

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

Monday, April 12, 2021 6pm, Virtual Only

Attendees:

Executive:		Directors:		At-Large Members:	
Dean Vijay Kumar		Dawn Becket	V	Jason Bethala	
Jay Olman - Pres.	V	Jim Brennan	V	Ed Chan	
Carl Clyde - VP		Lyle Brunhofer	V	Parth Chopra	
Lauren Hedvat - VP	V	Jonathan Dunsay	V	Lamis Elsayah	V
Jonathan Lombardo - VP	V	Yijie Hu	V	David Goldstein	
Bernard Jones – Sec.	V	Ramsey Kraya	V	Patricia He	
Robert Berkovits – Tres.	V	Paul McLaughlin	V	Scott Levitt	
		Kush Mehta		George Lin	V
Past Presidents:		Jeffrey Ng	V	William McGill	
Brad Abrams		Jason Rifkin		Vasiliki Papanikolopoulos	
Eric Benshetler	V	Craig Schorr	V	Aastha Puri	
Tim Carlsen		Heather Stern		Manasi Puri	
Farnia Fresnel				Amrita Singh	V
Marion Hubing		Associate Directors:		Aditya Sreekumar	
Walter Korn		Ernest Churchville			
Matt Quale	V	Qi Fang		Faculty/Staff:	
Harris Romanoff		Ryan Wade	V	Jamie Grant	V
Seville Mannickarottu	V			George Hain	V
		Guests:		Brad Richards	V
		Ken Chen			
		Emily Miller			
		Sushmitha Yarrabothula			
		Sandeep Bhat	V		
		Shira Rieke			
		Wendy Sandinsky			

X=In-person T=Telephone V=Virtual

- I. Call to Order (J. Olman)**
 - a) Meeting called to order at 6:08pm
- II. President's Welcome & Remarks (J. Olman)**
 - a) Jay lucked into a Covid-19 vaccine this weekend and is not feeling 100%
- III. Development Office Report (G. Hain)**
 - a) Year ending June 30, 2021 - doing very well on the total fundraising annual goal and have the opportunity to set a new fundraising record
 - b) On the other hand, annual giving is not having as strong of a year
- IV. Career Services Report (J. Grant)**
 - a) No changes from last month; waiting for guidance from the University and City of Philadelphia on what kinds of events can be held
 - b) Just launched Class of 2021 survey and the results from the Class of 2020 are on the website and the Masters students will be loaded shortly
 - c) Timelines for employers really stretched out on decision making for Internships with the exception of Finance who are almost done recruiting for Summer of 2022; Computer Science and Data Science (python and R) are most in demand
- V. Old Business:**
 - a) Approval of March 8, 2021 Minutes (Directors)
 - Approved as written
 - b) Open Action Item Review (B. Jones)
 - c) 2020 Yarnall Award Presentation (J. Olman)
 - Jay joined the Board of Advisers meeting last month to present the 2020 Award to Lloyd Howell, ENG'89; the ceremony went very well and the department was able to get a picture of the signed award to use during the presentation
- VI. New Business:**
 - a) 2021 Board Slate S. Mannickarottu
 - Seville presented the proposed slate of Board members for the 2021-2022 academic year on behalf of the Nominations Committee
 - One correction was noted by Seville from what was emailed out to the Board and one additional correction was note by Eric
 - The Board will vote on the proposal at the May annual meeting
 - b) Yarnall Award J. Brennan
 - After presentation of the recommended recipient last month, the Board voted unanimously to approve the committee's proposal tonight
 - c) Alumni MedTech Career Panel J. Ng

- Team has created a panel based on strong response of interest to participate in the panel; various roles will be covered (JAY - you can paste the panelist info here if you want, I couldn't capture them all during the meeting)
 - Scheduled for 4/21 at 7pm EDT
 - Ryan Wade will be hosting the event
 - Already have 12 respondents to the event which will also be recorded
 - Also working with Emily in Career Services to make sure students hear about the event via various channels
 - Will also send a flyer out to other schools (beyond BioEngineering)
 - Lamis suggested we market on the yPenn Alumni and Penn Alumni Instagram accounts
 - Sign-up survey also includes opportunity to pre-ask questions; Ryan will also create initial questions to send to the panel
 - Will also attempt to track where students heard about the event to learn what was the most effective marketing
 - Format: will be sure to include plenty of time for the participants to ask questions - either through chat or by unmuting; question on whether to also include breakout rooms after the session; George Lin mentioned that the Zoom capability is good but participants will need to have a recent version of Zoom installed
 - Jay and Bernard attended an ASME alumni dinner and conversation recently; there was a Zoom event initially and then a separate platform (AirMeet) was used which had much more sophistication around joining "tables" and moving but the platform isn't quite polished yet
 - Seville mentioned that the panelists should be prepared for students to be reluctant to have their cameras on; significant video fatigue is setting in
- d) Senior Design Competition J. Olman and B. Richards
- Lyle discussed the scoring approach this year; still going to use the standard categories for scoring, but there will be prizes based on those categories instead of only best overall scoring
 - The new scoring rubric will be provided to all of the judges before the event
 - Since scoring will be done virtually and at each Judge's pace (by stated deadline), each judge will have their own Google Doc and can change their scores up until the deadline
 - Brad: plan for a couple of hours the first week of May to watch the student videos; currently have 59 judges signed-up and still accepting more judges; will have a live awards ceremony on 5/11 at 12pm EDT

VII. Around the Table (All)

- Seville: the semester is almost over and he has had the pleasure of hosting one of the few undergraduate in-person classes

- Bob: if we want to have a guest speaker after the virtual meeting he is willing to schedule that and has presenters in mind; recognizes that this has been a tough year
- Lamis: for those starting fasting tomorrow "Ramadan Mubarak" (Have a blessed Ramadan)
- Brad: thank you to Jim again for his hard work on Yarnall; in response to question about coffee chats, there were quite a few held in the Fall but not planned in the Spring
- Lauren: has some feedback on marketing which she will get to tonight
- Eric: excited to see the new approach to Senior Design in light of the changes
- Jon Dunsay: he is signing up for Senior Design judging and recommends everyone else do the same
- George Lin: happy to talk about venture investing at a future meeting
- Jeffrey: Thank you all for the feedback on the panel event
- Paul: IEEE is hosting an event with the opportunity to meet with US Representatives and Senators and is happy to pass on any priorities from the Board; he is planning to hit education, STEM, and immigration for student hiring
- Sandeep: excited about senior design and bio senior design; there is a new app called Clubhouse with 10 alum on it, but no way to get on it
- Bernard: apologies for being late but a work meeting came up at the last minute

VIII. Adjourn (J. Olman) – at 7:05pm

The next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2021 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm, Virtual Only

Minutes recorded by Matt Quale and formatted by Jay Olman.