

**Big East Conference Alumni Professionals Organization  
(BECAPO)  
Annual Meeting  
March 8, 2002**

1. Welcome and call to order by Chair, Lil Breul O'Rourke  
Vantage Travel was thanked for sponsoring the breakfast
2. Minutes of the March 9, 2001 meeting were approved.
3. Officer Reports

**Treasurers Report: John Feudo, UCONN**

- The Financial report for BECAPO as of February 2002 was distributed.
- John reported that sponsorship for Fan Fest is dwindling.
- Expenses from the 2002 Big East Fan Event were discussed.
- Special recognition to Sam Griggs, St. John's University, Paul Clifford, University of Connecticut, and Tina Casella, Syracuse, for their tremendous work on the 2002 Big East Fan Event. Thanks Tina, Paul, and Sam!

After the Financial Report review, there was discussion on the direction of the Big East Fan Event and the focus of the BECAPO gatherings. Lee Patouillet, University of Pittsburgh, made a motion to eliminate the Big East Fan Extravaganza and maximize our time together working on other issues. The motion was unanimously approved to suspend the Fan Fest in its current format followed by a suggestion by Bob Marguccio, Rutgers University, to create a subcommittee to review the format of the BECAPO meetings. A self-selected subcommittee of Gary Olsen, Villanova University; Donna Arbide, University of Miami; Lee Patouillet, University of Pittsburgh; and David Dugas, Providence College will meet to review new gathering format.

**Committee Reports**

**Travel: Tom Tillar, Virginia Tech**

- Tom spoke with three travel vendors regarding proposals and presented two travel proposals for consideration from Gohagan and Vantage.
- Tom made a motion to offer Gohagan's trip for the next BECAPO sponsored trip.
- Lee Patouillet, University of Pittsburgh, seconded the motion with the request of the group to see if Gohagan would provide a shorter travel program other than the 18-day proposal. Tom agreed to go back and discuss with Gohagan. The motion passed.

**Nominating: Bob Marguccio, Rutgers University**, presented the 2002-2003 BECAPO Slate of Officers with a motion for approval. The motion was unanimously accepted.

**2002-2003 BECAPO Officers**

Lil O'Rourke, Syracuse University	Chair
Donna Arbide, University of Miami	Vice-Chair
John Feudo, University of Connecticut	Treasurer

## **BECAPO minutes**

**March 8, 2002**

**Page 2**

### **BECAPO Conferences**

Tina Casella, Syracuse University, reviewed the highlights of the Summer 2001 BECAPO meeting.

John Feudo, University of Connecticut, presented two ideas for a fall 2002 Conference

- Breakout sessions by school type and size; and
- Focus on meeting location where BECAPO institutions alumni populations are high- suggested place was Washington D.C. Suggested venues: Thursday-Career Networking on Capitol Hill (joint Big East Alumni event); Friday evening-Meet at CASE headquarters for an operations meeting; Saturday-Community Service event.

A subcommittee to review the Fall 2002 meeting was self-selected: Cary Loch, Rutgers University; Jason Morrill, University of Pittsburgh; Eric Quisenberry, Villanova University; Lee Patouillet, University of Pittsburgh, and John Feudo, University of Connecticut.

### **BECAPO Listserv**

Tina Casella, SU, volunteered to establish a BECAPO listserv. It was suggested that she first approach CASE to host it.

### **Thorny Issues**

Lil O'Rourke presented two thorny issues to the BECAPO group: Affinity Credit Cards and Clubs and Chapter Programming.

Issues and discussion related to Affinity Credit Cards focused on:

- Current Affinity Credit Card Vendors in the market: First USA, MBNA, and Citibank;
- Definition of credit card partnership extending beyond financial agreement – partnership includes services to improve database, list hygiene, skill sharing (i.e. telemarketing training to the Annual Fund), awards programs, facility sharing;
- Soliciting students is still a fine line. Villanova University and University of Miami do not allow premium giveaways to students to encourage signup. University of Connecticut offers credit card seminars to students.

Issues and discussion related to Club and Chapter Programming:

- Club and Chapter programming in your “backyard” continues to be a challenge;
- Develop broad program areas, cross pollination of groups and developing a young alumni council are some ways Villanova University and University of Pittsburgh have addressed the challenge.

**BECAPO minutes**

**March 8, 2002**

**Page 3**

**2003 Big East Tournament**

The date for the 2003 BECAPO Meeting was announced for Friday, March 14, 2003.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. BECAPO participants departed for a luncheon, sponsored by Harris Publishing.