



Engineering Alumni Society

Minutes of the Engineering Alumni Society Board of Directors

University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, PA 19104

www.seas.upenn.edu/alumni/

Monday, February 22, 2016 6pm, Room 307 Levine

Attendees:

Dean Vijay Kumar		Dawn Becket – D	X	Sarah Badin – AL	
Matt Quale – Pres	X	Robert Berkovits – D	X	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		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	T	David Goldstein – AL	
		Paul McLaughlin – D	T	Lauren Hedvat – AL	T
Brad Abrams – PP		Jay Olman – D	T	Bernard A. Jones Jr. - AL	
Eric Benshetler – PP	T	Craig Schorr – D	T	Jonathan Lombardo - AL	
Tim Carlsen – PP		Heather Stern – D	T	Wendy Sardinsky - AL	
Farnia Fresnel – PP	T			Matthew Serota – AL	
Marion Hubing – PP	X	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
		Jeremy Wang - M		George Hain – F/S	
				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



Engineering Alumni Society

I. Call to Order (M. Quale)

- Called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – None

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

- Thank you for joining.
- Keep getting information about events in April, which is great. It's going to be a busy month!

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – None

III. Development Office Report (G. Hain)

- Gabrielle spoke on George's behalf.
- The office will be announcing a match challenge, officially.
 - The goal is to get 1,921 givers, which is an increase of 100 from last year.
 - They will announce to the alumni community and past supporters in March.
 - Very excited about this!
 - Matt: Board has an unofficial goal to find someone to donate!

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – None

IV. Career Services Report (R. Pyne)

- Office sponsored three career fairs.
- The startup fair had 65 companies.
- They had a Spring fair which was University wide but had lots of engineering companies.
- Collecting data from 2015 summer activities.



Engineering Alumni Society

- Jamie is rolling out the mentoring program.
- Marion: What percent of our graduates are employed by the time they graduate? Rosette: Most everyone. Our office tries to help everyone. We try to reach out to all students, even sending individual emails if they haven't showed up to events.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – None

V. Old Business:

a. Approval of the January 11, 2016 Minutes (Directors)

- Approved.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – None

b. Open Action Item Review (S. Mannickarottu)

- **Farnia** – Provide Eric with food scientist contact. – Farnia was not available at the meeting – Farnia is not available. Eric got everything he needed. Updates to follow.
- **Dawn** – Connect with Alan to see if we can move forward with the PCI event. – Done.

Open Action Items:

ACTION:

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

- Website updates:
 - Added the Benefits of PE event on March 23rd to events page and calendar.
 - Added approved meeting minutes for November.
 - Added a number of alumni society reports to the archive.
 - Added photos to the photo archive – thank you Gabrielle.
 - Did anyone who attended the board appreciation night have photos? Rosette has some from the basketball game.
- Facebook has 444 members, and LinkedIn has 3638.



Engineering Alumni Society

- Matt: This weekend, Friday and Saturday night is the annual leadership retreat for alumni. There's always something interesting with the event. It is always great to hear how active and involved we are relative to other alumni groups.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

VI. New Business:

a. PE Licensure Event (T. Carlsen)

- Tim was not available.
-

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

b. Mentoring/Externship (P. McLaughlin)

- He discussed the Externship program – He will discuss mentorship in a future meeting.
- Very successful turnout.
- It's the 3rd year of running the program.
- There were 71 opportunities across 21 companies with 25 distinct externship hosts. Some alumni hosted up to 6 students.
- 58 students applied, up 33 from last year
- Preference was given to sophomores, then juniors, and then masters students.
- 35 students were matched: 9 sophomores, 7 juniors, and 19 masters students.
- Some students participated in more than one externship.
- There were 20 locations available, up from 12.
- Goals for next year –
 - Move student application process up a month to October instead of November.
 - Look for more externships in the tristate areas
 - Looking at funding opportunities to help students pay for travel expenses.
- Matt: Have we received feedback from the companies/hosts? Tiffany is collecting it but we don't have the information yet.



Engineering Alumni Society

- Matt: It would be great to get this information to see how the companies like it.
- Rosette: and they have photos, as well.
- Matt: I wonder if there is an opportunity for a “day in the life” of the externs? Perhaps a blog entry? Rosette: They have to submit a report which is part of participation! It’s on our website.
- Paul: Will try to have the feedback on mentoring in March, if I’m available. Will be travelling then.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – Item

c. Student Engagement – AWE/SWE (D. Becket)

- A few years ago, AWE put together the first graduation mixer with EAS.
- It was a mixer with food and a slide show. EAS was able to be there. It was a great event.
- Restarting the event: Calling it “Tassle and toast”
- Got date from the new AWE Director: April 25th, Monday night. Still waiting for further details.
- Made sure that Matt was available as he should address the group.
- Last time we had about 6-8 EAS members – hopefully, we’ll have that many again this year.
- Matt: One of those events, where students are really interested in your experiences, and really want to talk to you.
- Dawn: AWE always says that students really want alumni interaction.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

d. Back to Penn Engineering (A. Schultz)

- Wanted to find out about Pennovation – looked into it. Entrepreneurs provide funding, with Penn’s technical and social experience, a partnership is working to create a win-win situation. Thus the name Pennovation Works
- Update on tour – still waiting for response from Pennovation with our proposal for two or three convenient dates from them in May, not to interfere with our board meeting.
- Limited to 49 total attendees due to temporary fire code restrictions as there is still



Engineering Alumni Society

construction work going on. We will have to coordinate with EAS and SWE-Philadelphia accordingly.

- Dawn – discussed last time about a collaborative event with SWE-Philadelphia. After May, the 49 number limit will increase. We would let EAS have higher priority in a tour. It's possible that they might only have 20 spots, or it could be 100. Still waiting to hear. SWE-Philadelphia is very thrilled to be a part of this.
- Dawn's help was greatly appreciated
- Matt: The SWE-Philadelphia president is Dow employee, so I can follow up.
- Bob: What about logistics on how to get there? Alan: Building located NE corner of 34th and Grays Ferry Ave. The entrance is on 35th and Grays Ferry Ave. It might be a 20 minute walk from here. They have parking facilities.
- Matt: As we get closer to getting a date, we can figure out about car-pooling and such.
- Bob: What time would it be at? Matt: Hopefully, after work hours. Alan: We'll have to see what they come back with.
- The SEAS lab on the 3rd floor of the building should be available in May.
- The building is full accessible and there is an elevator with ground floor access.
- Our primary focus will be with the SEAS lab on the 3rd floor. It will probably be led by Ira Winston.
- Bob: Did Penn ever think of doing a virtual tour with a speaker to put on their website? Alan: Probably, but I don't know.
- They are renting parts of the building to entrepreneurs.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – Item

e. **Philly Alumni Networking (S. Mannickarottu)**

- Because of the very large number of SEAS Alumni in the Philadelphia area, I narrowed down the invite list to those who graduated between 2005 and 2015.
- As per Gabrielle's suggestion, an invite will be sent out in March.
- Matt: It's good to narrow the invite list. If it is too broad, fewer people will show up.
- Gabrielle: Facebook and LinkedIn posts, the week of the event would be helpful. Maybe have a reminder a week before.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – Item



Engineering Alumni Society

f. Penn Club Philly/EAS (E. Benshetler)

- A website is available for registration.
- The event will be held on Wednesday April 20th, 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.
- Joint event between EAS and the Philadelphia Alumni club.
- Please put it down on the calendar and please attend.
- Rosette: Perhaps add drink to the event title? Matt: Maybe worthwhile for the draw?
- Matt: Thank you for our first joint event.
- Eric: Thanks to Bernard and Stephanie.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – Item

VII. Around the Table (All)

- Will: Excited about the local event [Philly Alumni Networking] that will be taking place.
- Jim: Spoke to the award winner's secretary for the Yarnell Award, and the winner is available to receive the award.
- Ernest: Still actively teaching at Philadelphia Technical Institute, teaching electronics and robotics.
- Jay: Will be attending the MEAM ASME networking dinner. Will be happy about providing a brief report at our next meeting.
- Farnia: The Philadelphia Alumni Club is starting a once a month brunch, on Sunday March 6th. Stephanie was very good about getting more Engineering involvement with events. Matt: I would be happy to pass this along to our list serv.
- Alan: The Pennovation Works tour should be a fascinating experience for all of us. I urge you to save the date in May, once it is available.
- Bob: I hope to invite Professor Ken Foster, on April 18th after the board meeting. He is a Professor Emeritus in Bioengineering. Doing work on 3D printing of body parts



Engineering Alumni Society

and ethics issues related to it. Should be very interesting. Gave a talk in April of 2013 on cell phone hazards. Matt: There are a lot of IP issues related to 3D printing. Should be an interesting topic. Neat technology, but lots of hype. Bob: In the future, perhaps a speaker through the web? Remote? Matt: It would be good to try. Someone in the Alumni House might have the access. It is expensive to have an account. Perhaps in the future.

- Marion: What's the status of the Senior Design competition? Walt: I will update.
- Walt: Sent out invitations to the following schools: Philadelphia Central High, Masterman High School for Girls, Friends Select, Malvern Prep, Science Leadership Academy, Devon Prep, Friends Central, Shipley, and the Franklin Institute. The email went out Friday night. No responses yet.
- Marion: Invitations for judges? Gabrielle: Will go out tomorrow – it will be a save the date.
- Seville: Thank Gabrielle for arranging the Board Appreciation Dinner.
- Matt: Thank you for the event, Gabrielle! Thank you all for coming!

New Action Items:

ACTION:

VIII. Adjournment (M. Quale)

- Adjourned at 7:02 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2016 at 6:00pm in Levine 307 (Location to be confirmed).

Minutes prepared and submitted by Seville Mannickarottu.