1. **Graduation:** John Kennedy reported that this year’s graduation ceremonies went smoothly. So smoothly, in fact, that it even ended early. Commencement speaker was Richard Riordan, former mayor of Los Angeles, who received an honorary degree from the university. Although crowds are growing each year, the current site on campus is still the place of choice.

2. **Fund Raising:** Bob Bunger, Director of Research and Special Projects, joined us along with Mark Jaime, Director of Alumni and Annual Funds, to request the Parent Council’s help in the Fall with fund raising for the annual fund. It is the Parent Council’s hope that we can earmark a specific need for parents to get behind and support financially. If anyone has a suggestion in this regard, please contact the Parent Council (e-mail address and phone number are on the website). We would love to hear from parents on this matter. DUPC will be informing parents through our newsletter when to expect a call during our telephone campaign.

3. **Retention Rate:** DU has established a new research group to study the university’s retention rates. The task of this committee is to evaluate raw data from the admissions and registrars offices and to interview students to learn why they left DU. Once this data has been collected and analyzed, the committee will submit proposals to the administration on ways to improve retention rates.

4. **Facility Maintenance:** Pennafort Hall is closed for the summer while a new hot water system is being installed.

5. **Financial Aid Award Letters:** Letters are going out now, but not all have been prepared as of this date.

6. **Freshmen Orientation:** Orientation will begin Aug 17th. John Kennedy has asked Parent Council members to be present that day to answer freshmen parents’ questions and help them through the day.

7. **Strategic Planning:** No report this month.

8. **Library:** Library hours were extended during the last three weeks of school. Only five students took advantage of the longer hours, raising the question of whether continuing this extension is worth the added staff and facility expense.

9. **Student Rep:** Kyle Schroeder has left Dominican to pursue a major not offered here. Kyle was a great spokesperson for student needs and concerns, and we wish him well. We will be looking for a new student rep in September.

Next meeting is July 5th at 4:30 PM in Guzman Hall.
All DU parents are invited to attend.

Submitted by
Gary Gillard