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

Monday, October 12, 2020 6pm, Virtual Only

**Attendees:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th><em>Executive:</em></th>
<th><em>Directors:</em></th>
<th><em>At-Large Members:</em></th>
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<tr>
<td>Dean Vijay Kumar</td>
<td>Dawn Becket</td>
<td>V Jason Bethala</td>
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<td>Jay Olman - Pres.</td>
<td>V Jim Brennan</td>
<td>V Ed Chan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carl Clyde - VP</td>
<td>Lyle Brunhofer</td>
<td>Parth Chopra</td>
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<td>Lauren Hedvat - VP</td>
<td>V Jonathan Dunsay</td>
<td>V Lamis Elsawah</td>
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<td>Jonathan Lombardo - VP</td>
<td>Yijie Hu</td>
<td>V David Goldstein</td>
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<td>Bernard Jones – Sec.</td>
<td>V Ramsey Kraya</td>
<td>V Patricia He</td>
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<td>Robert Berkovits – Tres.</td>
<td>V Paul McLaughlin</td>
<td>V Scott Levitt</td>
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<td>Kush Mehta</td>
<td>George Lin</td>
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<tr>
<th><em>Past Presidents:</em></th>
<th><em>Associate Directors:</em></th>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Ng</td>
<td>Aditya Sreekumar</td>
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<td>Brad Abrams</td>
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<td>Eric Benshetler</td>
<td>V Craig Schorr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Carlsen</td>
<td>V Aastha Papanikolopoulos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farnia Fresnel</td>
<td>V Manasi Puri</td>
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<td>Marion Hubing</td>
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<th><em>Associate Directors:</em></th>
<th><em>Faculty/Staff:</em></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>V George Hain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Quale</td>
<td>V Brad Richards</td>
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<td>V Qi Fang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harris Romanoff</td>
<td>V Jamie Grant</td>
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<td>Sevile Mannickarottu</td>
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<th><em>Guests:</em></th>
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<tr>
<td>Ken Chen</td>
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<td>Emily Miller</td>
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<td>Sushmitha Yarrabothula</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandeep Bhat</td>
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<td>V Shira Rieke</td>
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X=In-person  T=Telephone  V=Virtual
I. **Call to Order (J. Olman)**
   - Called the meeting to order at 6:06pm

II. **President’s Welcome & Remarks (J. Olman)**
   - Thanks everyone for joining this evening
   - Sandeep Bhat - joining for first time – Bioengineering, living in Princeton, NJ
   - Shira Rieke - joining for first time – Also bioengineering, class of 2018, living in NYC
     - Got involved via Kush

III. **Development Office Report (G. Hain)**
   - Perhaps you heard press release stating that Penn will open up more in Spring
     - That is subject to change; there may be 15-20% more students on campus with a focus on students in labs
   - COVID-19 testing on campus
     - Approximately 5 - 12 positive tests out of 1500 per week
       - (1) This is quite low
     - Bob B. - Is it Penn’s policy to retest?
       - (1) Unknown
     - Testing is not considered highly accurate
     - Several initiatives Penn Med is working on, including saliva-based tests
     - Dogs also being used for sniff testing
   - Fund raising still heavily focused on new Data Science Building
     - Dean Vijay Kumar wants it to be six stories, but it will at least be four stories
     - Located at 34th and Chestnut St.
   - Annual giving started off slowly, but currently back to almost where we were this time last year
   - February Challenge will be based on the number of donors, not dollar amount
     - Announcement will come before Feb, with a matching gift
     - Committee members will be asked to donate on February 1

IV. **Career Services Report (J. Grant) – Not on call**
V. **Old Business:**
   a) Approval of September 14, 2020 Minutes (Directors)
      - Minutes Approved
   b) Open Action Item Review (B. Jones)
      - No open Action Items
   c) Committee Update (J. Olman)
- Been slowly but surely getting things together and working on getting chairs/leads setup
- Members are urged to use Slack to stay in the loop

VI. **New Business:**

a) **SF Bay Area Event (B. Richards)**
   - Virtual events; each fall supported by Brad, George, and Dean Vijay Kumar
     - Bay Area Young Alumni event will take place on Thursday Oct. 29th
       - (1) Michael Kerns will provide “TED Talk” like discussion

b) **Homecoming Virtual Town(e) Hall Event (B. Richards)**
   - The week of 11 November
   - Virtual Homecoming this year
     - University wide events Mon – Sat
       - (1) Dean Vijay Kumar and Senior Associated Dean Dave Meaney will conduct Town(e) Hall style event
     - Open to everyone at 5pm on Wednesday 11 November
     - Jay - Is there a limit to how many people can attend?
       - (1) No – Penn is using the top tier Zoom product
     - Bob – no buffet this year 😊
     - Jay - Why aren’t other schools having events with their Deans during homecoming?
       - (1) Brad - Some other schools have already conducted Dean events

c) **Communication/Slack Update (J. Olman)**
   - Thanks to all who have joined Slack
   - There are some that have had difficulty joining
     - Jay - I can invite folks and am happy to send invites
     - Email will still be the official place to receive important notices, such as meeting announcements.
   - Bob – will a list of different committees be available on Slack?
     - Jay - Yes, anyone can join the different channels
   - A private channel has been made for Yarnall Award
   - Sandeep – is Penn moving exclusively to Slack?
     - No indication at this time
VII. Around the Table All

a) George – thanks to everyone and new members for attending
b) Matt – tip: if you hold spacebar down, Zoom unmutes
c) Jay – regarding post meeting discussions, this meeting’s Zoom link is available for this meeting specifically
d) Lauren – I will donate soon, save the callers
e) Jim – found lengthy presentations that explains Slack, which is better than short ones
f) Paul – for those who are eligible, please vote!
g) Bob – checked google on science behind COVID research…getting more detailed characterizing aerosols with and without masks
   ■ What are good mathematical models for pandemic?
   ■ Dr. Paul O. is at Penn Med, Children’s Hospital

h) Sandeep – glad to be here
i) David – I’ve already voted and looking forward to when we can get back into the same room together for meetings
j) Eric – finally retired; can be involved with Engineering Alumni again
   ■ Teaching online is still taking up a large amount of time for Penn State

VIII. Adjourn (J. Olman) – at 7:00pm

*The next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2020 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm, Virtual Only*

Minutes prepared by Bernard Jones.