DEPAUL EMERITUS SOCIETY
August 11, 2010
Submitted by Nancy Rospenda

Members Present: Elaine Beaudoin, Alice Farrell, Jerry Goldman, Jack Leahy, Dick Meister, Nancy Rospenda, Denny Shea

After the minutes were approved with no corrections, Alice announced that the DES was going to increase by eight retirees – Cornfield, Goes, Ilko, Krell, Moussa, Rodkin, Gerard, and Eitel. New retirees receive a letter from Alice welcoming them to the society. These letters will also include a reply form for their communication preferences. There are now approximately 230 retirees and 50 spouse members.

The May luncheon received nothing but praise. It went very well. Thank you, Alice.

The next luncheon will be held on October 29. The All Souls Mass will precede the luncheon and be said for recently deceased DES members. Suggested speakers included Fr. Richardson, Cherif Bassiouni, and Jim Murphy.

Jack Leahy shared with the committee the suggestions of the Special Projects and Program Committee. In particular, a field trip to the DuSable Museum was suggested by Harvette Grey. It could be piggybacked onto the luncheon, but the ambitious schedule of trip and luncheon in one day should be taken into account, along with budget concerns. Alice will check on the cost of a trolley to transport members. DePaul will be opening a new art gallery in a year; this would be a field trip that could easily be connected to the luncheon. Another possibility would be to offer the field trip before the luncheon and then return to eat. Parking would be available on the LP campus. The Special Events and Projects committee will look into these possibilities.

Alice distributed the revised Operations Timetable. This will serve as an on-going checklist for the entire year.

DES has two new Facebook members as of this meeting, for a total of 23 retirees and two administrators.

Regarding our recent survey on DES communication preferences, we received 123 responses out of 220, representing a 56% return. Of the 123, 52 preferred to receive DES mail through email, or 42% of those who replied.

The new Mission and Values website will be up and running in September. Once that is in place, Alice will load the information for the DePaul Emeritus Society onto it. The committee requested that they receive access to the DES portion of the website before it goes live. Oral and video interviews will be included, as well as minutes of the steering committee. Photos from the luncheons will also appear. The newsletter will be included, without the member activities section.

Gretchen Osbourne in Benefits is the new contact for DES members. Jerry Goldman updated the committee on the activities of the benefits subcommittee. They are working on an open enrollment meeting for DES members in October. Any health care plan changes will be published before January 1. They are also lining up a contact person at BCBS, an important issue for retirees. Rosa Perez is continuing to work on a vision and dental plan for retirees.

Al Erlebacher will continue to assist with the oral history project as needed, particularly with Amy Tyson’s history class this fall quarter. Five to eight interviews are planned for the fall quarter. A list of possible interviewees was suggested by the Steering Committee. Alice captured the names and will work with Fr. Udovic and Tom Fuechtman to identify and schedule interviews for both Tyson’s class and the DES exit interview process. There were 14 or 15 people who retired in 2009, who will be contacted and invited to participate in the exit interviews.

Denny distributed the annual summary of DES scholarship funds. The same solicitation procedure should be followed as was initiated last year. Elaine commended the DES and the committee for their work. The possibility of an e-mail being sent to retirees regarding the Steans matching funds offer might also be considered. (After careful reading of the offer, the matching funds go into a Steans scholarship fund. They would not be put in the DES fund.) It was also suggested that we request scholarship recipients to write a short summary of how the DES scholarship benefitted them. Outcomes are always nice. Meg Glick of Financial Aid would collect the summary and share with the DES.

Alice will check with Georgie regarding the 25 Year Club plaque. The newest list of names should be added in September. She also announced that retiree e-mail addresses will be included in the directory if they are known.

The next meeting will take place on October 6 at noon.