



Engineering Alumni Society

Minutes of the Engineering Alumni Society Board of Directors
 University of Pennsylvania
 Philadelphia, PA 19104
www.seas.upenn.edu/alumni/

Monday, July 19, 2010 6pm, in Room 307, Levine Hall
 Conference Bridge: 866-731-0899

Attendees:

Dean Eduardo Glandt		Robert Berkovits – D	X	Jason Bethala – AD	
Farnia Fresnel – Pres	X	Jim Brennan – D	X	Alison Capponi – AD	
Dane Carswell – VP	X	Jeannine Carr – D	X	Jocelyn Nelson – AD	
Henry (Hank) Guckes – VP	X	Ernest Churchville – D	X	Bill Kane – AD	X
Matt Quale – Sec	X	Richard Cisek – D		Harry Vartanian – AD	X
Nancy Harris – Tres.		Carl Clyde – D		Wayne Robbins – AD	
Harris Romanoff – PP	X	Sevile Mannickarottu – D	X	Craig Schorr – AD	
Tim Carlsen – PP		Eileen McCarthy Feldman – D		Jane Fried Sheinfeld – AD	
Dick Mulford – PP		Russ Miller – D	X		
Marion Hubing – PP		Jason Rifkin – D		David Goldstein – AL	
Eric Benshetler – PP	X	Alan Shultz – D	T	David Solomon – AL	
Walter Korn – PP	X	Stan Warchaizer – D	X	Andrew Franklin – AL	X
Brad Abrams – PP				Bob Boyce – AL	X
		Ellie Davis	X	Paul McLaughlin – AL	X
		George Hain	X	Ashish Chauhan – AL	X
		Rosette Pyne	X	Greg Bedrosian – AL	T
AL = member at-large		Janice Rafferty	X	Jeremy Reeh – AL	X
T = indicates teleconference					

President's Welcome and Remarks

Farnia opened the meeting at 6:00pm welcoming everyone to the planning meeting. There were several new members in attendance (in person and on the phone) so everyone briefly introduced themselves.

Dean's Remarks

The Dean was not in attendance.

Approval of May 10, 2010 Minutes

Minutes were approved with three corrections (Russ Miller and Hank Guckes were in attendance at the May meeting, and the date of the next meeting was corrected).



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Development Office Report

- The fiscal year end was 6/30.
- The goal was \$10MM and Engineering hit \$10.8MM for the year. This represents a strong push at the end of the fiscal year given two large gifts (\$1MM and \$250M) did not come in as expected
- Goal for the upcoming fiscal year is \$15MM, which will leave \$19-20MM for the final year of the current campaign.
- Annual giving hit the goal for the year as did Janice's efforts
 - Total annual giving was \$960M, and is on target to reach \$1MM this fiscal year!
 - To the best of George's knowledge, everyone on the Board participated this year
- \$35MM raised for the Singh Center so far; goal was \$40MM and now looks like Engineering will need to raise at least another \$10MM

Career Services Report

- Currently planning for Career Day on September 16th; so far company participation has been lower than recent years; the Career Services office is using all of the available social web tools to promote the event to potential employers
- Also collecting surveys from the graduating students

ACTION: All: please encourage your company to attend and recruit students at this year's Career Day! Talk to your HR department, volunteer to attend and represent your company, etc.

Graduate BBQ Wrap-Up

- Great attendance with 388 at last count; weather, food, and drinks were all outstanding
- Kudos to Harris for getting the Volleyball net setup and the game started
- Note for next year: need to have the food cooked by 11:45 to be ready; the line was formed early and got very long

Website Update

- Check photos and bios for updates and send directly to Russ
- Russ will get the BBQ pics uploaded by the end of this week

ACTION: Russ to load BBQ pics to website

ACTION: All review bios for needed updates and send to Russ

Update Contact List

- The contact list was circulated with the sign-in sheet

ACTION: All: email Matt Quale with any additional updates to the contact list



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Confirm Calendar 2010-2011

- The Engineering Career Fair should be listed as September 16
- The calendar was passed pending review of April date for alternatives.

ACTION: Farnia to review April 18 date for alternatives due to overlap with Jewish Holiday

President's Initiatives for Coming Year

- A comment was made that the slate for the 2010-2011 Board was incomplete in the PowerPoint® slidedeck (Slide 3). It was noted after the meeting that this was actually the slate of NEW positions for the 2010-2011 calendar year. The full slate is noted in the attendee list at the top of the Meeting Minutes

1. Email Graduating Seniors

- Farnia will continue this effort this year; the email is issued through the Development Office, and George commented that there are many new things going on that would be good to include

ACTION: Janice to look into whether or not graduating students are asked to provide a post-graduation email address

2. Getting to know the EAS Membership

- As the group has grown, Farnia plans to reinstitute a prior tradition of having a couple of board members provide brief introductions about themselves each meeting
- There was general support of this idea

Review New Ideas from Board Members

1. SEAS Community Outreach (proposed by Seville Mannickarottu)

- a. Chair: Seville Mannickarottu
- b. Committee: Jeannine Carr, Robert Boyce
- c. Notes:

i. Initial plan is to research the idea and report back to the full Board

2. SEAS Alumni Worldwide Network (proposed by Ashish Chauhan)

- a. Chair: Harris Romanoff
- b. Committee: Ashish Chauhan, Andrew Franklin
- c. Notes:

i. George Hain also offered to assist with this effort

ii. Jim Brennan mentioned that there were difficulties in the past with getting Regional Penn Clubs to follow through on similar programs

iii. George Hain suggested starting with Rich Cisek in California and an Engineering Alumni couple in Mumbai, India that could be used to test the program



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Proposed Program Enhancements

1. Sr. Design Increased Team Participation (proposed by Ashish Chauhan)
 - a. Walter Korn commented that this could be a good way to differentiate teams as the scores are getting closer and closer
 - b. Dane Carswell commented that all of the students are likely required to present during the initial department presentations; Janice Rafferty added that there could be scheduling conflicts for some groups
 - c. The Sr. Design Committee will consider this idea for the coming year
2. Sr. Design Community Partnership (proposed by Robert Boyce)
 - a. George Hain commented that there certainly is room in the auditorium for this to be considered
 - b. Several existing community outreach programs that could be leverage were also discussed
 - c. The Sr. Design Committee will consider this idea for the coming year

Annual Events

1. Patent Presentation
 - a. Chair: Harry Vartanian
 - b. Committee: Ashish Chauhan, Andrew Franklin, Bill Kane, Jeremy Reeh
 - c. Notes:
 - i. Harry Vartanian commented that it is important to get food, a good date/time, and high profile speakers such as the General Counsel from a Fortune 50 company
 - ii. Rosette Pyne commented that it would also be good to include someone from the Board who has experience with their own invention
2. Homecoming Weekend
 - a. Chair: Alan Shultz
 - b. Notes:
 - i. 12:15 – 1:00pm lecture by Michael Kearns, Co-Director of the Singh Program in Market and Social Systems Engineering
 - ii. 1:30pm football game
 - iii. Reception following the game
3. Career Panel during Engineering Week
 - a. Co-Chairs: Farnia Fresnel, Seville Mannickarottu
 - b. Committee: Jeannine Carr, Paul McLaughlin
4. Senior Design Competition
 - a. Co-Chairs: Walter Korn, Stan Warchaizer
 - b. Committee: Hank Guckes, Jim Brennan, Robert Boyce, Ashish Chauhan, Eric Benschelter, Bob Berkovits, Bill Kane
 - c. Notes:
 - i. See two proposed enhancements above



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5. Alumni Weekend
 - a. Chair: Matt Quale
 - b. Notes:
 - i. Matt Quale commented that everyone should expect to post to either Facebook or LinkedIn about the event as the date gets closer
6. Graduate Student BBQ
 - a. Chair: Bob Berkovits
 - b. Committee: Hank Guckes, Stan Warchaizer
 - c. Notes:
 - i. See comments from this year's BBQ earlier in the Minutes for suggestion for next year
7. D. Robert Yarnall Award
 - a. Chair: Stan Warchaizer
 - b. Committee: Jim Brennan, Dane Carswell, Harris Romanoff, Bill Kane, Greg Bedrosian
8. Student Mentoring
 - a. Chair: Dane Carswell
 - b. Committee: Ashish Chauhan, Bob Berkovits
 - c. Notes:
 - i. Board members are encouraged to be Mentors as well
 - ii. The Mentoring Event tied with the Homecoming reception will not be done this year
9. Increased Participation in Alumni Activities
 - a. Chair: Eric Benshetler
 - b. Committee: Jim Brennan, Walter Korn
 - c. Notes:
 - i. Recruiting for reunion classes ending in 2's and 7's to plan well in advance of actual reunion
10. Maintain EAS Website
 - a. Chair: Russ Miller
 - b. Committee: Hank Guckes
11. Schedule Guest Speakers for Board Meetings
 - a. Chair: Ernest Churchville
 - b. Committee: Jeremy Reeh, Bob Berkovits
12. Improve Social Networking Presence
 - a. Chair: Bill Kane
 - b. Committee: Ashish Chauhan
13. Update SEAS Wiki
 - a. Chair: Jim Brennan
 - b. Committee: Rich Cisek

ACTION: Farnia to follow-up with Rich to confirm his participation on this committee



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Around the Table

- Ernest thought the meeting went very well and represented good work by the Board
- Alan thanked Farnia and Janice for getting the PowerPoint® slides out to the Board before the meeting for those who participated on the phone; he also commented that it was good to see Russ at the meeting and that he looked forward to seeing everyone at Homecoming
- Harris welcomed the new Board members and at-large members; congratulated Farnia on her first meeting as President; reminded Farnia that appointing Associate Directors is completely at her discretion out of the pool of at-large members
- George reminded the Board that Harris Romanoff was selected to receive the Young Alumni Award of Merit; the presentation will be the evening of 10/29 and all should try to attend
- Bob Berkovits suggested that an announcement should be made at the start of each meeting to remind the phone participants to comment if they cannot hear the speakers in the room; also suggested a phone with multiple microphones could be considered
- Rosette suggested the Board consider taking videos of some of the events and post them on the website
- Russ reminded Farnia and Seville that new pictures were needed for the website and that Janice had brought a camera to the Board meeting to get those pictures!
- Stan requested that the committee lists be distributed to the Board as soon as possible so the committees can get started working
- Walter echoed Stan's request
- Jeremy thanked Harris and Mickey Kaufman for the invitation to join the meeting
- Eric commented on how great it is to see the Board continue to grow in size and participation
- Matt reminded the Board to respect the sensitivity of the information contained in the Contact List and to utilize the BCC function if emails need to be sent to a large group
- Farnia thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in the meeting

Adjournment

The board meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:50pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 27, 2010 at 6pm in Room 307 Levine Hall.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Matt Quale