

Minutes of the Annual Alumni General Body Meeting August 15, 2014

The Business Meeting was preceded by the keynote speech by Dr. Dale Shaw (Immediate Past-President of Duke University Medical College), dinner and presentations by the Class of 1989, 1994 and 2004.

The meeting was chaired by Faisal Qureshi, President AKUAANA. Quorum was established with over 100 Alumni present.

Faisal Qureshi delineated efforts made by AKUAANA over the last year. These included revamping the website which has now been transferred over and the domain is fully owned and operated by AKUAANA. It is registered and hosted by NameCheap and is a secure website for accepting payments with SSL certification by Comodo. It has Green Bar EV Certification.

Also for the website content/membership management and design framework, purchases were made towards Wordpress and Genesis respectively. Payment gateway was streamlined using services of Stripe.

Atif Shafqat, Secretary, went over the salient features of the AKUAANA Constitution and Bylaws which were proposed. Voting was carried out and results were announced at the meeting. It was clarified that in future ONLY alumni who are dues paying members (annual or lifetime) will be allowed to vote. The current tradition of all alumni present (even non-members and associate members) will not be possible with the proposed constitution. The vote was passed by alumni present with 99 “Yes” votes in favor of ratifying the constitution and 1 “No” vote.

It was also proposed to potentially move General Body Meeting to afternoon prior the reunion and dinner.

Shazia Hussain, Treasurer, presented the AKUAANA Financial Report showing in January 2014 deposits of \$13,938 and at latest accounting in August, 2014 had increased deposits to \$31,000. After withdrawals of \$16336, the checking account now has balance of \$14,663 and the savings account has balance of \$11,000.

Also we now have an IRS status of 501(c)7 which allows membership dues to be tax-deductible as professional dues. We still do not have status of accepting charitable contributions as per a 501(c)3. This can still be done under either the auspices of AKF or APPNA.

Faisal Qureshi, President, gave update on membership which has seen a dramatic increase in lifetime and total membership relative to past year. Also discussed were results of the survey collected over direction of AKUAANA favored by alumni. These were (in order of most votes):

1. Philanthropy for healthcare projects in Pakistan/Medical School
2. Philanthropy for education related projects in Pakistan
3. Development of programs in Pakistan that can engage our offspring, such as exchange programs, volunteering opportunities

Faisal also addressed reasons why alumni may not be participating in their alumni institution body. Strengths of the AKU alumni body in academics and how this resource can be utilized were addressed as well as philanthropic goals that may be pursued.

Comments were made by alumni on improving the event for next year. Also suggestions were made by alumnus that efforts for philanthropy/ outreach/ academics be focused more towards North America rather than Pakistan.

With no further items on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned.

Atif Shafqat, MD
Secretary
Aga Khan University Alumni Association of North America (AKUAANA)