



Engineering Alumni Society

Minutes of the Engineering Alumni Society Board of Directors
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA 19104

www.seas.upenn.edu/alumni/

Monday, October 27, 2008 in Room 307, Levine Hall

Attendees:

Alan Schultz	Farnia Fresnel	Jason Bethala	Russ Miller
Alison Capponi	George Hain	Jason Rifrin*	Tim Carlsen
Carl Clyde	Hank Guckes	Jeannine Carr	Walt Korn
Dane Carswell	Harris Romanoff	Jim Brennan	Wayne Robbins
Eileen Feldman	Harry Vartanian	Matt Quale	
Eric Benshetler	Jane Fried Sheinfeld*	Nancy Harris	
Ernest Churchville	Janice Rafferty	Robert Berkovits	*via teleconference

President's Welcome and Remarks

Harris welcomed everyone. Jason Rifrin (on the phone) new to the board introduced himself.

Dean's Remarks

George reported the Dean just got back from Argentina.

Development Office Report

George reported that the development situation has not changed much. Development is a lagging indicator of the economy. The school received a \$3 million gift from overseer for funding summer internships in labs, from Andy Rachleff. He wants more people to experience technology i.e. labs anywhere. The development office is hoping to announce big gift of \$18 million. The concern in this economy for annual giving is the \$2500 donors tend to go to zero. The lower dollar donors are much more consistent.



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Approval of Minutes

Minutes approved with corrections. Yarnall is correct spelling corrected. In around the table the event is Engaging Minds, not Engaging Mind. In the President's welcome Jennifer is spelled with 2 n's.

Alumni Career Panel Wrap Up

Harris thanks Jason and the Panel. The majority of the participants were freshman sophomores and juniors. The best question was "do you need calculus when you leave school?" - It was pointed out the even in the financial field things like calculus come up. Advertising early may have helped attendances. There were 30 students which is considered good. Email was sent from Career services to students. It was suggested that engaging student engineering groups could boost participation. It was reported that contacting the engineering groups was done this year but there were some issues with finding the current officers; Engineering Group websites not consistently updated. It was suggested that contacting the faculty sponsor may provide a more consistent contact.

Homecoming

Invitations for the reception were sent in the mail and arrangements for the reception are set. Janice has football tickets and the weather is supposed to be good this Saturday. The opponent this year is Brown. This year the Mentoring program and Homecoming are co-branding.

Yarnall Award

Tim reported there was an excellent slate of candidates and an excellent process this year.

Mentoring Program

Arrangements were made for mentors and mentees to meet at the Homecoming reception. Janice and Matt where thanked for making those arrangements.



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Speaker Series

Dr. Dawn Bonnell, Professor of Materials Science and Director of Penn's newly formed Nano/Bio Interface Center will be the speaker at next months meeting. Ernest asked for pre-questions which will help tailor her presentation. Dr. Bonnell will be invited to the Homecoming reception. Ernest asked for suggestions of what board would like to see for April meeting.

Website Updates

The website is up to date with Homecoming information. There are 120 people in LinkedIn. Harris committed to updated into remarks on the site.

2nd Bi-Annual Patent Presentation

The program from 2 years ago was reviewed. The program was largely a presentation from participating attorneys was unidirectional. The goal this year will be to make it more bidirectional. There will be a formal presentation to the board at next meeting.

Engineering Alumni Ambassadors

A report was tabled until next meeting

Career Services Report

Rosette was out of the office today.

Around The Table

Jason thanked every one for help with the career panel. Janice is looking forward to seeing every one this weekend. Walt thanked every on for the honor of the Yarnall award nomination and that senior design videos are availed to students and questionable videos were not included. The Videographer is working on improving lighting and sound. George asked for feed back on phone solicitation for annual giving.



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Adjournment

Harris adjourned the meeting at 6:51 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2008 at 6:00 PM.

Minutes prepared and submitted by,

Carl Clyde