



Engineering Alumni Society

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

Monday, September 27, 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 (CT)	T	Jocelyn Nelson – AD	
Henry (Hank) Guckes – VP	X	Ernest Churchville – D	X	Bill Kane – AD	T
Matt Quale – Sec (TX)	T	Richard Cisek – D (CA)	T	Harry Vartanian – AD	
Nancy Harris – Tres.		Carl Clyde – D		Wayne Robbins – AD	
Harris Romanoff – PP	X	Seville Mannickarottu – D	X	Craig Schorr – AD	
Tim Carlsen – PP	X	Eileen McCarthy Feldman – D	X	Jane Fried Sheinfeld – AD	T
Dick Mulford – PP		Russ Miller – D	T		
Marion Hubing – PP		Jason Rifkin – D		David Goldstein – AL	
Eric Benshetler – PP	X	Alan Shultz – D	X	David Solomon – AL	
Walter Korn – PP	X	Stan Warchaizer – D	X	Andrew Franklin – AL	
Brad Abrams – PP				Bob Boyce – AL	
		Ellie Davis		Paul McLaughlin – AL	X
		George Hain		Ashish Chauhan – AL (CO)	T
		Rosette Pyne	T	Greg Bedrosian – AL	T
AL = member at-large		Janice Rafferty	X	Jeremy Reeh – AL	
T = indicates teleconference				Jin Chung (NY)	T
(XX) = indicates location				Dan White (CA)	T

President's Welcome and Remarks (F. Fresnel)

Farnia opened the meeting at 6:00pm. April meeting will be 25th April 2011.

Dean's Remarks (E. Glandt)

The Dean was not in attendance as he is in California.

Approval of July 19, 2010 Minutes (F. Fresnel)

Minutes were approved with no corrections.

Development Office Report (G. Hain)

George was not in attendance as he is in California. Stan inquired regarding the 23 acre purchase next to Schuylkill River – what is the purpose?



Engineering Alumni Society

Career Services Report (R. Pyne)

- 83 companies at Engineering Career Day (30% increase); held at the Sheraton this year and Dean Glandt really liked the venue. Companies and students both liked the venue. 1100 students participated; Merck donated an iPad as a raffle prize.
- Hank and Eric were thanked for their participation in the Mock interviews.
- Lockheed Martin will be doing a technology day.
- On-campus recruiting starts tomorrow in the recently upgraded interview suite (\$1 million upgrade).
- Some students have offers already; nothing statistical, but it seems to be a higher percentage than previous years; mostly due to summer internships
- Just started 3rd annual virtual career fair for Biotechnology with Johns Hopkins, Princeton, RPI and Penn.
 - Companies are posting jobs until 1st week of December; 2nd week of October students can begin to review online and apply
 - Traditionally this is a tough area to get companies to recruit in because the discipline is relatively new
 - Last year there were 65 employers, many of which had multiple job openings
 - Government labs, medical device, private labs, research companies
 - Only includes Bachelor & Masters; there is a separate career fair for PhD candidates
- Government fair starting in the next week for a significant number of jobs in Engineering.
- A couple of the programs are coming up for their accreditation reviews, which requires significant data compilation by the Career Services office.

ACTION: R. Pyne to compile data for Biotech Virtual fair to compare last year to this year.

SEAS Engineering Alumni Society Online

- Website (R. Miller)
 - Uploaded BBQ pictures
- Wiki Pages (J. Brennan)
 - Jim and Rich to connect offline and talk about the Wiki pages.
- Social Networking (B. Kane)
 - Discussion section on LinkedIn is starting to see some usage, including comments to the articles that are posted there
 - 706 members on LinkedIn
 - Search on “Penn Engineering Alumni” to find the group and join
 - Bob brought up a previous article posted about cell phones and radiation hazard; he will talk to Bill offline.
 - Tim asked if the website updates are mirrored to Facebook/LinkedIn; there currently is not, but is probably something that can be easily done.
 - Janice mentioned that there may be a change in the official Facebook group for Penn Engineering to align with other schools.



Engineering Alumni Society

ACTION: All – review Board Bios and send Russ any updates/pictures.

ACTION: Jim, Rich, Dan, Jen - connect on the Wiki pages for updates

ACTION: Russ & Bill – discuss how to post EAS Web updates on Facebook/LinkedIn

Homecoming (10/29 – 11/1) (A. Shultz)

- Everyone should have received the agenda booklet in the mail
- There is a program on Saturday re: the Science of Social Networking
- 4:30 or immediately following the game will be the Eng. post-game reception
- 11:00 – seminar on the value of diversity
- Register online for everything but the football game (separate invitation to come shortly)
- Young Alumni Award of Merit celebration for Harris on Friday evening

D. Robert Yarnall Award (S. Warchaizer)

- Information used last year was sent to the committee; George is working on an update for the leads, which should be available shortly
- Three of the five committee members have turned in their recommendations
- First telephone meeting scheduled 6th of October from 2-3 for the committee
- Must wait until the 15th of October for any web submissions to come in; although we have never gotten nominations via this means
- First choice and back-up choice will be presented at the next Board Meeting, with a vote planned for the November Board Meeting
- Tim requested to be added to the committee
- Quick review for new members: must have graduated at least 20 years ago; review includes: career accomplishments, support for the University in the way of service, financial support for the University – although financial support is not in any way required

ACTION: Stan – send Tim the information for the initial committee meeting

ACTION: Bill – add a link on Facebook/LinkedIn to the nomination form on the web



Engineering Alumni Society

Student Mentoring (D. Carswell)

- No update at this time
- Background: Career Services office has a library on alumni who are interested in mentoring students, and they match the alumni with 2nd semester Freshmen who are mentored either at home during the breaks, or on/near campus during the school year
- Paul met with his mentee just before the meeting, and commented that the students have a broad range of questions that they need guidance on – not just straight engineering career guidance. This could include summer internships, summer housing, cultural questions, etc.
- Can sign-up online to be an alumni mentor at the EAS website

Speaker Series (E. Churchville)

- Ernest is actively seeking energetic presenters for our meetings; talked with Bob about potential leads
- Farnia requested any other potential leads be sent to Ernest

Increased Participation in Alumni Activities (E. Benshetler)

- Reunion planning for upcoming class reunions:
 - Penn Reunion Leadership Conference (PRLC) in Late March/ Early April
 - Has been more focused on class gift
 - Programming side main kickoff is Late Sept/ Early Oct
 - Meeting for classes that end in 1 and 6, were just held
- Committee will work with other Board members in classes ending in 1 or 6 to see if they want to join the outreach effort
- 2's and 7's will kickoff this coming Spring, and the committee will work with Board members in these classes to start participation early
- Affinity groups are also being asked to help reach out to alumni

SEAS Alumni Worldwide Network (H. Romanoff)

- Coordinating with Penn Clubs; each of these clubs potentially have school “Seats”, so this is an opportunity to get Engineering alumni who are active in the Regional Penn Clubs to tie back in to the Engineering Alumni Society
- Rich may be used as a guinea pig to test out the approach since his relocation to California
- This is another opportunity for new potential Board members to join the effort
- Committee still is gathering information and needs to formally define their goal(s)

Patent Presentation (H. Vartanian)

- Not present, no update.



Engineering Alumni Society

Engineering Week Career Panel (S. Mannickarottu)

- Discussion with Farnia to transition information from last year. Will likely post to LinkedIn/Facebook to solicit potential panel members.

Senior Design Competition (W. Korn & S. Warchaizer)

- Walter will setup conference call for the committee shortly
- Walter has been in contact with the President and Senior VP of Research at The Franklin; hoping to get either students and/or faculty from the Science Academy in Philadelphia as part of the outreach effort
- Interesting occurrence involving social networking/web/senior design; have been posting the Senior Design web winners for the last couple of years; 2009 2nd place winner wanted to use the video off the web for a YouTube application to be forwarded to a potential employer; this clued the committee in to the fact that the video links went inactive due to recent changes made by the University. The link was restored and the student was very thankful and is volunteering to be a future judge.
- 29th of April for the next competition.

New Idea Update: SEAS Community Outreach (S. Mannickarottu)

- Idea is new to the Board – look at area Middle, High Schools where we can increase the participation of our Board with existing programs.
- Possibility to have the person (Megan) who runs one of these programs come to speak to the Board
 - Largest concern is the risk of not having sufficient enough ongoing involvement to provide continuity for the current programs
- The attraction is having actual Engineers who are/have practiced in the field, rather than students
- Consider posting to the website to get potential volunteers

ACTION: Seville to send Russ a first draft of text to advertise and Russ will help refine.

Getting to Know EAS Membership & Around the Table (All)

- Eileen McCarthy Feldman - 2002 M&T graduate
- Seville Mannickarottu - 1999 EE graduate; manages the undergraduate BioEng Lab
- Walter recommends a program at The Franklin related to the “computers” of WWII who were women who worked in the US on a top secret program; available through PBS store in mid October
- Seville – Bioengineering will be putting more focus on presentation skills to try to improve their performance in the competition
- Hank asked about the different names referred to on the top of our agenda for the Board; Tim offered more about the history on standardizing the names across the different schools
- Tim is very excited about the direction and participation on the Board



Engineering Alumni Society

- Harris seconded Tim's comments
- Alan commented on a recent article run on the GRASP lab and robots being used for security to combat terrorism
- Matt thanked the participants for moving the phone around during the meeting
- Jeanine seconded Matt's comments
- Farnia thanked everyone again for participation; this weekend is the first Spectrum event on diversity, hosted by Sulaiman Rahman, ENG'97, including the ex-Mayor of Atlanta, Shirley Franklin G'69, HON'07.

ACTION: Farnia – followup with Dan and Jin on future involvement

Adjournment (F. Fresnel)

The board meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:37pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 25, 2010 at 6pm in Room 307 Levine Hall.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Matt Quale.