



# Engineering Alumni Society

Minutes of the Engineering Alumni Society Board of Directors

*University of Pennsylvania*

Philadelphia, PA 19104

[www.seas.upenn.edu/alumni/](http://www.seas.upenn.edu/alumni/)

Monday, March 14, 2016 6pm, Room 307 Levine

## Attendees:

Dean Vijay Kumar		Dawn Becket – D	T	Sarah Badin – AL	
Matt Quale – Pres	X	Robert Berkovits – D	T	Andrew Botelho - AL	
Russ Miller – VP	T	Jim Brennan – D	T	Lyle Brunhofer – AL	
Alan Schultz – VP	X	Ernest Churchville – D	T	Alison Capone – AL	
Stan Warchaizer – VP	X	Carl Clyde – D	X	Ashish Chauhan – AL	
Sevile Mannickarottu – Sec	X	Hank Guckes – D	X	Jane Fried Sheinfeld – AL	
Jason Rifkin – Tres	T	William McGill – D		David Goldstein – AL	
		Paul McLaughlin – D	T	Lauren Hedvat – AL	T
Brad Abrams – PP		Jay Olman – D	X	Bernard A. Jones Jr. - AL	X
Eric Benshetler – PP	T	Craig Schorr – D	T	Jonathan Lombardo - AL	T
Tim Carlsen – PP	X	Heather Stern – D	T	Wendy Sardinsky - AL	
Farnia Fresnel – PP	T			Matthew Serota – AL	T
Marion Hubing – PP		Dane Carswell – AD		David Solomon – AL	
Walter Korn – PP	X	Bill Kane – AD			
Dick Mulford – PP		Nikos Lioutas – AD			
Harris Romanoff – PP		Harry Vartanian – AD		Ellie Davis – F/S	
				Gabrielle Gary – F/S	X
		Jeffrey Ng - UG	X	George Hain – F/S	
		Jeremy Wang – M		Rosette Pyne – F/S	X

## Positions:

Pres: President

VP: Vice President

Sec: Secretary

Tres: Treasurer

PP: Past President

D: Director

AD: Associate Director

AL: At Large Member

F/S: Penn Faculty/Staff

UG – Undergraduate

M – Masters student



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### I. Call to Order (M. Quale)

- Called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – None

### II. President's Welcome and Remarks (M. Quale)

- Thank you for joining!
- For those who joined in person, we have Oreos and Chips A'hoj, as a thank you for braving the rainy weather today.
- There are a number of upcoming events.
  - The Masters student - alumni mixer is on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in Sweeten Alumni House.
  - There is a popular alumni series called, "Our Penn", with President Amy Gutmann. Most recently, it was held in London. There are local dates of April 18 in Washington, D.C., September 14 in Philadelphia, and October 6 in New York City. It is a broader Penn alumni event. Philadelphia and NY events are not yet listed. Highly recommend attending.
  - The Experience Penn series has an event, "Golden Age of King Midas." It is an exhibit in the Penn Museum.
  - Grand opening of the Pennovation Center will be on October 28<sup>th</sup>. You will see more information about it.
- Penn Alumni Volunteer Leadership retreat.
  - Third time attending
  - We have an opportunity to have a table at the Penn's new student orientation. Might be a good idea to have a presence and connect all of our events and programs together. The only group which is taking advantage of this is the Association of Alumnae group. This is in the fall.
    - Tim: Where does this occur? Matt: Not sure, but it is for all students, so we'd have to direct Engineers to us.
    - Tim: Is there a similar thing for seniors? Might be a good idea to reach out. Matt: We've tried seniors. Perhaps start earlier, as freshman.
    - Tim: Is there an Engineering orientation? Gabrielle: AWE has an orientation. There are school wide events. But it is hectic. Matt: Perhaps we should look into engaging there.
  - Meeting with the Director of Alumni Interviewing – They need lots of volunteers for alumni interviewing and they would like to have engineering alumni interviewing engineering applicants.
    - Alan: What is the geography of the need? Matt: It is global. There are also



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- virtual interviews available.
  - Rosette: How many applicants to the Engineering school? Matt: We don't know.
  - Alan: How do we sign up? Matt: From the interview website (Secretary's note: <http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/interviews>)
  - Tim: Penn is difficult to get into. None of the people I have interviewed have been accepted.
  - Matt: I've only got one. You can contact those who get in.
  - Eric: Even for those who don't get in, they get a positive experience, and they tell their underclassmen.
- After conversations with Farnia, we have selected three members of the at-Large community who have demonstrated engagement with the board, and I would like to nominate them as Associate Directors. It is a step in the direction of bringing them to Director with voting privilege. Bernard Jones Jr. (SSE 2001), Jon Lombardo (SSE 2003), and Lauren Hedvat (ENG'05, COL'06, and GENG'07 ).
    - Nominations were unanimously approved.

### Open Action Items:

### New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – None

### III. Development Office Report (G. Hain)

- Gabrielle spoke on George's behalf.
- George was travelling with the Dean across Asia. They were able to meet with some of the admitted students.
- George sends his regrets.
- Numbers are looking good for Annual Giving.
- Getting ready for Alumni weekend. You can start to register already. There are two SEAS events: coffee and conversation with the Dean, which starts at 10:30 am on Saturday, in addition to the tent. The coffee and conversation event will be at the Singh Center. It will be a fun casual experience and a bit more intimate than the tent.
- Stan: Is the tent location the same? Gabrielle: it should be the same, but it has not been confirmed.
- The Giving challenge is in full effect. Thank you Matt for encouraging everyone to find people to make a gift.
- Matt: Is the challenge public? Gabrielle: Yes.
- Matt: I was able to encourage a friend to make a gift! Gabrielle: Trying to get 100 more donors than last year.
- Bob: It is tricky to get them.
- Rosette: What is the date of alumni weekend? May 14



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- Carl: How would someone correct their contact information? Gabrielle: Send email to me or use Quakernet.
- Seville: How is the grad student component of the Challenge working out? Gabrielle: Working with Graduate students to engage with them. Special event in April to thank them. Stan: If they are a graduate alum and undergraduate alum, how do they count? Gabrielle: The challenge is regardless of whether or not they are even a graduate.
- Tim: Is the challenge on the website? Gabrielle: Yes.
- Hank: If they are not in Engineering, can they still give? Gabrielle: Yes!

### Open Action Items:

#### New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – None

## IV. Career Services Report (R. Pyne)

- Meeting with employee, such as Comcast. They are doing lots of hiring.
- Attended a program in Florida: reverse career fair. The Orlando Economic Commission invited universities, and several employers were there and talked to the different universities.
- More jobs for students if they are willing to go to Florida.

### Open Action Items:

#### New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – None

## V. Old Business:

### a. Approval of the February 22, 2016 Minutes (Directors)

- Russ: At the bottom of page 3, should be “From the basketball game”.
- Craig Schorr was at the last meeting but it was not reflected in the minutes.
- Approved with corrections.

### Open Action Items:

#### New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – None



**b. Open Action Item Review (S. Mannickarottu)**

- None.

Open Action Items:

**ACTION:**

**c. EAS Website/Social Networking (R. Miller)**

- Added January meeting minutes.
- There are 445 people on Facebook and 3649 on LinkedIn.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**

**d. MEAM/ASME Networking debrief (J. Olman)**

- Great event.
- Dinner in Levine Lobby - 7-8 tables of alumni and students.
- Will McGill was there too.
- Talked a lot about interviewing.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**

**e. Mentoring Program Feedback review (P. McLaughlin)**

- For the 2015 program, there were 105 Student-Mentor Pairs
- 47 Student evaluations received (45%)
  - More than 80% of students responding said their mentors were very responsive to outreach and were in regular contact throughout the year.
  - More than 85% of participating students rated their Mentor matches as good to excellent.
  - 65% of students responding said the program and their match exceeded or far exceeded their expectations.
  - 97% of responding students would recommend this program to other students.



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- 53 Mentor evaluations received (50%)
  - Greater than 90% of Mentors responding expressed interest in continuing as a Mentor in future years.
- The biggest concern reported by both Students and Mentors, as has been in years past, is that both wished the students would take greater advantage of the opportunity and connect more frequently. To address this, as program administrator I will continue regularly scheduled messaging to participating students to encourage their contact with their mentors, with suggested questions/discussion topics.
- For the 2016 program, there were information sessions in December and January, and were well attended, with 113 students over four sessions and individual meetings by request.
  - Interested students applied for matches in early February 2016; 86 complete applications were received and those students were all successfully matched.
  - As of today, March 14, 2016, we are in the process of having individual meetings with students during dedicated walk-in hours to deliver Mentoring Match information forms and confirm each student's commitment to participate. Mentors are notified once their student has picked up the match and committed to participate in the program.
- More details in April. Strong numbers for 2016.
- Matt: Thank you, Paul!
- Paul: Thanks to Jamie and Rosette!

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**

## VI. New Business:

### a. PE Licensure Event – 3/23 (T. Carlsen)

- Apologies for missing the meeting last month.
- We are in good shape.
- Presenters will be Tim, Bill Kane, from the Board, Bob Cargill, Penn Bioengineering PhD who assisted two years ago. He is also President-elect of the Philadelphia chapter of the PA Society of Professional Engineers.
- Been in contact with the NSPE, and working with the general council in DC.
- Everything is online now. It is so easy for those who want to get a PE to get the information they need.
- I will have flyers, either way.
- Tim: Rosette, can you put the flyers online? Rosette: Sure.
- Panel discussions followed by Q&A.



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- Rosette: will there be pens or post-its or something? Tim: Not available, but I'm going to follow up.
- Rosette: We'll order pizza for the event. Tim: Thanks!

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**

### **b. Philly Alumni Networking – 4/5 (S. Mannickarottu)**

- The event is going to be held on April 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm at Cavanaugh's Headhouse in Old City.
- Invitations were sent out by email. RSVP through Google forms.
- As of now, we have 18 RSVPs.
- Jay: Can you resend the link to me? Seville: Sure.
- Seville: How many people would be considered a 'success'?
  - Heather: We had about 30 people in NY.
- Matt: Call ahead to get a smaller room if needed.
- Gabrielle: we will be competing with lots of Penn events held at the same time.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – Item

### **c. Penn Club Philly/EAS (E. Benshetler)**

- Emailed the link to the website registration to Seville:  
[Pennclubphilly.com/foodpanel2016](http://Pennclubphilly.com/foodpanel2016)
- The event will be held on Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm, at the Sweeten Alumni center
- There will first be an hour of faculty and alumni presentations: Science, Technology and Business of food.
- The speakers are Ponzy Lu, Professor of Chemistry at Penn; Ernest Baskin, Assistant Professor of Food Marketing at Saint Joseph's University and Penn Alum (C'08, W'08); and Clement Pappas, Owner, Manager, and President of the Board, Federal Distilling, a startup stage Craft Vodka Distillery, and Penn Alum (WG'09).
- Registration fee of \$10
- Samples of Stateside Vodka will be provided, in addition to dinner.
- Please put it down on the calendar and please attend.
- There will be light dinner.



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- We expect a nice turnout.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:** Owner – Item

### d. Student Engagement – AWE/SWE – 4/25 (D. Becket)

- Confirmed for the “Tassel and Toast” event.
- Graduating AWE seniors. Monday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at Sweeten Alumni House.
- It will encompass very engaged students who are graduating. Might be a great time to introduce them to EAS. This is the group from where we might find board members.
- Hopefully, we can get Board members to go.
- We’ve had this event before. They had about 50 students there. It was well done.
- Matt: We were hoping to get a sense of who thinks that they can attend. If you cannot tell us now, I’ll reach out to the Board later.
- It would be great to have a good crowd.
- Tim: It is possible. How many are we trying to get? 6-7.
- Matt: Please draft request and send to the listserv; I’ll approve it.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**

### e. Senior Design Competition – 4/28 (W. Korn)

- Representatives from two high schools, Science Leadership academy, and Shipley School, courtesy of Dawn, confirmed.
- Jay will talk about our initiative to automate scoring.
- Scorekeeping in the past was a 1-10 score in 3 categories on a sheet of paper and then entered manually on a spreadsheet.
- I’m in touch with Sid Deliwala, to see if everyone can have a method of streamlining the system.
- Tim: It seems like an app is the way to go.
- Rosette: Perhaps clicker technology?
- Tim: We have about 40 judges? Yes.
- Stan: The thing that concerns me is the need to go back and modify, based on later presentations. That might be difficult using a phone.
- Perhaps have a google form? There has to be willingness on the part of the judges.
- Matt: I won’t be here, but I’m sure we can get volunteers to do both for a trial.





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- Rosette: Perhaps give the option to the judges?
- Alan: Did we get a request for judges?
- Gabrielle: will be coming soon.
- Ernest: Having both options is the way to go.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – Item

### f. Back to Penn Engineering (A. Schultz)

- Good news.
- We are confirmed at Pennovation. Ira Winston will lead us on a tour of Dean Vijay Kumar's robotics lab tour.
- We have discussed the date and time: 6 pm on either May 24, 25, or 26. I have to get back to Ira.
- Would like a tentative list of attendees.
- Rosette: Perhaps combine tour with board meeting? Alan: The board decided to not combine.
- Tim & Matt: I like the 24<sup>th</sup>.
- I will give a list to get a sense of who can attend.
- Directions and phone numbers we can cover later. Ira suggested that we drive.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – Item

## VII. Around the Table (All)

- Jason: Craig, you and I can chat about NY stuff.
- Tim: My daughter, Nina, did not get accepted to Penn.
- Walt: Next month, I'll let you know about my granddaughter!
- Jeffrey: I am a systems engineering senior, who is interested in getting involved.

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**



### **VIII. Adjournment (M. Quale)**

- Adjourned at 7:02 pm.

*The next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2016 at 6:00pm in Levine 307 (Location to be confirmed).*

Minutes prepared and submitted by Seville Mannickarottu.