



**Minutes of The FGCE Alumni
"Mid-Atlantic Chapter" Christmas Get-Together**

December 13, 2014

Hosts

Drs Chike & Prisca Onwuka

Attendees

1. Nnaemeka Osakwe	10. Nkilika Iyiegbu
2. Ike Agbim	11. Onobun Oriaiifo
3. Ifeoma Okafor	12. Nnenna Uchendu
4. Nora N. Agajelu	13. Emeka Anyanwu
5. Eva Njoku	14. Kanene Olisaemeka
6. Chike Onwuka	15. Obi Ndu
7. Chuma "PC" Ogene	16. Joseph Okonkwo
8. Ifeanyi Ezeh	17. Constance Mere
9. Nonso Obi	18. Adindu Ezeocha
	19. Nwamaka Anowi

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President

Maureen Obiofuma

Vice President

Ruby Opara

Secretary

Ekene Ofodile

Treasurer

Ini Abasiattai

Financial Secretary

Nora Agajelu

Public Relations

Officer

Chidi Ogene

Legal Advisor

Board Members

Ik Agbim

Myriam Ene

Chuma Ogene

Ugo Okafor

Maureen Okafor

Nnaemeka Osakwe

Agenda

- **Meet & Greet**
- **Dinner/brief dancing**
 - Opening prayer was said by Onobun Oriaiifo, and the event was officially declared open. Music played by DJ Femi
- **Formal acknowledgement of hosts**
 - Nnaemeka Osakwe thanked Prisca & Chike on behalf of all alumni, the Board and Executive Council.
- **Review of organizations' officers goals for the event**
 - Nora Agajelu, Nnaemeka Osakwe & Ike Agbim shared the ideas of the Association regarding this reunion. Theme of the reunion is "AFGCEAA Presents: United in Purpose". He explained that the genesis of this theme, stems from our common goal - to give back. He reiterated the need for members to stay united and "fired up", to ensure this event, and/or future events are successful.
- **Summary and brief recap of Strategic Plan and general meeting held in November 2014.**
 - Minutes from last general meeting were shared with attendees. (Packets printed and handed out). Met goals were also highlighted, including the recent acquisition of 501(c)(3) status - making us a tax exempt organization.



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- **Viewing of PanaTV Full Feature edit for ATL 2014.**
- **Discussion of reunion overview**
 - Attendees were given insight into the planning process so far, including budget, events planned, ticket prices, etc. Questions regarding location choice came up. Some concerns included:
 - Parking options in the Capital Hilton (which was acknowledged as the downside of this location).
 - Nnaemeka & Nora reiterated the overall advantages of this location, based on survey results from ATL 2014:
 - A facility that WANTS our business, and is ready to work with us
 - Cost effective to the Association while meeting our requirements.
 - Allows outside catering with minimal upcharge
 - Allows an end time of 2.30/3am
 - Proximity to other activities that are family-friendly, for our out of state guests and alumni.
 - This seemed to be understood and welcomed by all
- **Discussion of local chapter**
 - Ike Agbim & Nnaemeka encouraged attendees to volunteer to start a local chapter, that will build cohesion locally for the reunion, and for the Organization as a whole.
 - It was agreed that the DMV/Mid-Atlantic region has a very high concentration of alumni in the Americas; and as a result, the formation of a chapter starting today will have a great impact.
 - A question was raised by Joe Okonkwo, re: the Board and Executive Council's participation as officials in their local chapters
 - Nnaemeka & Ike stated that although there is no clause in the constitution that bars a national officer from holding office in their local chapter, it may be easier to solicit non-officers, who can dedicate more of their time locally. He promised that the national officers will help in every way solicited, and are always available for support.
 - Nnaemeka then called for volunteers - a few were nominated, and some people volunteered. The volunteers to coordinate the Mid-Atlantic Chapter include:
 - Ifeanyi Ezech - Class of 91
 - Eva Njoku - Class of 86
 - Adindu Ezeocha - Class of 91
 - Nwamaka Anowi - Class of 92
 - Chike Onwuka - Class of 85
 - Emeka Anyanwu - Class of 89
 - They all promised to work hard to foster growth in



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this chapter, and the national body as a whole.

- **Next Steps: reunion, membership drive, fundraising**
 - Committees and task forces for the reunion event were discussed and attendees were encouraged to sign up for one or more – about 7 people signed up to help in various capacities – gala, interactive session, meet & greet etc.
 - Donations were solicited by the Ike, Nnaemeka, Chike and Nora.
 - Pledges were welcomed as well. Attendees were encouraged to at least pay their dues of \$60.
 - We received 2 checks:
 - **\$1160 from Chike & Prisca Onwuka**
 - **\$1060 from Nnenna Uchendu (nee Ibekwe)**
 - Other members were encouraged to follow-through with their pledges and/or dues.
- **Recap, summary, end of business session**
 - The informal end of the meeting was capped with a speech by Chike Onwuka, encouraging continuity of this organization – locally and nationally. Attendees were reminded that there will be more meetings on a regular basis, to create strength locally.
 - The following Alumni volunteered for Reunion Planning Committees:
 1. Adindu Ezeocha – Compliance Committee
 2. Nnaemeka Agajelu – Compliance Committee
 3. Nnenna (Ibekwe) Uchendu – Meet & Greet
 4. Nwamaka Anowi – Gala Planning Committee
 5. Ifeanyi Ezech – Interactive Session Committee
 6. Ijeoma (Okafor) Uwanamodo – Gala Planning and Meet & Greet
 7. Kanene (Okafor) Olisaemeka – Gala Planning and Meet & Greet
 8. Eva Njoku – Brochure and Meet & Greet
 - The party continued with more eating, dancing and “gisting”.

Next Steps

1. **Follow up meeting in January 2015 TBD by Volunteer Coordinators**
2. **Exec Council will create Email distribution list for Mid-Atlantic Chapter.**
3. **Alumni are encouraged to sign up for reunion execution committees and pay dues.**