

Penn Engineering Alumni Society Report (May 2009) **Submitted by Harris G. Romanoff, President ('98)**

We had a very exciting and event filled calendar this past year in the Engineering Alumni Society (EAS). Our Board of Directors, which governs the EAS, consists of more than 25 active members who attend monthly meetings on campus. The Board is a diverse and very productive group currently comprised of 73% men, 27% women, and graduates from each decade going back to 1950.

EAS activities are guided by these goals:

- To connect Penn Engineering Alumni with each other
- To strengthen the bond between Penn Engineering Alumni and our School
- To provide educational programming for current Penn Engineering students

New EAS initiatives accomplished this year:

- Hosted a panel discussion on "Intellectual Property Protection" for undergraduate and graduate engineering students. The panel was comprised of prominent area patent attorneys, a patent examiner from the US Patent & Trademark Office, and administrators from the Penn Center for Technology Transfer
- Established and actively maintaining official Penn Engineering Alumni groups on LinkedIn and Facebook. Combined, we have connected 350+ Penn Engineering Alumni worldwide
- Launched our first direct mail campaign to last year's engineering graduates welcoming them to the EAS and sharing with them the many ways they can stay connected with Penn Engineering
- Hosted an Engineering Career Panel for undergraduates to discuss their questions on the current job market, interviewing, career options, and life after graduation
- Presented at the Women In Engineering pre-freshman program
- Participated in mock interview sessions for students, coordinated by Engineering Career Services

Annual EAS initiatives accomplished this year:

- Held a Senior Design Project Competition among the winning senior design project teams from each of Penn's engineering majors. Each design team presented their accomplishments to a panel of "real world" judges (comprised of 30+ Penn Engineering Alumni) who collectively represented a diverse set of technology disciplines
- Hosted a post game Homecoming reception for Penn Engineering Alumni
- Actively supported the School's Penn Engineering Mentoring Program which pairs first year undergraduate Engineering students with Penn Engineering Alumni mentors
- Presented our Robert D. Yarnall award to alumnus Walter Korn, EE '57, GEE '68. The Yarnall Award is presented each year at the Engineering Senior Awards Dinner to a distinguished alumnus for an outstanding contribution in the field of engineering to society, either in public service, private industry, or education, that has enhanced the image of the University of Pennsylvania.
- Sponsored and promoted Alumni Weekend activities for Penn Engineering Alumni
- Held a sun filled & fun filled summer BBQ for graduate engineering students
- Actively reached out to Penn Engineering Alumni on the occasion of their major reunion year to encourage participation in their class year reunion committees
- Managed and kept our website up to date: www.seas.upenn.edu/alumni

Guest speakers at the Board of Directors meetings included:

- Dr. Dawn Bonnell, Trustee Professor of Materials Science at Penn Engineering and Director of the Nano/Bio Interface Center
- John V. Alviti, Senior Curator of Collections at The Franklin Institute

Current Society leadership:

President - Harris Romanoff, EE 1998; Vice President - Nancy Harris, EAS 1987; Vice President - Russ Miller, EE 1969; Vice President - Jim Brennan, CE/SYS 1970; Secretary - Carl Clyde, EE 1983; and Treasurer - Stan Warchaiser, EE 1958.