

# Cougar Crew Alumni Association (CCAA)

Fall Meeting

November 9, 2008, 1:00 PM

Pocock Rowing Center, Seattle, Washington

## **Call to Order**

Tim "Haole" Richards, CCAA Chairman at 1:10 PM

## **Attendees:**

Tim "Haole" Richards; Josh Proctor; Peter Brevick; Lisa Curtis; Doug Engle; Arthur Ericsson; Weston Spivia; Sean Martin; Danny Brevick; Andrew Winters; Jaran Lindbom; Andrew Winters; Garrett Lyman; Jason Lackey; Jacob Logar; Kramer Wahlberg; Rob Obom; Jacob Logar; Lauren Curtis; Tim Malkow; Dave Preston

## **Approval of Spring Meeting Minutes**

Doug Engle motioned, Arthur Ericsson seconds.

## **Announcements / Communications**

None

## **CCAA Reports and Updates**

### **1. Alumni Representative - Danny Brevick**

Class day planning. More involvement of parent's booster club. Friday night event will be in Palouse Ridge clubhouse (Banyons) overlooking new golf course. Expect higher turnout than last year.

Booster tent and alumni tent will be set up at the cut for Head of the Lake races this weekend.

### **2. Financial Advisor - Doug Engle**

Class day was a big accomplishment last year compared to year before. Last 2 years nearly all funds have gone towards operating expenses, not endowment fund. Need to come up with plan to fund endowment going forward. Risky not having endowment, if team goes through a rough patch in future there isn't guaranteed money to fund coaching.

Need to discuss plan for allocating funds for class day. CCAA supports the team but does not dictate these decisions.

Meinhart endowment pays out every quarter, currently about 1K. Currently covers equipment costs. Garrett will double check that current quarter payment has been made. Garrett will also double check on van rental costs.

Alumni intend to develop endowment to cover coaches salaries. Will revisit this discussion on how much to put in endowment at Cougar Crew Days 2009.

Arthur: no pressing equipment needs.

### **3. Treasurer - Garret Lyman**

No more tents this year, still tables and chairs. Made 13K at rent a rower. Ergathon went well, projected to make 15K. Increase in salary for coaches this year. One more payment for Struckmeyer (8+), Curtis (4+), and Huhta (4+) this year. Operating year runs from August to July.

Debt discovered last year from accounting inconsistency has been paid off now.

Annual projection shows a positive balance at end of year.

### **4. CougarCrew.com - Kramer Walberg**

Took over web site from Tim Duffey. Changing cosmetics, content the same. New image gallery and ability to upload content. Trying to work on history of team onto site. Receiving images from Alumni to add onto site.

UREC rules do not allow linking from their site to the external cougarcrew.com site, which is operated by the CCAA. Because of this, duplicate work is required to keep content on this site and row.wsu.edu updated and reconciled.

Use site to RSVP for class day? Danny - yes, this is helpful because it gives us a rough idea for food.

Listserv on site is done through a logon to the community site, where text is shown and can be copied into an email.

Can people be searched on web site? Need to make sure we do this in a way that doesn't compromise security.

## **Cougar Crew Reports**

### **5. Cougar Crew Head Coach - Arthur**

Julia Gamache new novice coach. Currently in Pullman leading dad's learn to row. Recruited many novice rowers this year, initially a large turnout but whittled down to a good size.

Team goal to beat Gonzaga by the end of the year.

Seeking help from CCAA for purchase of new boathouse stairs:

Coaches Campaign - safe and efficient means to get boats off top racks (11' off ground). With larger squad, need to use boats at top of rack more with a larger squad. Currently use rickety step stools. Would like to get Cotterman's (brand) stairs. Grand total for purchasing these are 2300. Women use a hand crank elevator thing, but these are more expensive and slower.

If ergathon money covers costs, then extra money would cover purchase a new outboard motor for launch - cost about 6K. The current one is not very reliable.

CCAA leading program to reach out to recruit high school coaches of wrestlers, swimmers, and runners by sending a poster out to schools. CCAA will cover funding of 270 to make this happen. Can no longer mail out letters directly to incoming freshman, due to new University rules.

Recent coverage in Daily Evergreen of rowathon. Washington State magazine had recent article on alumni.

Palouse rowing went again this year, numbers about the same as last year. Team net income about 500, largest yet.

Will go to Tri-Cities again for spring break this year.

Considering adding lightweight women's rowing program to Cougar Crew, since WSU Women's Rowing doesn't offer lwt program.

Team created flyers for this year to promote Palouse Rowing and on campus recruiting, and used an online publishing company. UREC is now prohibiting using printing from outside of campus, and must use campus printing service. Will look more closely at costs of on campus printing.

Shortage of drivers this year since they must be 21 years old, not as many senior team members this year. Had to rotate shifts of who was able to get to boathouse, not entire team can go to water at same time.

Currently 18 varsity members, 45 total team members.

Doug motions to approve funds for poster, Danny seconds. Doug will send check to Arthur.

#### **6. Cougar Crew Commodore - Andy Winters**

Novice coach working out well. Julia rowed for Western Washington, which helped renew the dual between the schools. Next week they are coming to Pullman, team members putting up the rowers in their houses.

Varsity club status. The initial proposal was modified by the UREC, and some of the content has changed. For example a varsity club should have minimum hours (targeting 8, but currently it shows 6).

#### **7. Varsity Club Status - Westin Spivia**

Westin sits on both UREC sport club federation and WSU crew officer.

Varsity club proposal would be an option for all clubs that meet criteria, but no consensus on approach for identifying which clubs are varsity club and which ones not.

One thing considered for varsity club status was the van driver age issue, which is not likely to be changed.

Overall varsity club proposal is going well. This is a good time to be approaching this elevation in status, there are some efforts going on at university to increase funding.

Considering meeting with president Floyd once varsity club status is decided on. Attempting to gain his support for the team and potentially some funding. Most likely shooting for next semester.

Other clubs are generally supportive of varsity club concept, although only a handful of clubs would be eligible for this status.

The team is generally ok with proposal in current form except for minimum hours per week. Also want to get some alumni support behind proposal. Would like to get support for changing minimum hours to 8. Tim will compose letter and route to board, and send to Andy for circulation.

#### **8. Cougar Crew Intern / Mentor program**

Mitch Williams to carry this program forward. Currently studying abroad for the semester.

### **New Business**

#### **9. Cougar Crew Parents Booster Club**

Parents send or bring money to get food for races, as well as develop camaraderie among parents and help educate incoming parents of novice rowers. Developed strong participation and attendance at races.

Need to understand how to include women's rowing team in parent's booster club.

Auction this year will also be more geared towards including parent's booster club.

Do parent's of former rowers continue to be on booster club lists?

CCAA shirts and hats about broke even, remaining units will be sold in holiday catalog.

#### **10. Silent Auction**

May be hosting the event at the newly renovated CUB this year.

Sharing the work this year with team of 5 alumni. Also all parents are expected to bring something. Trying to recruit more alumni and ask that they bring items.

Trying to focus on more really big items this year, and enhance atmosphere.

### **11. Alumni Paraphernalia: CCAA & Website Crew Clothing**

Putting together order for letterman's jacket. Holiday catalog will include option for this.

### **12. Cougar Crew Days - Danny Brevick**

Improvements this year. New venues. Still in planning stages.

Possibility of printing and selling pictures that are shown at slide show.

Lisa designated as the parents booster / CCAA coordinator, to help connect logistics between 2 groups.

### **13. Alumni Row - Rob Obom**

Wants to organize a "soft row" where alumni can have an option to row without a hard 500 meter piece. Many alumni want to reconnect with rowing while they are at class day, and they can pay for their seat.

Rob will work with Danny to get this set up.

### **14. Ken Abbey Shell House - Doug Engle**

No official name of the shell house currently. Doug suggests we make this official, looked into university procedure which is a fairly straightforward process.

Danny motions, Josh seconds. Doug will take lead on initiating process for assigning name.

### **15. Board & Succession Planning**

Tim to work on proposal for rotating Vice Chair position, from discussion in the Spring.

Tim suggesting forming a committee to nominate incoming positions. Josh, Danny, and Doug will serve on this committee to nominate incoming candidates.

Peter: need more continuity between CCAA meetings to keep things moving. Tim will coordinate with Andy periodically to keep the communication going.

Next meeting for March 21 2009.

Lisa motions to adjourn, Arthur seconds. 4:10