



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 16, 2013 6pm, Room 307 Levine

Attendees:

Dean Eduardo Glandt		Robert Berkovits – D	X	Nisar Amin – AL	
Matt Quale – Pres	X	Jim Brennan – D	X	Greg Bedrosian – AL	
Ernest Churchville – VP	X	Jeannine Carr – D	T	Jason Bethala – AL	
Carl Clyde – VP	X	Dane Carswell – D		Bob Boyce – AL	
Stan Warchaizer – VP	X	Andrew Franklin – D		Alison Capone – AL	
Sevile Mannickarottu – Sec	X	Bill Kane – D		Ashish Chauhan – AL	
Henry (Hank) Guckes – Tres	X	Paul McLaughlin – D		Richard Cisek – AL	
		Russ Miller – D	X	David Goldstein – AL	
Brad Abrams – PP		Jay Olman – D	X	Ramsey Kraya – AL	
Eric Benshetler – PP	X	Jason Rifkin – D	T	Nikos Lioutas – AL	
Tim Carlsen – PP	X	Alan Schultz – D	X	Michael Magaraci – AL	
Farnia Fresnel – PP	X			William McGill – AL	X
Marion Hubing – PP				Jeremy Reeh – AL	
Walter Korn – PP	T			Wayne Robbins – AL	
Dick Mulford – PP				Jane Fried Sheinfeld – AL	
Harris Romanoff – PP		Dawn Becket - AD	X	David Solomon – AL	T
		Alison Capponi – AD		Dan White (CA) – AL	
Ellie Davis	X	Jocelyn Nelson – AD			
Gabrielle Gary	X	Eileen McCarthy Feldman – AD			
George Hain	X	Craig Schorr – AD	T		
Rosette Pyne	X	Harry Vartanian – AD			



Dean's Welcome (E. Glandt)

- The Dean was not able to attend.

President's Welcome and Remarks (M. Quale)

- The meeting was called to order at 6pm.
- Matt mentioned that the Dean was not available but he will be attending for some upcoming meetings.
- Richard (Dick) Fallow's wife passed away.
- Matt expressed that the Singh center is very impressive. It has a lot of open spaces and study/group meeting spaces.
- Introduced Gabrielle Gary who is the new Development Office liaison for the Alumni Society.

Approval of July 15, 2013 Minutes (M. Quale)

- The following corrections were noted:
 - Page 9 – Needs to be clarified that Tim is Chairing the PE presentation and not the patent presentation which is done in alternate years.
 - Page 5 – action move may meeting to 12th not 12st

Open Action Items:

- Approved with corrections noted above.

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – None

Action Items from May Minutes (S. Mannickarottu)

- **Paul** – needs photo, contact info, bio for the website - Paul was not available at the meeting, but this item is pending.
- **Bob** – needs photo, contact info, bio for the website. - Bob will update it this week.
- **Matt** - move April meeting to the 21st. - Done
- **Matt** - move May meeting to the 12th. - Done
- **Matt** - re-evaluate day for senior design competition based on calendar – May 1st? - It will be on May 1st.
- **Matt** - include career fair on the calendar. - Done.
- **Matt** - redistribute calendar. - Done
- **Matt** – Select members for the nominations committee - pending
- **George** – Provide an updated of the Yarnall candidates to Jim. - done



Open Action Items:

ACTION: Paul – needs photo, contact info, bio for the website.

ACTION: Matt – Select members for the nominations committee.

Development Office Report (G. Hain)

- Gabrielle Gary started today.
- Things are a bit slow but the first mailing will be out by the end of the month.
- Noted that we've now built three buildings – the new focus is to get endowed faculty positions.
- It is an interesting challenge to raise money for an endowed chair rather than something physical.
- Farnia asked about discussions regarding adding extra floors on Levine. George responded that it is possible to add two floors to Levine, so that might happen. The cost to add one floor is 10 million and an additional is 5 million.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – None

Career Services Report (R. Pyne)

- Rosette discussed the Engineering Career Fair which took place on September 12th:
 - Over 1485 students attended
 - They had 105 employers which was the maximum allowed by the Sheraton
 - It was the third year the event was held in the Sheraton.
 - Approximately 1/3 of the recruiters were alumni
 - SpaceX and Tesla were there.
 - Matt helped bring DOW to come recruit.
 - Manufacturing companies was there.
 - They had a booth for free professional pictures for LinkedIn profiles for students – at least 400 students took advantage
 - The Dean's reception the night before the event at the Singh center was fantastic
 - Thanked her team and expressed that she received lots of support from them.
 - Rosette developed a SEAS Alumni brochure about externship and mentorship program which was given out to the alumni recruiters.
 - Several employees commented that this was the best career fair in comparison to other top tier schools.
- Mock interview day is coming up – Hank Guckes, David Solomon and Dawn Beckett are



Engineering Alumni Society

involved are helping.

- She mentioned an upcoming event: the NYC economic commission along with several startups will be having a panel discussion in Berger auditorium followed by a networking event.
- Biomedical virtual fair in the spring semester
- Environmental systems fair coming up.
- Government policy fair later this semester.
- Externships sometime over winter break – would prefer engineering companies
 - Tim asked to be on this.
- Matt – was at the Wednesday and Friday events; He noted that students would wait to speak to the first company rather than go to the end of line of companies and work their way back. He suggested that an app be created to aid students.
- The board thanked and congratulated Rosette for another great career fair.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Owner – None

SEAS Alumni Network Worldwide Debrief & Update (J. Rifkin)

- They are in the process of scheduling the next event
- Jay, through development office, was able to obtain a list of NY area alumni
- 80-100 people attended the summer event which was a great success.
- A survey was given to the attendees –
 - 5-7pm was original time for the event; Many requested later that it be later in the day.
 - Lot of people would have liked to have the event on Friday
 - Jason pointed out that Friday would be difficult in terms of finding a venue and having people actually show up.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

Graduate Student BBQ Debrief (H. Guckes)

- There are approximately 800 graduate students at SEAS; Approximately 650 people attended (not all were graduate students)
- Someone at the BBQ informed Hank that we won't be able to have beer next year due to a new Penn policy.
 - George stated that the Dev. Office has not heard of such a policy.
 - As we did not hear an official statement, we will proceed with the beer.



Engineering Alumni Society

- Matt suggested splitting up the group into two line with two sign up tables
- Volleyball did not happen – probably because of the heat.
- Iron Hill brewer who also served was great.
- Ernest mentioned that a person (perhaps a student) was harassing him as he was leaving.
 - It was agreed that for the next event security should be requested
- Need to update announcement sent to students that a US issued photo ID or passport are the only acceptable forms of ID in order to get the beer.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: – **Hank:** Update planning sheet to reflect having two lines

ACTION: – **Hank:** Update planning sheet to request security

ACTION: – **Hank:** Update planning sheet to have announcement state that US issued photo ID or passport is required to get alcohol

Alumni Society Awards Update (J. Brennan)

- The committee is moving forward on the Yarnall award
- Tim and Walt will be joining the committee.
- The committee hopes to contact the nominees next month.
- After determining the recipient, the committee will move forward to look at future awards.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: **Sevile** – Add Tim and Walt to the awards committee and redistribute contact list.

Homecoming Update (J. Brennan)

- Nov 9 is homecoming
- They are now selling event tickets and passes.
- Russ pointed out that during homecoming, there will be:
 - Football game against Princeton at noon.
 - Basketball game against temple at 5pm
 - Afterwards, Bill Cosby will be speaking
- Alan asked we need to register for homecoming.
 - George Hain said that while it is not necessary, it would be a good idea
 - Jim planned on confirming the registration process



Engineering Alumni Society

- George Hain mentioned that there would be a tour of the Singh Center before the game
- Eric pointed out that Farnia will be receiving the Young Alumni of Merit Award at the Alumni Award of Merit Gala which is to be held the night before.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

Maintaining Website (R. Miller)

- Added April and May Meeting Minutes to the Archive
- Removed an outdated link to Alumni Admissions for Legacies
- Updated the Meet the Board and Welcome Pages for 2013-2014
- Made Alumni Weekend and the Summer Barbeque past events
 - Included pictures of the Barbeque thanks to Felice
- Added videos from the Senior Design competition
- Added the updated EAS Calendar
- Added the updated description for “The Benefits of Professional Licensure Seminar”
- Updated the online Yarnall Award Nomination Form
- Working with Jim on the changes for the event description of “Alumni Society Awards”
- Changed the name of Career Panels to “Student Engagement Committee” and updated the description.
- Matt stated that Brad was asking about the calendar and where it is located on the website.
- Matt said that the July meeting date will need to be updated.
- The Yarnall award ceremony has not been listed on the calendar
- Rosette asked if pictures from Engineering Career Fair could be put on the web page. Russ stated that it could.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION: Russ: Event description for “Alumni Society Awards” to be updated

ACTION: Matt: Double check date for the Awards reception and will add it to the calendar.

Improving Social Network Presence Update (R. Miller)

- Currently, there are 303 members on Facebook, from 293 in July. LinkedIn increased from 2747 in July to 2865 in September.
- Russ thanked Rosette and her team for posting jobs



Engineering Alumni Society

- Thanked Hank for screening people through quakernet – many who requested to be on the LinkedIn site are not students or alum.
- There were some alumni who were could not access quakernet but joined the LinkedIn group. Russ provided them with info on how to reconnect on quakernet

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

Guest Speaker Update (E. Churchville)

- Inviting Systems Engineering Professor Emeritus Iraj Zandi.
- George pointed out that Iraj Zandi's son is Mark Zandi, an economist for Moody's Analytics

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

Student Engagement Committee (J. Olman)

- Jay informed the board that there are many Engineering student groups and the committee would need lots of help.
- The committee will be attending a ESAC Meeting in the hope of reaching all the groups.
- Rosette pointed out that there is a new student group for algorithmic trading
- Dawn stated that AWE was asking the board to collaborate with a faculty tea that they run, but to make it a faculty-Alumni tea on Friday October 18th. They are requesting 5-10 alumni (not necessarily women); It will be from 3-4:30pm.
- It was suggested that we could post various events on LinkedIn so that we can reach a wider audience.
- Rosette noted that we have a limited number of alumni available, as those who participate in one event may not be as interested in participating in another.
- Seville stated that the committee is working with Bioengineering to have a networking event on November 7th to be aligned with BE's celebration of their 40th anniversary. They are hoping to get at least 20 alumni.



Engineering Alumni Society

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

Around the Table (All)

- Alan: Discussed the 'Back to Penn Engineering' event –
 - Matt agreed to distribute the email.
 - Selected ESE111 for the course
- Farnia: Penn Spectrum will be taking place this weekend. Thanked Matt for helping to get DOW as the flagship sponsor.
 - On October 29th, the University is hosting the 'Time to Shine' event. Probably does not include free parking.
- Hank: Asked how to get parking passes for the meetings. Matt said that one had to have emailed Patricia (petz@seas).
- Tim: Congratulated Farnia for the Young Alumni of Merit award.
- Stan: US News and World report top University rankings lists PENN as tied w/ MIT and Duke. There is also a competitive listing based on average starting salary which Penn did not do that well on.
- Eric – Offered Flyers preseason tickets.
- Jim – Nov 8 and 9 is homecoming.
- Jeannine – She is chairing the by-law committee: According to by-laws, she is not qualified to chair the committee. She will follow up with the committee to discuss the details.

Adjournment (M. Quale)

The board meeting was adjourned at 7:14pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 21, 2013 at 6:00pm in Room 307 Levine Hall (Location to be confirmed).

Minutes prepared and submitted by Seville Mannickarottu.