

REFLECTIONS
NDAA Board Meeting

The recent NDAA Board meeting, held in conjunction with the Alumni Senate and Notre Dame Senior Alumni (NDSA) Board, provided an opportunity to discuss many challenges and help establish an organization which will carry both NDAA staff and Board into the future.

I feel there will be strong alignment among the staff, Board, NDSA, clubs, classes and other key groups around the world. The next step must be to move into an “action” mode and establish key objectives which will have a positive impact throughout the Notre Dame family. We have significant potential to make a difference and “bring Notre Dame to the world”!

We had a number of opportunities to interact with the leadership team of the University. They realize there are many key issues on the table and are willing to discuss all of them. Everyone has their own feelings on Father Jenkins’ “closing statement” and there naturally were many interactions throughout the session. The most “creative” action I saw was that of the NDSA Board. Each member made a contribution to a “candle fund” which will support a continuous “lit candle” at the Grotto until the Boards meet in the fall (9/28-10/3). The intention each day will be that the Good Lord and His Mother will guide Father Jenkins and instill their spirit in Him. All of us should do the same each day.

Class officers were invited to the 2005 senate for the first time and an increased number joined us this year. This is a key group and there were some very positive sharing sessions. A number of action items were also defined. Improved communications will be a continuing objective. Our intent is to share all key information which could add value to all involved with Alumni activities.

The NDSA Board has established some clear objectives based on the principle of “giving back”. An updated NDSA web site is now in place (connected to NDAA site) and we encourage all seniors to visit it and get involved. There are plenty of opportunities across the country! The “right things” only happen through dedicated people!

In summary I feel we are on the right track but there is still much to be done. I will try to keep everyone posted as we move forward.