

SAPA Meeting Minutes October 4, 2011

Call to Order: Rhonda Saurbek, our new SAPA President, welcomed everyone and called our meeting to order at 10:05 am in the Ralph Carey Forum.

Our refreshments were provided by the Advancement Office.

Devotion and Prayer

Gary Mason focused on our University verse of the Year, which is Colossians 2:6, 7, but this month he specifically focused on the phrase, "rooted and built up in Him". Our roots need to go deep for nourishment and stability. He also shared from Psalm 1 in reference to be "rooted" by streams of living water. Ephesians 3 is a great passage we can all pray for each other here at SAU to be ".....rooted and established in love...."

We ended our devotional time with prayer time at individual tables.

Announcements:

Lorie Cornell gave an update on **budget meetings** she has attended. She affirmed your voiced and written concerns have been passed along to the committee. The raw numbers are in and Jerry White is working on final figures. This Thursday evening some final decisions will be made. President Webb will let us know decisions next week. Rhonda Saurbek will now begin attending these meetings.

Lorie also reported on the **Student Government Association** for this 2011-2012 school year. The President is Hannah Adams and the Vice President is Bethany Albert. They are busy with activities for Homecoming, which is Oct 7-9, and Sibling Saturday this weekend. Intramurals are under way, and the Spiritual Life Retreat went well this past weekend. A new program, Vitality, has been set in place with activities for the health and wellness of our students.

David Goodrich gave a debut on our new **SAPA web page**. He encouraged people to "bookmark" this link. <http://sites.arbor.edu/sapa/> Connect and take a look at pictures of yourselves at meetings, minutes from meetings you have missed, contact information for the SAPA Executive team with pics and bios, prayer requests, links to OAT, YouTube, My Support, our own SAU web site, and much more. Stay connected and up to date here.

Growing with Students – Sam Riggleman

Rhonda introduced our speaker, Sam Riggleman, who focused on our topic, "**Growing with Students.**" Sam is SAU's Athletic Director and Head Baseball Coach. He has been with SAU 10 years and a college coach for 36 years. Among his many accomplishments he has been selected as the NAIA National Coach of the Year in 2000 and again in 2007. Sam developed and implemented the Montana Student Leadership program we now have for students SAU.

Sam began by sharing that the mentoring minister began when he himself was a student here at SAU in 1971. Bob Husband was the Dean of Students and Bob hand-picked six athletics to meet with for weekly intense times of pouring over scriptures and seeing the bigger picture God had for them. This

changed the trajectory of Sam's spiritual life. What drives Sam every day? It is not "coaching", but investing in the lives of young men and women to raise up warriors for the Kingdom of God.

Three students, from our Athletic Program, shared their testimonies of what the Montana Leadership Institute and their involvement with athletics here at SAU has meant to them.

Ashley Stelter is on our women's basketball team. She shared that this program has challenged her not only as an athlete, but as a Christian. She wants to bring glory to God on and off the court. She wants to impact others as the leaders from Montana did for her. Connecting with SAU coaches and fellow athletes was a blessing. She has begun the program, "Athletes for Christ", which meets Sunday evenings at 9:30 pm. She wants to impact SAU campus for Christ to grow spiritually together.

Taylor Lange is on our Men's basketball team. Attending the Institute gave him the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of God's creation and to hear personal stories and wisdom from coaches and leaders. He now feels more connected to the coaches and wants to have a positive impact here at SAU. He sees the importance of support and working together as a student body.

Steven Kolb is also on our Men's basketball team. He is honored to be coached by Sam's Christ-like leadership. God has used Sam to help change the route of Steven's life spiritually, academically and athletically. He has been pushed to the limits....the sky is the limit. New recruits can see the brotherhood among the team, as well as the full family atmosphere in the athletic department. Steven has seen the bigger picture of the program here at SAU, which is based on character and faith. He wants to use his leadership position for the glory of God.

Sam shared a quote from Howard Hendricks, which says, "You can impress people at a distance, but only impact them up close." This is what mentoring is all about. Sam challenged all of us to take the initiative to recognize those around us who would value recognition and input from us.

Billy Graham gave his life to Christ through a legacy of relationships that date all the way back to 1855 when Mr. Kimble taught a Sunday school class that brought Dwight L. Moody to Christ. The impact continued through F.B. Meyer, J. Wilbur Chapman, Billy Sunday and Mordecai Ham, who preached at a revival where Billy Graham accepted Christ.

Sam also shared from a letter a former student sent to him. This player now appreciates the mentoring and role model he had with Sam. He longs for the day when he can run a team like SAU. Sam challenged us to never lose sight of what we are called to do as we reflect at the end of each day. There are students around us in need of encouragement. Don't lose sight of these opportunities. The investment is worth it.

Prize Drawing and Closing

Steve Newton drew ticket #'s and prizes were passed out. There were two Diversity Tables with seven departments represented. Steve closed us in prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Next SAPA meeting is Tuesday, Nov 1st, 2011 with the theme "Growing in Joy". Come for a time of fellowship and fun.

