



Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 16, 2011

Present:

IU Northwest members – Miracle Anokwute, Roy Lee Cast, Jr., Dominique Davis, Chisonna Echeumuna, Martrell Gill, Oscar Hinton, Donald Luckett, Sr., Mike McCoy, Jr., Edgar Mota, Christopher Robinson, Christopher Watson, Kenneth Williams

Ivy Tech Community College/Gary Campus members – Wayne Howard

SAAB Faculty and Staff – Ken Coopwood, Sr., Ph.D. (B2B Program Director), Alan Roger Currie (B2B Program Coordinator), Ashley Howard (B2B Undergraduate Assistant), Cory Thames (B2B Graduate Assistant), James Wallace (Temporary Director, Office of Diversity Programming)

- I. The third meeting of the Fall 2011 Semester began at approximately 8:15 am. Mr. Currie opened up the meeting and Henry Powell led the membership in prayer.
- II. New SAAB members and/or Guests in Attendance
 - A. Darin Dunham, a former SAAB / B2B Chapter member (2008-2010), was in attendance.
- III. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Departing SAAB / B2B Program Director Ken Coopwood, Sr., Ph.D. will be moving on to be the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion at Missouri State University. Mr. Currie and the SAAB / B2B membership presented Dr. Coopwood with a plaque recognizing his service and dedication to the SAAB program. Dr. Coopwood emphasized the importance of higher education and the value of earning both an undergraduate degree as well as a graduate degree.
 - B. Mr. Currie announced that the following SAAB / B2B members are confirmed to attend the 2011 Men & Women of Color Leadership Conference to be held in Bloomington, Indiana on Friday, November 4, 2011 and Saturday, November 5, 2011: Jesse Allen, Roy Lee Cast, Jr., Lawyer Fentress, Joe Lopez, Donald Luckett, Sr., Jose Meza, Edgar Mota, DeAndre Nwannunu, Henry Powell, Gabriel Sotres, and Christopher Watson. There are approximately three more spots open to attend.
 - C. Mr. Currie reiterated that the SAAB / B2B program has agreed to subsidize the financial compensation of those tutors hired by the Office of Student Support Services, led by Dr. Patricia Hicks and Pat Brown, in order to assist SAAB / B2B members with their academic success. Normally, tutors are paid \$7.50 per hour to help students, but those tutors who exclusively assist SAAB / B2B members will be paid \$10.00 per hour for their services. SAAB / B2B members are to sign up for tutoring in Hawthorn Hall, Room 235 or Hawthorn Hall, Room 239.

III. OLD BUSINESS (cont.)

- D. Co-Vice President of IU Northwest, Roy Lee Cast, Jr., once again discussed a potential upcoming Community Service event on Saturday, October 1, 2011 that would take place in the Dorie Miller apartments and townhouses. Pat Brown, from the Office of Student Support Services, is leading the organization of this event along with members of the Gary (Indiana) Housing Authority. The time frame of the clean-up effort would be from 8:30 AM until approximately 2:00 PM.

Community Service Committee Chairman Christopher Robinson further discussed the idea of the membership getting some "Brother2Brother" Community Service T-Shirts for the upcoming event on October 1st and for future community service events. Christopher said that SAAB / B2B member Erik Hull was going to offer some drafts of t-shirt designs.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Mr. Currie discussed the idea of incorporating Skype technology and/or Microsoft Lync technology into SAAB / B2B meetings and other chosen activities. Skype and Lync would allow SAAB / B2B members who are unable to attend a committee meeting or general membership meeting in person to participate through a group video conference call via the internet.

SAAB / B2B members would have to have a very valid excuse for not being able to attend the meeting in-person (e.g., sick/under the weather, car not working/no transportation, have to babysit a child or younger sibling, etc.)

Mr. Currie said he would test out the feasibility of using Skype and/or Microsoft Lync over the next few weeks, and then allow the membership to decide if SAAB / B2B would use it permanently or indefinitely.

- B. Vice President Cast suggested that the membership look into purchasing a table banner with the SAAB / B2B logo on it.
- C. Vice President Cast suggested that the membership choose one day per week (either Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays) to 'dress up' in professional attire as a group.
- D. Mr. Currie said that Mary Lee from Student Services said that the group, "Weed & Seed" is looking to pay SAAB / B2B members who live in the Glen Park district of Gary up to \$10.00 per hour for performing community service clean up duties. It was suggested by James Wallace that the membership look to cut down some of the tall grass near 35th Avenue and Vermont Street. Mr. Wallace suggested that this could take place on Saturday, September 24, 2011.
- E. Mr. Currie said that the Financial Affairs & Money Management Committee, led by Jesse Allen and Ronnie Murphy, Jr., need to have someone from a local bank or local credit union do a presentation for the membership about the benefits of a personal checking account and savings account, as well as advice on building and maintaining good credit.
- F. Mr. Currie said that the Spiritual Enrichment & Social Activities Committee, led by Wayne Howard and Brandon Hearne, need to come up with a "Dean's List Reward" activity, such as a NFL football game or other major sporting event, that would be a reward for all SAAB / B2B members who earn Dean's List Scholar Honors (3.300/4.000) for the Fall 2011 semester.

IV. NEW BUSINESS (cont.)

- G. Mr. Currie said that Membership & Public Relations Committee, led by Jose Meza and Lawyer Fentress, need to have members from their committee ready to man the table at the IU Northwest "Fall Preview Night" on Thursday, October 13, 2011 from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. Members must wear dress slacks and a shirt & tie or a suit.
- H. Mr. Currie said that the Personal & Professional Development Committee, led by DeAndre Nwannunu and Robert Harris, need to contact Phyllis Barlow from the Office of Diversity Programming and see what needs to be done to bring a speaker from the Urban Prep Charter School in Chicago, Illinois for a collaborative event scheduled for mid-November.

V. General / Open Discussion

- A. Mr. Currie congratulated those SAAB / B2B members who showed up for the meeting on-time given that this was the first SAAB / B2B General Membership meeting to ever be held as early as 8:00 AM in the morning. Mr. Currie said that he was disappointed that those members who were absent did not attempt to use the new Skype Video Conference feature.

VI. Next Meeting

- A. It was determined that the next SAAB meeting will be on Friday, September 23, 2011 at 8:00am CST at IU Northwest in Hawthorn Hall, Room 104. Mr. Currie has moved the time up from 10:00am to 8:00am to accommodate the work schedule of SAAB / B2B President, Kehinda Pryor. Mr. Currie said after having the meeting at 8:00am for three or four weeks, the membership would then decide which start time motivates the highest attendance between 8:00am, 9:00am, and 10:00am.

It was again emphasized by Mr. Currie that the six individual committees should be scheduling their own meetings an average of 1-4 times per month.

VII. Adjournment

- A. There was no ending prayer prior to adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:51 AM CST.