



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 28, 2009 in Room 307, Levine Hall
 Conference Bridge: 866-831-0899

Attendees:

Dean Eduardo Glandt		Ellie Davis		Jason Bethala - AD	
Harris Romanoff – Pres	X	George Hain		Alison Capponi - AD	
Jim Brennan – VP	X	Rosette Pyne	X	Jeannine Carr – AD	
Nancy Harris – VP		Janice Rafferty	X	Richard Cisek – AD	X
Russ Miller – VP	X	Robert Berkovits - D	X	Bill Kane – AD	X
Farnia Fresnel – Sec	T	Dane Carswell - D		Sevile Mannickarottu – AD	T
Stan Warchaiser – Treas	X	Ernest Churchville - D	X	Wayne Robbins – AD	
Tim Carlsen – PP	X	Carl Clyde – D	X	Craig Schorr – AD	X
Dick Mulford - PP	X	Henry (Hank) Guckes - D		Jane Fried Sheinfeld - AD	
Marion Hubing – PP		Matt Quale – D	X	Jason Rifkin, AD	T
Eric Benshetler – PP		Eileen McCarthy Feldman -D		Jamie Grant	X
Walter Korn – PP	X	Jocelyn Nelson – D	T		
Brad Abrams – PP	X	Alan Shultz –D	X		
T = indicates teleconference		Harry Vartanian –D			

President's Welcome and Remarks

Harris opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Dean's Remarks

The Dean was unable to attend the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The September minutes were approved with no corrections.

Development Office Report

- Development office stated that the prior year's giving is down considerably.
- Homecoming* is scheduled for 11/7.
- Ben Franklin Society has a luncheon on Saturday, 11/7.

Career Services Report

- Rosette introduced Jamie Grant. Jamie is the newest addition to the career services office. She worked in career services for 11 years. She also worked in the SEAS grad admissions office in the past. She is delighted to be back and working with engineering students. Jamie will be handling the mentoring program going forward.



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- There was a 91% response rate for the class of 2009 graduation survey. It showed that there was an increase in the number of students who are self employed. That may be a product of the broader economic situation. More students are looking at opportunities in alternate industries. There were more students in higher education, research, and education.
- The university hired a significant number of graduates. 80% had job offers before December.
- The Biotech virtual career fair will occur in a few weeks. It will be conducted in partnership with 4 other universities.

Student Mentoring Report

- Jamie shared that the volunteers and mentors will have a special designated location at the *Homecoming* reception. They will begin recruiting new mentors shortly.

Website Report

- Russ: Tim Carlsen updated his photograph on the website.

ACTION: Board, please send Russ any new contact or biographical information

Social Networking

ACTION: Harris will write a welcome letter for the Linked in and Facebook pages

ACTION: Board, please share any ideas to generate additional content.

President's Recommendation

BOARD VOTE: Jason Rifkin has been an active participant in board activities for just over a year now. As president of the board, Harris recommended that Jason be inducted as an associate director. The Board approved Harris' recommendation. Jason is now an associate director.

Homecoming

ACTION: Matt Quale will use the social networking forum to encourage attendance at the Homecoming reception.

- Matt encouraged the board to speak to students as they will be interested in speaking with Alumni at the event (particularly at the mentoring table).
- Janice has tickets available. Parking will be arranged in the standard lot.

PE Presentation

- Tim Carlsen and George Pfreunds Schuh conducted the PE presentation in partnership with Career Services on 10/28 from 4:30 to 5:30 in Skirkanich Hall.



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- 19 students attended the event. In addition to being briefed on the PE requirements, they were instructed on the nuances of working for firms with PE's on staff to oversee projects and reminded that the application deadline for the April exam is December 1.
- Handouts were available for students who notified career services in advance that they were unable to attend the event.

Alumni Career Panel

- Farnia shared that the Linked In requests for career panel participation generated some preliminary responses.
- The board agreed that it would be beneficial to conduct the panel during engineering week in February (14-20).
- Tim Carlsen, Craig Schorr, Carl Clyde, Rich Cisek, and Jason Rifkin volunteered to be panelists.

ACTION: Farnia will continue to solicit panelists (through December). Farnia will work with Rosette to identify individuals who attended ECAD day and previously volunteered to be a panelist.

Biotech Day

- Seville shared that they are in the early stages of planning Biotech day and identifying an optimal date for the event.
- Board recommended that the Biotech panel and the Alumni Career panel could be an opportunity for the Penn Engineering Alumni board, in conjunction with Career Services, to run a series of events during Engineering Week in February.

Yarnall Award

- Tim, Stan, Bob, Marion, Rich, Jim, Dane held conf call to identify a person for receipt of the 2009-2010 Yarnall Award. There was unanimous nomination for a candidate and an alternate.

ACTION: Board, please ensure that the name of the selected candidate remains *CONFIDENTIAL*.

Speaker

- Joe Kidder, AD of the Center and PhD candidate provided a tour of the SIG Center (Susquehanna International Group) Center. The center is across from the ENIAC museum and EE lab. The speaker and tour was coordinated by Walt Korn.

Entrepreneurial Network

ACTION: Rich Cisek will present the details of the 4 Linked In responses for the entrepreneurial network at the next board meeting.



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Around the Table

- Walt – The videos for the senior design are now linked to the SEAS website.
- Harris will be getting married on 11/7.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned and the board travelled to the lab for the tour.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 23, 2009.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Farnia Fresnel