

February 4, 2010, SMC Black Alumni Chapter Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Galileo 113

Present: Cheryl Berna Adams, Jamila Buckner, Chris Carter, Vanessa Chandler, Napoleon Dargan (student), Gail Garrett, Halima Marshall, Warren Parker, Lloyd Schine, Faith Taylor, Greg Young

By Phone: Tammy Appling-Cabading, Denise Bradley, Ranelle Dunham, Frank Knight, Chris Majors, Louise Schine, Tamika Workmon

The meeting was called to order by President Schine at 7:07 p.m.

Introductions

Discussion:

Survey

- Lloyd will make sure everyone has a copy of the survey and a paper version will be at all events
- Lloyd will meet with Chris Carter to discuss survey

Scholarship

- BAC now has a named annual scholarship – funds can now be designated to Black Alumni Chapter (BAC) Scholarship
- Scholarship language was approved
- Fundraising Team will work on getting a solicitation letter out in April to announce the scholarship. Information will be on SMC Alumni website and Facebook
- Scholarship will be awarded during the 2010-2011 academic year
- We can promote the scholarship at all of our upcoming events
- Financial Aid will award the scholarship to our specification

Tribute to African American Women 2/18/10

- Fliers are out and announcement is on Facebook. The cost is \$5.00 for Alumni

- Speakers on the panel will be African American Alums and current employees
- Napoleon suggested there should be a more updated picture on the flier – maybe a collage. We don't want people to think that it is just a Black event. We want everyone to come
- Greg Young likes the flier – he thinks it is rather provocative
- Halima thinks we shouldn't allow College Communications to create the flier. We should have total say on what we want, not College Communications. (We want to create our own). We want to represent ourselves. The image on the flier is outdated
- Vanessa thinks the flier should be more diverse as the information will be going out to all Alums -- BA and MA
- Lloyd suggested panelists send pictures to him
- Ranelle asks do we need help with questions to the panelists?

Expressions of Blackness **'Our Future Has a Past'** 2/21/10

- Expressions of Blackness, Black Student Union, Black Alumni Chapter, Jack & Jill, Diablo Black Mens Group
- Tickets for staff and students are free: \$20 for adults and \$10 for children
- (Jamila) Program will include a welcome, choir, prayer, libation ceremony, African American Pledge, moments of reflection, storyteller, games for kids, Science Village, dancers, Black Engineers, African drummer. They're looking for singers - rehearsals at Creekside Community Church. Help is also needed with crowd control and set-up
- BSU Planning Committee – collage and slide show and will have a table
- BAC will have a table to talk to anyone about SMC in general
- Copies of the survey and SMC Magazine will be available
- Have a sign-in sheet for anyone who might want to receive information about future events
- Alumni publicity is on the website, e-newsletter and facebook page
- Lloyd is trying to figure out where the proceeds will go? Lamont Madden Book Fund, John Dennis Scholarship, BAC? Any overage may be donated to the College
- (Lloyd) Diablo Black Mens Group and Jack & Jill are not doing the event for a profit

Black Graduation 5/20/10

- Need people to help with set-up and break down, greeters
- BAC will hand out Alumni pins
- All Alums are asked to be at the graduation to support the students
- A slide show of the graduating students was discussed
- The Black Graduation was different last year because the program was in the theatre. By being in the theatre, the 'sacredness' was lost by not having it in the Soda Center
- This will be the 15th Black Graduation ceremony

Mentoring and Tutoring Opportunities for the Students

- It is good for students to interact with Alum, but now we need to help them graduate
- There are programs/resources out there but sometimes students don't take advantage of them. Some would rather go out for help than use the College's tutoring program
- Greg - UCB matched Alums with students as mentors. They went on outings to connect with students, study skills workshops, time management
- We need to look at systems that support students in a different way. We want to graduate students
- Greg - Our goal is recruitment and retention and to follow-up with Black potential students
- We should go back to things that worked and reinstitute them

Next meeting will be March 25 in Galileo 113 at 7:00.

(notes prepared by Gail Garrett – ggarrett@stmarys-ca.edu)