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

Monday, April 11, 2022 6pm, Virtual Only

**Attendees:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Executive:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Directors:</strong></th>
<th><strong>At-Large Members:</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dean Vijay Kumar</td>
<td>Dawn Becket</td>
<td>V Jason Bethala</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Dean David Meaney</td>
<td>Jim Brennan</td>
<td>Sandeep Bhat</td>
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<td>Jay Olman - Pres.</td>
<td>V Lyle Brunhofer</td>
<td>Ed Chan</td>
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<td>Carl Clyde - VP</td>
<td>V Jonathan Dunsay</td>
<td>Parth Chopra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Hedvat - VP</td>
<td>V Yijie Hu</td>
<td>V Lamis Elsawah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Lombardo - VP</td>
<td>V Ramsey Kraya</td>
<td>V David Goldstein</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bernard Jones – Sec.</td>
<td>V Paul McLaughlin</td>
<td>Patricia He</td>
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**Past Presidents:**

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<tr>
<th><strong>Past Presidents:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Guests:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Faculty/Staff:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Ng</td>
<td>V George Lin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brad Abrams</td>
<td>Jason Rifkin</td>
<td>V William McGill</td>
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<tr>
<td>V Craig Schorr</td>
<td>Vasiiki Papanikolopoulos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Carlsen</td>
<td>Heather Stern</td>
<td>Aastha Puri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farnia Fresnel</td>
<td></td>
<td>Manasi Puri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marion Hubing</td>
<td>Guest:</td>
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<td>Eric Benshetler</td>
<td>V Ken Chen</td>
<td>Aditya Sreekumar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Quale</td>
<td>V Emily Miller</td>
<td>Kevin Turik</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harris Romanoff</td>
<td>V Jackie Moriniere</td>
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<tr>
<td>V Sushmitha Yarrabothula</td>
<td>Satellite:</td>
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<td>Shira Rieke</td>
<td>Jamie Grant</td>
<td>V</td>
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<td>V Wendy Sandinsky</td>
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<td>Brad Richards</td>
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**Associate Directors:**

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<th><strong>Associate Directors:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Faculty/Staff:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Michaele Rainey</td>
<td>George Hain</td>
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<td>V Emily Parry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qi Fang</td>
<td>Ricky Rajani</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Wade</td>
<td>Chase Bender</td>
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<tr>
<td>V Emily Parry</td>
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X=In-person T=Telephone V=Virtual
I. Call to Order (J. Olman)  
   a) Meeting called to order at 6:03pm

II. President’s Welcome & Remarks (J. Olman)  
   a) Welcome to the April meeting; this is the second to last meeting of the year (2021-2022)  
   b) There are a handful of members missing from today’s meeting because of Spring Break  
   c) I’m also away for the weekend and will be presenting from a smaller screen

III. Development Office Report (G. Hain)  
   a) Development Report – we’re doing great!  
      ■ We’ve already surpassed our yearly goal  
      ■ The Roy Vagelos fundraising goal is relatively small  
         ● We are close to reaching the goal  
      ■ Dean Vijay Kumar is leading the intersection of medicine and engineering  
      ■ Engineering annual giving is doing well; largely due to the successful February Challenge  
      ■ Chase – Regarding the buildings; when you say “X” dollars, are they specific allocations for each building or do you take money for other areas  
         ● George - No, it’s specific to those buildings  
         ● Chase – Do we have a development website?  
            ▪ George – Yes, the development office has a dropdown menu for many development projects

IV. Career Services Report (J. Grant)  
   a) I’m happy to report Career Services has recently gone through some administrative changes  
   b) Emily Parry is a newer member of Career Services:  
      ■ Track alumni outcomes  
      ■ Help with Masters programming  
      ■ MCIT online is growing with more alumni  
   c) Link to class of Career Plans:  

V. Old Business:  
   a) Approval of March 3, 2022 Minutes (Directors)  
      ■ Minutes approved  
   b) Open Action Item Review (B. Jones)
Jay to Contact Dr. Stubbs
  • I will discuss this during the meeting

VI. New Business:

a) 2022-23 EAS Board

  S. Mannickarotto

  • Sevile – The most recent past president is in charge of the nominations committee
  • As the past president for three years, we give Jay a break
  • [Discussed listing of nominations (see list distributed)]
  • One thing with directors, it’s a three-year term, but there is a two consecutive term limit
    • We follow this strictly
    • Welcome Ryan Wade and Lamis Elsawah as directors
    • Associate Directors Sandeep Bhat and Amrita Singh
  • Jay – We will vote on these positions next month at the annual May meeting
  • Please email me or Jay with any comments
  • I will pass on a giant spreadsheet to Jay

b) Yarnall Award(s)

  J. Olman and J. Brennan

  • Jim is not here to talk about the current year’s Yarnall Award
  • I will report on the 2021 Yarnall Award, which was presented at a reception related to the Board of Advisors meeting
  • It went well, and I had not attended one in the past
    • Johnathan Brassington, recipient of last year’s Yarnall Award, was very appreciative
    • Development office made it very easy to see this through
    • We will be in catch-up format going forward regarding deciding on the recipient and when to present it

c) Senior Design

  L. Brunhofer

  • Brad - Lyle is not here
  • It’s a very exciting time at UPenn Engineering; Senior Design Competition time!
    • Very much looking forward to in-person presentations
    • Friday April 29th
    • This year we will do both virtual and in-person Senior Design Judges
- In-person:
  https://www.alumni.upenn.edu/2022seniordesignjudginginperson

- Online:
  https://www.alumni.upenn.edu/2022seniordesignjudgingonline

- Please use the links above to sign-up
- Students are back in classes and will be creating presentations with two options (dual format)
  - YouTube review dates: April 25th-28th
  - Enter your virtual judging at your leisure
  - Friday will be the in-person competition for interaction with judges and students and Q&A
  - 800-430pm on Friday April 29th
  - Hoping both in-person and virtual will have great turnouts
  - Student will be doing amazing projects this year
  - Awards will all be presented on the same date with Dean Vijay Kumar and Lyle Brunhofer

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

- Had been trying to get in touch with Dr. Stubbs
  - We had a meeting where she presented an overview of her office & team and how they operate, which was provided in a slide presentation and sent to the distro prior to tonight’s meeting
  - I encourage you all to review the presentation

- Where we left off on next steps:
  - There is an ODEI Alumni Board as well, doing things orthogonally to us, and very active
  - Rather than us trying to develop things on our own, we should support the types of things they are doing and become their ally
  - The next step with them would be to meet with their leadership to determine how we can be of the most help and to let them know about our existence
    (a) Jay, Dawn, and Lamis to meet with their board
  - Dawn – This is a great way to get us started moving forward
Lamis – I’m excited about the future we have

e) Meet the Board

[See Slides]

- Born in China in city of Uhan, which has about 11M people
- Went to university in Shanghai
- Then came to UPenn
  - Got MSE in Telecommunications
  - Started with E2 startup
    (a) MLB is their biggest client
    (b) Company was then acquired by IBM
    (c) Had long commute and left for another startup in renewable energy
      (i) Waste energy conversion in mid-Atlantic
    (d) Got MBA to Pennsylvania University, outside Philly
    (e) Then Neu Group…
    (f) Then joined investment bank Mufson Howe Hunter
    (g) After 4 years, joined StoneMor group, one of largest cemetery stone companies
      (i) They sold me on restructuring, but that didn’t pan out
    (h) Joined UDG Healthcare in 2019
      (i) In mid-2021 it was acquired
        (a) Then it was acquired again by Huntsworth
      (i) Uncertain where I’ll go next, but excited to see where it takes me

- Born in 80’s and raised by grandparents
- Married with wonderful goofy husband who is also an engineer
- Newest addition to our family is a Shih Zue, named Waz, he and his brother are named after the founders of Apple computers
My husband and I did a startup called Plasmid, created an app called biological scales using metrics from fitness watches that’s a fitness game

- The game was showcased at the Ben Franklin Institute next to the giant heart exhibit
  - Originally pitched for heart patients
    - Decided making it a game might make it more interesting
- We go on really like long drives; drove 1,000 miles from Philadelphia to Orlando in a day
  - During stops along the way we enjoy the art and photograph things
  - Next trip will be VA Beach
- I guarantee my life is more than what’s shown in these power point slides
- Jay – How do you decide how far is too far to drive?
  - My husband has driven farther than 1,000 miles
- George – How many miles between breaks?
  - Depends on when we get gas
  - George – I grew up in FL and drove it in 3 days, I thought I was going to die
- Brad – Do you switch off?
  - Yi – I’m the photographer and navigator
  - It was bad last November, we spent 20 hours in the car due to accidents, but it should have been 16 hours
  - A Giant Peach we photographed was in Georgia
- Brad – There are a bunch of new board members; perhaps this is a good way to get to know your new members
- Jay – Bernard will present prior to the Board Nominations meeting on May 9th

VII. Around the Table

All

a) Bernard – Great presentation and it was wonderful getting to know you
b) Brad – Alumni Weekend URL:

UPenn is starting reunions back up

UPenn Engineering tent:
- New location on Woodland Walk, near the new college house (aka old Hill Field)
- Wendell Pritchett is the Interim President
- Electric Racecar Team will be there
- Dean Vijay Kumar will be attending
- The reception will start at 1pm sharp on Saturday, May 14th; please sign-up

c) Seville – Is Jay handing a check to the interim president?
- Yes, the photo shoot with the check is at 1pm sharp

d) Eric – Looking forward to SDC in a month

e) George – Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Engineering tent

f) Jason Rifkin – Good to see everyone; I’ll try to continue to attend

g) Carl – According to Wikipedia, the Giant peach has it’s own page:
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peachoid

h) Earnest – Textbook on phone is progressing well with triple integrals

i) Bob – Great meeting – you’ve done great in the times of COVID
- Will try to make it to alumni weekend
- Will wait until July for planning for next year with guest speaker

j) Jay – I want to thank Ryan for suggesting the Meet the Board initiative
- Next meeting is May 9th

k) Yi – I signed up for the virtual SDC

l) Sandeep – Impressed with Sevile and BE

m) Dawn – Great presentation; informative, fun, and interesting

VIII. Adjourn

a) Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm

The next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2022 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm, Virtual Only

Minutes prepared by Bernard Jones.