

Ripon College Parents' Network Meeting (RPN)
Meeting Highlights and Minutes
Saturday, February 24, 2018

Present:

Parent Attendees: Andrew Kubica P'19 (President), Rebecca Kollmann (Vice President), Kevin Dykstra '83/P'16/P'16, Dianne & Mark Landgraf P'21, Kathleen O'Brien Kim P'21, Julie Korb P'20, Jean Rigden P'19, Angela & Tom Schindler P'22, Heidi & Glenn Shudy P'21, Mike and Elizabeth Warner P'21, Kim Hiser P'18/P'20(via facebook live), Sheila Hartnett(via facebook live)
College Administration/Staff: Ric Damm(Director of Creative and Social Media), Michele Wittler (Associate Dean of Faculty & Registrar), Yvonne Nicklaus (Constituent Engagement and Outreach Coordinator), Kim Scanlon (Constituent Engagement and Data Specialist)

Welcome, Introductions and Lunch (11:30 p.m.)

Group Discussion

a) Summer Orientation (June 18-21): Prefer to have on campus at the Spot this year (or somewhere in the Commons if The Spot is unavailable), which will be easier and closer for parents to attend. Will still plan on having beer, wine and desserts at the social. Will also plan on having name tags for the parents with their hometown listed on them. Volunteers are needed for the social. Signups will go out soon.

b) Orientation Resource Fair (June 19-21): A table will be set up on behalf of the Ripon Parent's Network to get their name out to incoming parents. Volunteers are also needed for this event. Signups will go out soon.

c) Move In Day/Family Welcome Receptions (Aug 25): Some changes were recommended for Move In Day/Family Welcome Receptions- such as: more signs stating where the receptions are held at, sticky name tags available for parents. A suggestion was made on having a "Survival Pack for Parents" from the RPN to the incoming athlete parents (since their move-in day is separate from the main move-in day). List dates of when sports are starting/checking in on Facebook page. Welcome students to campus via Facebook.

d.) Website: Parents are to check out the parent website in more depth and give suggestions for the next RPN meeting: <http://www.ripon.edu/parents/>. Suggestions so far include: More information to new parents moving in their students, including loft restrictions, food plan details, weather conditions in Ripon, restaurants, hotels, links to all Ripon social media site (i.e., facebook, twitter, instagram, flickr, etc.) Link to Chamber, handbook and recommendations on where to go when in need of things.

e.) Handbook Items: Campus map, directory of campus services, academic calendar, list of student activities/organizations, Tuition, room and board and fees, judicial processes, living on campus section, Alumni office info, RPN info, campus address, emergency phone numbers and important webpages.

f.) Constitution: In Article IV, add that leadership have the option to "renew contract for another year," but leave one year term in case of burnout/or too long of a commitment. Add "VP" to Article V, Section I, add "based on network feedback to Article V, Section II, in Article VI, add Facebook duties and remove "and the Network." In Article VII, add "including Rally Hours." Add section about what if president/vp isn't liked and how to vote them out.

III. Admissions Update (Yvonne Nicklaus on behalf of Lyn McCarthy) Applications are up at 2506 apps (168 more from last year) and 106 deposits (86 more from last year.) Admission counselors are back out on the road for high school visits and college fairs. Closely working with prospective students and their families as they make their final decision. A parent survey will be posted on the Parent facebook page soon, to get feedback on their communication efforts with prospective students and families. Feel free to give Lyn a call if any questions and they are still looking for current parents to make parent to parent calls if anyone is interested.

IV. Presentation from Ric Damm (Director of Creative & Social Media)

Ric presented One Day Rally with the group and what to expect during this giving day. One Day Rally will be on April 25, 2018. The goal is to increase the amount of donors and to reach 425 donors. Giving days are becoming more of a popular trend on college campuses around the country and Ripon College is very excited to start this tradition. Ric mentioned ways that parents can help during this day, which includes, changing your facebook profile and sharing One Day Rally posts which will show how important it is to the parent and will spread the word.

V. Academic Affairs Update (Wittler)

Michele went over the new tenure-track faculty positions that have been recently hired. These hires include a new position in Physics, two hires in Exercise Science, Biology (Human Anatomy/Physiology). The college recently received a grant which allow us to hire a 3 year position for a Director of Sustainability, which will start next fall.

Commencement theme this year will be Civil Discourse and Dialog. The Honorary Degree Recipients/Speakers will be 6th Term State Representative, Joan Ballwig and Journalist, Judy Woodriff. There will also be a K-12 teacher that will receive an honor as well, who is nominated by a student.

VI. Adjournment (3:00 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,



Yvonne Nicklaus
Constituent Engagement & Outreach Coordinator