

# DEPAUW STUDENT GOVERNMENT

WHITE PAPER NO. 6

## A White Paper Concerning Student and Alumni Relations

DePauw University has allowed over 35,000 people to call this unique place home for four years. As prospective students, we were confronted by alumni proclaiming DePauw's greatness. As current students, we are able to experience the innovative, hands-on learning and small group-oriented campus life that we all enjoy. And as graduates, we complete the circle and continue to praise and live by our DePauw education. It is this circular pattern that creates the strong DePauw Alumni base. DePauw opens numerous opportunities for its current students through studying abroad, programs of distinction, internships, and career opportunities, but students have recognized the need for better relationships between themselves and our alumni. Previous white papers from Student Government concerning Career Services have led to improvements in student's accessibility and development through the Civic, Global, and Professional Opportunities Office, but we would like to see more on-campus interaction and communication between current students and DePauw's successful Alumni.

Current on-campus student/alumni events include career fairs, "meet and greet" gatherings with the Board of Trustees, Old Gold weekend, and specific affinity group gatherings (i.e. Greek chapters and various organizations on campus). To strengthen current relationships, Student Government would approach these methods to increase bonds between alumni and students:

- 1) Increasing student knowledge of the GOLD Council and Bartlett Alumni Office and the resources available in that space. The GOLD Council serves as an acronym for Graduates of the Last Decade and serves as a representative group of young alumni. And the Bartlett Alumni Office, lead by the Executive Director of Alumni Relations Jennifer Soster, works with the Alumni Board as well as event planning for alumni.
- 2) Better communication of Old Gold and Monon Weekend festivities conjoined with student/alumni events. There is often a divide between student awareness and alumni awareness and the importance of this interaction. Coordinate tailgates and other gatherings to become priorities/attractions of these long weekends so students and alumni are both represented.
- 3) Hosting at least one event per semester to bring Alumni back to campus to interact with current students, in addition to the Board of Trustees semester meetings. These informal gatherings would bring alumni from several areas of focus and careers, to fully serve our diverse and intellectually engaged student body.
- 4) Adjust the focus of the position of the DSG Vice President of Academic Affairs towards Alumni involvement. Bring in additional students interested to form a committee for organizing such previously stated events.

