

The 2011 – 2012 year is off to a solid start for the Penn Engineering Alumni Society (EAS) Board. With the introduction of several recent changes to the board meeting schedule and alignment of 18 committees, the board is better poised to meet the EAS goals this year.

***The core EAS goals include:***

1. Fostering a communal spirit among Penn Engineering Alumni
2. Strengthening the bond between Penn Engineering Alumni and the School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS)
3. Creating educational, career, and recognition programs for undergraduate, graduate, and PhD students

To accomplish these goals during the 2011 – 2012 year, the Engineering Alumni Society has planned a full slate of initiatives for:

***Engineering Alumni***

- Foster a vibrant community of alumni through multiple online forums; including the SEAS website, LinkedIn, and Facebook. The board is proud to boast that within the past year, the online community has grown over 42%! The community continues to focus on the exciting social, career, and educational opportunities.
- The board has also continued to maintain the Penn Engineering Wiki Page with relevant content. The Wiki maintenance committee has embarked on a historical journey to ensure that the appropriate image is cast in this important social media space.
- This year, the board continues to look for partnership opportunities with extended alumni communities. In November, the Philadelphia Penn Club plans to co-sponsor a presentation by Professor Daniel Lee on humanoid robots. Additionally, three University speakers and industry leaders are scheduled over the upcoming year through the 'EAS Speaker Series'.
- One of the newly introduced committees, the SEAS Alumni Worldwide Network, is working towards co-sponsorship events in regions including New York and California.
- Annually, the Increasing Participation in Alumni Activities committee recruits Penn Engineering alumni from the upcoming reunion year to better engage in reunion planning activities and strengthen the presence of engineering alumni at reunion events. .

***Alumni & School***

- Partner with the Engineering Development Office to host the Post Game Reception after Homecoming in November. Annually, this event draws over 60 + alumni back into the Engineering school to hear the latest developments from Dean Eduardo Glandt, enjoy cocktails and dinner, and network.
- Alumni weekend often draws a large crowd to the Engineering tent; where the board actively welcomes alumni back to the university in a relaxed environment.
- Nomination procedures and timelines have changed this year for the board sponsored D. Robert Yarnall Award which is presented to a distinguished engineering alumnus annually. The slate of distinguished alumni has only increased and the board has revamped timeframes to allow the most time for deliberation prior to selection of the candidate.

## **Penn Engineering Alumni Society Report :**

**November 2011**

*Submitted by Farnia Fresnel, President*

- A new Alumni liaison committee has been engaged in actively reaching out to Engineering alumni who have expressed interest in getting involved or having a university contact. This will allow a broader array of alumni to become involved on an ad hoc or semi permanent basis.
- Alumni giving has been phenomenal over the past year as annual giving exceeded \$1 million dollars for the first time last year.

### **Students**

- This fall, the board hosted the much anticipated bi-annual Professional Engineering (PE) presentation for those students who are interested in professional licensure. Licensed board members presented the challenges, timeframes, and benefits to continuing in the engineering discipline on a professional basis.
- What is most exciting is the reintroduction of the partnership between the EAS and the Engineering Dean's Advisory Board. Having students engaged in board planning and activities is one of the core tenants of the board so this represents a rather significant sign of progress this year. This committee is planning a winter luncheon with students.
- Engineering Week (February) career panels have become one of the key events in the winter. Students relish the opportunity to speak with industry executives who share the Penn Engineering experience.
- Awards presented to outstanding students during the Senior Design Competition (Spring) often set Penn Engineering students up for recognition in multiple forums as the judges are often distinguished alumni and presentation videos are available on the SEAS website.
- The EAS will continue to support the mentoring program with Career Services.
- The summer BBQ, hosted by the board, for graduate engineering students was attended by greater than 350 guests this past year and we anticipate a strong turnout again in 2012.

The 2011 - 2012 Executive EAS Board includes:

- President – Farnia Fresnel, SYS 1998
- Vice President – Hank Guckes, EE 1961
- Vice President – Dane Carswell, MEAM 2003
- Secretary – Matt Quale, CBE 1998
- Treasurer – Ernest Churchville, MSE 2004

The board is supported by more than 34 active members who attend monthly meetings on campus and manage University hosted board initiatives. The senior board leadership includes an active group of past presidents, directors, and associate directors. Additionally, the board is supported by a geographically diverse group of alumni at large.