Tony Prave from the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences explained a current internal project that utilizes the assets of alumni of the Department to help support it in a number of ways. The alumni of the Department are, to some extent, unique in that during their undergraduate career they will have spent extensive periods of time in the field with members of staff and fellow undergraduates. The bonds of friendship through these shared experiences tend to be very strong and memories shared by the alumni are unifying factors in the community.

The School holds a database of contacts (900) for the alumni and circulates a regular newsletter updating the alumni on events and activities within the School.

The support that alumni offer to the Department includes:

- Financial contribution direct to Departmental projects
- Funding research in the Department
- Employability
  - Offering placements
  - Offering fieldwork
- Offering interview experience for undergraduates
- Forming an alumni advisory board to control the donations and funds and to offer advice on curriculum and teaching. The advisory board meets in person in St Andrews on a regular, biannual, basis.
- Field academy - contributing and supporting fieldwork
- Business plan

Plans to develop the newsletter as a subtle marketing tool and request for funds by building enthusiasm for projects and inviting contributions.

**School of Medicine**

Considering following a similar model to the Department of Earth Sciences but prioritizing the expertise and advice that alumni could offer with respect to career advice and interview skills. Approaching alumni on a very personal level and perhaps moving onto the funding/donation situation much later in the relationship.

**School of ELT**

Looking at contacting alumni through Facebook and LinkedIn, database of alumni and invite sound bites and video for website from students that have gone onto great things.

**School of Chemistry**

The School of Chemistry plans to evaluate the data available to the School for the alumni and consider how best they could use these contacts to keep in touch with the alumni, e.g. by sending them the weekly newsletter of the School, and possibly for money generation. The School would also be very interested to have access to the contact details of the alumni held by the centre.

**School of Biology**

The School of Biology is considering ways to establish a database of contacts for Alumni and considering researching using google, facebook and linkedin the whereabouts of all the First
class graduates from the last 10 years in the first instance or asking the Development office for the contacts details if available and accessible.

**School of Art History**
The School plans to use their School Presidents both present and past to create a database of graduates for the future utilization in such a project. ‘Creating tentacles of connection’.

**School of International Relations**
The School of IR is interested in pursuing an alumni organization and will begin discussions about the best way to organize this over the next two years.

**Possible Issues**
- Database – question of ownership and protection?
- Access to contacts for alumni from the Development office vs. creating own contact lists?
- Perception of the University centre to fundraising at School level?
- Conflict of activities with the development office?
- Transparency and control of financial projects?
- Incentive driven practice in the University?
- Important to have one member of staff in the School as the contact for alumni?


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