

Class of 1957 Officers Meeting Results – 10/1/04

Nelson Disco, Art Bergles, Bill Salmon, Bill Noz, Martin Zombeck and Robert Dimmick of the MIT Alumni Association met in Cambridge, Mass., at the Legal Sea Food Restaurant on Friday, October 1, 2004, to discuss things of importance to the Class of '57, in particular, the early plans for our 50th Class Reunion.



Bill Noz, Nelson Disco, and Art Bergles hard at work at Legal Seafood in Kendall Square

We reviewed the results from the last meeting (4/02/04) and Nelson distributed copies of correspondence received since the last meeting.

We reviewed the correspondence (September 17, 2004) received from Beth Garvin of the Alumni Office announcing the selection of Yale Provost Susan Hockfield as the 16th president of the Institute, and a letter from Veronika Bulkin summarizing FY04 Class giving through 6/3/04.

The principal discussions centered on planning for the 50th Reunion and the **Status Report of September 28** prepared for the meeting by Bill Salmon. See Copy on our Web site: http://alumweb.mit.edu/classes/1957/50th_reunion/StatusReport28Sept04.pdf



Bill Salmon and Martin Zombeck also hard at work

The results of Reunion Questionnaire were reviewed and it was noted that there seems to be a slight preference to hold the off-campus reunion before the on-campus ceremonies. The committee will begin to plan for a “before” off-campus activity pending availability of venue.

Retreat Site The reunion co-chairs suggested the Chatham Bars Inn (CBI) on Cape Cod for our retreat site. They recommend this site because, based on responses to the class questionnaire, they believe that more classmates will attend the off-campus reunion if cars are not needed. The Cranwell Resort in the Berkshires was also considered. (See Sept 28 Status Report).

There was some discussion about the CBI vs. alternate sites and the principal objection to the CBI, being the price. Bill Noz suggested investigating the Cliff House in Ogunquit, Maine. This hotel may offer many similar amenities for a lower price. It was agreed that Martin Zombeck would check out the Cliff House (as he lives nearby) and if it looked promising, he would advise other members of the committee and the Alumni Association to further check it out. It was agreed that a decision on the site location should be made by the end of December, 2004.

Transportation There was discussion as to whether busses would be needed to transport people from the retreat site to Cambridge, and based on experience with the 45th reunion, it was suggested that we provide a check off box on the registration forms to determine if bus transportation is needed.

Campus Activities Robert Dimmick recommended and those present agreed that we should select the Cambridge Hyatt as our Reunion Headquarters hotel. Baker house rooms will also be available. It was also recommended that we hold our pre- and post-POPS activities and farewell brunch at the Hyatt. Robert distributed copies of the activities schedule used by the Class of 1954 at their recent 50th reunion.

Robert also recommended that Friday evening (our first evening in Cambridge) be kept to a casual affair.

Robert recommended a "Gala Ball" held in Walker Memorial as one of our campus activities. The Class of 1954 just had a very successful event of this type there. He suggested that we might also do our "business meeting" at this dinner. A photo booth might also be provided at Walker during the dinner. It was suggested that President Hockfield be invited and that there be an orchestra for dancing.

Bill Salmon discussed a proposal for some activities and tours of the Stata Center. It was felt the Saturday was a better day than Saturday to do this because of less crowding after graduation. It was suggested that we arrange tours and one or two speakers on topics of general interest to the class. Bill will discuss this proposal with Ray Stata for further input.

Souvenir Reunion chairs recommended brass rat paperweights as souvenirs. It was also recommended that hats (pork pie) be provided which would provide sunshade at the graduation ceremony. Those present felt less enthusiastic about the paperweight and final decision was deferred.

Marketing Robert presented several ideas for building enthusiasm among class members for reunion attendance. He advised that the Alumni Association will send out four letters/notices to alumni advising them of the reunion activities. Martin will continue to post notices and results of our preparation activities on the Web Site.

Reunion Committee It was felt that it is time to solicit help for the Reunion Committee, to help with the detail planning and decisions to be made. Bill Salmon advised that he had the names of a number of persons who expressed interest in helping the committee through the responses to our letters and Nelson advised that he had several names of people who offered during the 45th reunion.

Forward Planning The following planning activities were agreed for the near term: During the month of October, we should view the Cliff House in Ogunquit as a candidate site for our off-campus activities. (Martin, Art, Nelson)

Martin will post to the web site results of our planning so far and solicit any inputs. It was suggested that a web chat room or the like be set up to post alternative activities and ask for comments

A location for the off-campus activities should be made by the end of this calendar year.

Expand the Reunion Committee and pursue detail planning for on-campus activities.

The treasurer's report submitted by Ron Keefe was presented to the group by Nelson. Bank charges have been reduced to \$2.50 per month and our current balance of \$11,750 reflects the recent deposit of dues received.

Robert Dimmick provided copies of the 2005 Tech Reunions Guidebook, and the 1957 Directory of Alumni as of September 30, 2004 to all present at the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM.

N. Disco
Rev. 10/16/04