DE PAUL EMERITUS SOCIETY  
October 5, 2011  
Submitted by Nancy Rospenda

Members Present: Elaine Beaudoin, Alice Farrell, Jerry Goldman, Phil Kemp, Dick Meister, Nancy Rospenda, Denny Shea  
Members Absent: Fr. Udovic  
Guests: Georgie Torres-Reyes, Fiona Vaughn

The minutes of the last meeting, beautifully written by Jerry Goldman, were accepted as written. The discussion then turned to the upcoming luncheon. Father Croak is tentatively scheduled to say the Mass. Father Richardson will be attending. Responses are relatively low as of this date, but it is still early in the month. Since Louise Lincoln is not available on that date, Greg Harris from the art museum will give the talk and later conduct tours of the new facility.

Elaine will open the luncheon with a greeting and update; Jerry will follow with a benefits update. Denny will speak about the scholarship funding and Phil will be recruiting additional members for his committee.

Georgie and Fiona attended the meeting to inform the committee that Mission and Values (M&V) will match up to $15,000 of new scholarship monies received by March 31, 2012. Dick’s and Denny’s solicitation letters going out Monday, October 10th, will explain this matching funding, but the M&V matching deadline in those letters is identified as March 15, which was the date set by Fr. Ed in his earlier e-mail to DES. Follow-up solicitation letters from Dick and Denny in February may state a new matching deadline, for example March 31.

Here’s how the transactions might be executed. For example, if DES receives $14,000 in DES Scholarship gifts from its members during 2011-2012, that $14,000 will be added to the DES endowed scholarship principal. The M&V matching funds, which total $14,000, plus the annual earnings on the entire DES Scholarship principal, will be paid-out as DES Scholarships with the Office of Financial Aid selecting the recipient(s) for the Spring Quarter 2012. As Fr. Ed stated in an e-mail of September 9, “… if this works MV would consider (my italics) making this a multi-year commitment so the DES endowment can grow faster AND award more money to students.” Georgie stated she felt a three-year commitment from Mission and Values could be counted on.

Georgie and Fiona felt that the scholarship should continue to be awarded in the spring quarter. This would pick up students at risk of not being able to complete their education due to lack of funds. A typical student has about $2000 to $5000 debt by the end of the spring quarter, so it would be nice to award more than one scholarship at that time. It was suggested that the M&V matching fund be made available as a pool in order to – as a priority – meet the financial needs of more undergraduate junior and seniors regardless of their college/school attended. In other words, the Office Financial Aid will give priority...
Denny distributed a draft copy of the new survey to be sent to DES members. The survey should be finalized before the spring luncheon so the results can be presented at the luncheon. The local DES members will receive one version of the survey; the out-of-state members will receive a survey with a few additional questions as to how the DES can best serve them. Twenty-eight to 30% of DES members live out-of-state and 35% of those members returned the last survey.

Denny requested the committee look at the draft and see what might be added or advanced. Some of the same questions were included in the new survey to ascertain how well the DES is providing service to members and see if there are any changes in attitudes or beliefs. Some suggestions made were to include a short statement that benefits are explained further on the web page. The URLs for Facebook, the blog and the website should also be included. Demon Discounts could be added as a choice under #1. A suggestion was made to include the URL for Demon Discounts. Group the benefits together to show a relationship. On the first page, after stating DePaul Emeritus Society, add (DES) to explain the later use of the letters. A question as to how we can better serve you if you are unable to attend or out-of-state should be added (this is probably included in the separate survey for out-of-state members). The old form of listing committees with comment lines next to them should be used in #4, and #5 and #6 should be combined. (Tell us how we can keep in better touch with you and any final comments.) Add Comments to #1. Discussion of possible focus groups consisting of DES members will be added to the January agenda.

Denny and Dick are up for re-election. The four remaining members of the steering committee will comprise the nominations committee. An announcement will be made at the luncheon asking for nominees. In addition, a request for nominees will be included in the newsletter. Only those living locally and willing to serve should be accepted for nomination.

The DES web page is now completed and looks very good. Birthday and sympathy cards continue to be mailed. There are quite a few visitors to the blog, but Facebook is not being utilized very much. The blog has about 100 hits per week.

The Health Faire will be held October 11 and 12. All DES members should have received a letter inviting them to the event. Jerry will be asking Rosa for an explanation of the BCBS rate changes and seek a calculated example of these changes, since the changes as explained in the benefits letter are not clear. Jerry plans on attending the October 12 benefits meeting to attempt to clarify the changes.

Phil announced that he has added new members to his committee – Sethness, Sims, Stinchcomb, Erlebacher, Stark, and Mahoney. He plans on conducting most committee business by e-mail, with two yearly meetings, most probably after the DES luncheons. Some suggestions have already been made as to speakers at upcoming luncheons – the a
cappella choir or Father Shelby on what was God thinking when he invented the universe. A tour of the Peggy Notebart Museum was also a suggestion. He also is looking into what units of the university can use volunteers and getting a description of DePaul events for DES members. He would also like to discover how much DES members volunteer outside the university setting. A great deal of this volunteer work is included in members’ news in the Newsletter.

Father Richardson’s book is now on sale online. It can be located in the M&V website and on the blog. He will be present at a book signing on October 20. The DES has been asked to be a sponsor of the event. No further details are available at this time.

The next meeting will be held on January 12 at noon.