BOARD MINUTES
Northern Arizona University Alumni Association
Board of Directors
Heard Museum – Encanto Room
2301 N. Central Ave., Phoenix AZ

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2012
TED QUASULA ‘73/’82 PRESIDING

NAUAA BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT AT BOARD MEETING: NAU Foundation Board Immediate Past Chair Chris Bavasi ’75/’00, Vice President Michael Fronske ‘85/’89, Bart Graves ’79, Debbi Grogan ’90, NAU Foundation Board Chair Harry Hengl ’76, Brian Koch ’99/’01, Carol Lindsay ’61, Robert Orrill ’80, Immediate Past President Kimberly Ott ’82, Secretary/Parliamentarian Veronica Perez ’94, Jennifer Reichelt ‘98/’00, President Ted Quasula ’73/’82, Jacob White ’01, Athletic Director Jim Fallis, and Executive Director Neil Goodell ’76/’96.

NAUAA BOARD MEMBERS UNABLE TO ATTEND BOARD MEETING: Steven Peru ’79/’90, Martin Brown ’82, Adam Candee ’01, Steve Pallack ’82, Marvin Peterson ’61, Treasurer Karin Philips, Jeff Sears ’98, Dan Slayton ’78, Philip Tavasci ’03

NAUAA PAST PRESIDENTS PRESENT AT BOARD MEETING: Dennis Meador ’67/’71, Chuck Pilon ’59/’66, Burton Miller ’58, and Past Presidents’ President Nancy Serenbetz ’75.

STAFF PRESENT AT BOARD MEETING: Rosanne Burton.

CALL TO ORDER
President Ted Quasula called the meeting to order at 8:29 am, Friday, February 3, 2012 and welcomed everyone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 21, 2011 BOARD MEETING
BART GRAVES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. DEBBI GROGAN SECONDED AND THE MOTION PASSED.

NAU ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT REPORT
Athletic Director Jim Fallis gave a summary report to the board about the spring semester which started approximately three weeks ago. The fall semester was good academically with a 3.11 overall for all sports programs. Football had a record team GPA for the semester with a couple of Academic All-Americans on the football team as well. We are now into winter sports with the swimming team doing well and traveling to San Antonio to
compete in the WAC championships. The men’s and women’s track and field teams are performing well. Diego Estrada broke the record for the indoor mile that Lopez Lomong set five years ago. NAU will be hosting the Big Sky Indoor Championships February 24 and 25 in the renovated Skydome. The conference coaches picked the NAU men to finish first and the women to finish third or fourth. The men’s and women’s basketball teams are struggling, but they have great players. Wednesday was signing day for track and field/cross country, women’s soccer, and football. Jim passed around the new signees sheet for these sports, and indicated that quality individuals have been recruited. Facility updates: portable bleachers are being assembled in the dome for basketball. The Rolle Activity Center has been reseated. It looks very nice and is more comfortable, and looks more like a basketball facility now. Special events: Wine & Dine in the Pines will be Sunday, August 19. Jim distributed golf flyers for the 2012 NAU Lumberjack Golf Classic. It is set for Saturday, April 14, at the Oak Creek Country Club in Sedona. The football schedule for 2012 is finalized and shows NAU playing at Arizona State on September 1. That is Labor Day weekend and there is talk of moving the date to August 30. We will also play September 8 at UNLV. Jim talked about the new conference schedule which has been expanded next fall to 11 full-time members in the Big Sky Conference and 13 games with two affiliates in football. They are currently working on the men’s basketball schedule. Jim then mentioned the article that appeared last week in the Arizona Daily Sun regarding former men’s basketball coach Mike Adres. The newspaper requested information under the Freedom of Information Act, but did not report in correct chronological order the events that took place. The article further insinuated there were investigations underway related to the basketball program and that is not the case. In 2010 there were practice time issues, but any infractions were secondary in nature and were self-reported to the NCAA. The NCAA accepted the self-imposed penalties and changes that were made as of December 2010 which had nothing to do with the resignation of Mike Adres in 2011. The bottom line is a difference in philosophies between NAU and Mike Adres in how a basketball team is managed. Dr. Pilon wanted to go on the record saying he has been very satisfied how the athletics department at NAU has been operating over the years under director Jim Fallis. He is also looking forward to the UNLV game. He was president of the Alumni Board when NAU played UNLV many years ago in Las Vegas. He also hopes that we have an alumni event there when the September 8 game is played. A question was asked what would happen if there a tie occurred in the conference with the expanded schedule. Jim explained there is a process in place and includes co-champions and the “power rating” of the schedule would be determined. There could also potentially be post play between the co-champions.

ASNAU Report
Blaise Caudill was unable to attend, so no report was provided.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

CONTINUING DISCUSSION REGARDING ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERSHIP
Ted Quasula started the discussion by saying there are currently 23 members of the Alumni Board. Neil has researched other alumni board membership in the Big Sky and the NAU Alumni Board is one of the larger boards. Neil indicated that as of June there will be three board members who will have completed their six-year term on the board, including Dan Slayton, Marvin Peterson, and Kimberly Ott. In addition, he has received a preliminary indication from one board member that the individual is not planning to seek re-election to a second three-year term, which means there will be four vacancies as of July. Normally officers and new board members are elected at the April meeting. Neil suggests currently there is no need to formally reduce the size of the board, but rather maximize the seats on the board. Select the right people for the board with sensitivity to minority and women membership. At this time, Neil has received one board application.
and is anticipating that another application will be received by March 1. He recommends that as Nominations Committee Chair, Veronica Perez should arrange a visit with both of these board candidates. He thinks the board needs to think about the number of members and what it wants to see happening in the future. Neil feels the board should have a flexible process to bring quality individuals onto the board any time during the year. Kimberly Ott agreed and suggested not formally reducing the number of board members, but also not feeling compelled to fill all vacancies as the board has historically done. Veronica also suggested this will let the board recruit on a year-round basis, especially if a potential board member is identified who possesses the skill set needed to complement the board’s mission. Chris Bavasi believes there would have to be changes to the bylaws if the board goes in another direction with the size of the board and filling vacancies. Neil said the board would consider bylaw adjustments to accommodate this direction.

LOCATION OF APRIL 2012 BOARD MEETING
Neil advised the board of the change of date for the April 2012 board meeting in Kingman. The meeting will now be a week earlier than originally scheduled. There will be a reception in Kingman at the Dambar & Steakhouse on Friday, April 20, with the Board meeting being held Saturday morning, April 21, followed by a group bus tour to the Grand Canyon Skywalk which is being coordinated by Ted Quasula. Neil also presented an updated Board Meeting Schedule for 2012-2013. Bart Graves moved to approve the updated schedule, and Debbi Grogan provided a second and the motion passed. Jennifer Reichelt asked about transportation into Kingman. Ted advised Las Vegas would be the closest, and mentioned he would be getting something out to the board about traveling to Kingman. Carol Lindsay asked how far it was from Kingman to the Skywalk? Ted advised about 1 hour and 15 minutes each way. He also asked that board members limit attendance to each member plus one guest for bus travel to the Skywalk.

Election of 2012-13 Board Officers at April 2012 Meeting
Neil advised he will send out an email to the Board regarding election of board officers which includes Vice President and Secretary/Parliamentarian. Neil encouraged board members to talk with each other about future board leadership. Michael Fronske will become President in July as automatic succession from his current office as Vice President. The two newly-elected officers will become members of the executive committee. He also encouraged the board to nominate officers in advance so ballots can be prepared for the April meeting as necessary. Veronica asked if self-nominations were permitted and Neil indicated this is allowed according to the bylaws.

Transition plan for Retirement of Director of Alumni Relations
Neil conveyed to the board he will be retiring in April 2012, so this meeting will be his last board meeting. He will assist as needed to provide a smooth transition to the new director. Chuck Pilon asked if the board should identify an NAU alum as the director, and if there was an indication from anyone if that was the feeling. Neil responded he thought the most qualified candidate should serve as the next director. It would be nice to have an alum, but the board and university will be seeking the best and most qualified individual. Veronica asked if there is an active search currently and Neil advised that the pending position vacancy should be posted soon. He also said the board would be kept up to date on the search process and there will be board representation on the committee.

Joint Meeting with NAU Foundation Board and Discussion about Class Fundraising Project
Neil wanted the board to have a full understanding of what this project entails before going into the joint meeting with the Foundation Board. Members from both boards will be responsible for reviewing letters and providing signatures to represent their class years. There may also be some follow-up calls as needed. This is for board members to be class
agents for the class years from which they graduated. The letters that will go out initially will be up through 1990, or older graduates. Neil advised he would be happy to answer any questions about this project so all members are prepared before the joint meeting and discussion.

**Other Items for Discussion and Possible Action**

Michael Fronske wanted to congratulate Ted Quasula on his recent appointment by the Governor of Nevada to the Governor’s Cabinet. Ted currently serves as Chairman of the Nevada Indian Commission and this is the first time in Nevada history that tribes have formal representation at the state cabinet level. A big Lumberjack Congratulations to Ted!

Michael also wanted to make sure Neil would come back for a “formal recognition” in the future after he retires so the board can thank him properly for his many contributions. Ted Quasula also wanted to thank Neil for all of his hard work to make the board what it has become. He knows Neil will be sorely missed. Veronica Perez wanted to tie up some loose ends on the previous discussion of board membership. She will get with the nominations and bylaw committees and work on language to reflect on board membership numbers and have that for the next meeting for discussion. Veronica then added her thanks to Neil for a job well done in making the board a cohesive and workable group.

Michael Fronske asked what the rest of the meeting day looked like? Neil provided a recap of the day’s agenda. Nancy Serenbetz said the Past Presidents group will be meeting during the two-hour break prior to the joint meeting with the Foundation Board. Dennis Meador also took a moment to thank Neil for his service and being very easy to work with. Bart Graves also talked about Neil’s appeal as being warm, outgoing and capable.

There being no further business, Harry Hengl moved to adjourn the meeting. Michael Fronske seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 9:34am.

Respectfully submitted by Rosanne Burton