A) Schools Committee
B) Membership Committee
C) Communications / Webmaster
D) Speaker Series
E) Young Alums
F) Other

8.) Pending issues
   o Stationary
     ▪ Junko emailed the stationary options
     ▪ Fred to look into Harvard shield usage
     ▪ Need to update the physical address and replace email address with website
   o Friends of Harvard Polo
     ▪ National Western Conference on March 7th (Fort Collins) and 8th (Denver)
     ▪ They want us to host a post-game reception where people can meet the coach, the players and the horses
     ▪ We will publicize the polo matches on the website but not host an event (Tracey to ask for blurb text)

9.) Any other business
   o Dinner
     ▪ March: Fred
   o Next meetings
     ▪ Wednesday, March 12

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM