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

Monday, September 14, 2020 6pm, Virtual Only

Attendees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Executive:</th>
<th>Directors:</th>
<th>At-Large Members:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dean Vijay Kumar</td>
<td>Dawn Becket</td>
<td>T Jason Bethala</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jay Olman - Pres.</td>
<td>T Jim Brennan</td>
<td>T Ed Chan</td>
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<td>Carl Clyde - VP</td>
<td>Lyle Brunhofer</td>
<td>Parth Chopra</td>
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<td>Lauren Hedvat - VP</td>
<td>T Jonathan Dunsay</td>
<td>T Lamis Elsawah</td>
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<td>Jonathan Lombardo - VP</td>
<td>Yijie Hu</td>
<td>T David Goldstein</td>
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<td>Bernard Jones – Sec.</td>
<td>T Ramsey Kraya</td>
<td>Patricia He</td>
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<td>Robert Berkovits – Tres.</td>
<td>T Paul McLaughlin</td>
<td>Scott Levitt</td>
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<td>Kush Mehta</td>
<td>T George Lin</td>
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<td>Past Presidents:</td>
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<td>Jeffrey Ng</td>
<td>T William McGill</td>
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<td>Brad Abrams</td>
<td>Jason Rifkin</td>
<td>T Vasiliki Papanikolopoulos</td>
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<td>Eric Benshetler</td>
<td>Craig Schorr</td>
<td>T Aastha Puri</td>
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<td>Tim Carlsen</td>
<td>Heather Stern</td>
<td>Manasi Puri</td>
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<td>Farnia Fresnel</td>
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<td>Marion Hubing</td>
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<td>Walter Korn</td>
<td>Ernest Churchville</td>
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<td>Matt Quale</td>
<td>T Qi Fang</td>
<td>T Faculty/Staff:</td>
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<td>Harris Romanoff</td>
<td>Ryan Wade</td>
<td>T Jamie Grant</td>
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<td>Sevile Mannickarottu</td>
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<td>George Hain</td>
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<td>Associate Directors:</td>
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<td>Guests:</td>
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<td>Ken Chen</td>
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<td>Emily Miller</td>
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<td>Sushmitha Yarrabothula</td>
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X=In-person T=Telephone V=Virtual
I. Call to Order (J. Olman)
   ■ Called the meeting to order at 6:05pm

II. President’s Welcome & Remarks (J. Olman)
   ■ Thanks for joining this evening
   ■ It’s easier to join on video, though not preferred over in-person
   ■ Looking forward to talking about how we will work with one another

III. Development Office Report (G. Hain)
   ■ Development Update
     ● Surpassed annual fundraising goal
     ● Approaching fundraising goal for new Data Science Center
     ● Tentatively approved for original 4-floor plan…wanting 6 floors
     ● Will have Cyber Security Department
     ● Annual giving calls are starting
       (1) Did callers ask to increase gifts? Please provide feedback…
   ■ Feedback needed
     ● Virtual Events
     ● No more in-person events over next few months at least
       (1) What topics should we discuss?
       (2) What timeframe is best and when during the course of the week?
     ● Jay – Did you see survey about virtual events?
       (1) 13 folks confirmed they are interested
       (2) Amrita Singh – new member
         (a) Bio Tech and cert. in engineering entrepreneurship
     ● Lamis – 1hr max and during the week
       (1) Interesting speakers, UPenn alumni
       (2) Can we do small in-person events?
         (a) George - UPenn would not sanction it
     ● Wade – 1hr with three speakers talking 20 minutes each
     ● Brennan – after an hour attention goes away
       (1) Good that we can expand our reach virtually
     ● George – Dean Vijay Kumar is interested in doing many events
       (1) Might do something timed for India and China to get better attendance
       (2) Possible smaller events where people can meet each other
     ● Brad – NY folks on call have done regional events
       (1) Should we be doing regional events, or doesn’t it matter anymore in a virtual world?
     ● Rifkin – people come for the networking component, which is non-zoom, but a face-to-face aspect
(1) Unless it’s a speaker series, it might not be beneficial to host specific regional event

- Bob – I sent some topics
- Working up a survey on topics of three 20min speakers
- Sevile – Gather town app is an interesting way to network virtually that is different Zoom

IV. Career Services Report (J. Grant) – Not on call

V. Old Business:
   a. Approval of July 20, 2020 Minutes Directors
      a. Approved
   b. Open Action Item Review (B. Jones)
      ■ None
   c. Committee Update
      a. 30 people responded to survey
         i. Please complete form or feel free to update responses
      b. Need to determine who wants to lead and which will have subcommittees
         i. We should wrap this up this week
      c. Any Director on the Board is required to participate in at least one committee

VI. New Business:
   a. Ongoing QuakerNet Update (B. Richards)
      a. Revisions to QuakerNet - a new beneficial development
         i. www.quakernet.alumni.upenn.edu
         ii. Online directory of alumni, less flexible than Linkedin
         iii. University will be upgrading QuakerNet
            1. More flexibility to connect and a new platform for engaging points
            2. In demo phase currently
      b. Jay – it’s good to help us learn better ways to reach out to other people
      c. Sevile – in the past, folks wouldn't update info…is there anything planned to help resolve that dated information issue
         i. Brad – Yes, there will be an onboarding process to update data and engage people
   b. Future Meeting Format and Materials (J. Olman)
      a. In the past, meetings cover old business and discuss plans for expected business
         i. My hope is to answer questions we don’t know the answer to yet; this will be a part of future agendas
ii. If there’s anything you want to share with the group, time will be made for that as well

c. Ease of Communication Outside of Meetings (J. Olman)

a. Jay – “I’m a disorganized person”
   i. Often in a mad scramble before meetings to catch up…it happens to everyone
   ii. Getting started seems to require a lot of momentum
       1. In a work setting it’s less of a problem because of more dynamic small message exchanges that get the ball rolling
       2. Some committees have been silent
       3. There needs to be a way to get discussions going and for things to happen. i.e. a democratic approach
   a. What types of ideas will help increase frequency and ease communication between meetings?
   b. Lamis – Slack is a good project management piece of sw
      i. Asana is another good one to keep people accountable
   c. Wade – a swift kick in the butt email from Sevile can also help
   d. Kush – Slack is used for more than committees, but also for sharing and internships
   e. Quale – we have many platforms, so let’s not forget about good old email…

4. Jay – am I the only one that does this
   a. Anything that helps folks fit things in is good…it’s a problem that’s always been there
   b. Sevile – some groups using Slack didn’t have enough participation
   c. Jay – Need discussion forum that facilitates smaller forms of discussion
      i. Could post agenda there
      ii. Can have different channels for committees and initiatives
      iii. Send private messages
   d. Me – do any of these communication platforms require more bandwidth?
      i. Jay - Not sure…
         1. Don’t expect to replace zoom for meetings
2. Only for messaging and discussion
   e. Kush – Experienced no bandwidth issues with Zoom or Slack
   f. Brennan – need it to be secure and prevent crashing by outsiders
   g. Jay – we should give Slack a try
      i. committee chairs tend to be bottle necks, so perhaps this will help make more progress

VII. VII. Around the Table All
   a) Brad – great to see everyone and excited to discuss fall
   b) Jim – good opportunity and happy to have new camera to participate
   c) Amrita – thanks for having me and looking forward
   d) Bernard - Post meeting happy hour drink?
      ■ Zoom room is dedicated to meeting, so feel free to stay on
   e) Bob – IEEE conflicts sometime
      ■ We want committees and speakers by October?
   f) Jeffrey – Slack is great

VIII. Adjourn (J. Olman) – at 7:00pm

The next meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2020 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm, Virtual Only

Minutes prepared by Bernard Jones.