

**Minutes of the Engineering Alumni Society Board of Directors**  
*University of Pennsylvania*  
*Philadelphia, PA 19104*  
[eas.seas.upenn.edu](http://eas.seas.upenn.edu)

**Monday, January 9, 2023 6pm, Virtual Only**

**Attendees:**

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

X=In-person T=Telephone V=Virtual

- I. Call to Order** **B. Jones**
- a. Meeting called to order at 6:04pm
- II. President's Welcome & Remarks** **B. Jones**
- a. Bernard: I hope everyone had a happy and safe New Year! I was in Time Square in the days leading up to the New Year
- b. Had a meeting with Kush for EDAB to discuss maintaining an alumni mentorship pipeline
- c. Emails exchanged with Ernest and Bob for speakers in March, April, May timeframe. Several interesting potential speakers for possibly our next meeting.
- III. Development Office Report** **G. Hain**
- a. George is in India
- b. Brad: we are continuing to trend very well with our financial goals. George and Vijay were in India, and now they are in Singapore. Will be back at end of next week.
- IV. Career Services Report** **J. Grant**
- a. Jamie: also in Times Square for New Years! Well underway for our planning (<https://careerservices.upenn.edu/career-fairs/>). First event is spring career and internship fair for undergrads and grad students. Many employers holding back on commitments, delaying start dates. Layoffs in industry affecting hiring here. I am co-chairing STEM fair. Working with People Growth pilot for training and mentoring program, looking to build pipeline for mentorship.
- b. Seville – how does this work with current mentoring program?
- i. Jamie: this is a reboot (e.g., a 2.0 of current program). This framework could be used for other similar programs
- V. Old Business:**
- a. Approval of prior EASB Meeting Minutes **Directors**
- i. November Minutes – Minutes Approved
- b. Open Action Item Review **J. Lombardo**
- i. None
- c. Dawn:
- i. AWE update: Lamis and I reached out to Michelle a number of times in first semester. Nothing coming together yet. In past, if no events, considered hand selecting individuals identified as active seniors that may want to remain active. Normally, we have events, and those events automatically introduce us to those interested in AWE. Does this make sense, and if so, what route to

take (e.g., meet president, learn about Board, attend a meeting to see what is involved)?

1. Bernard: Any way to get candidates on our radar would make sense to me.
2. Dawn: In past, would need to identify people staying local. Now that is less important. I can review people with you, Bernard.
3. Lamis: I can reach out to engineers that I know. Did Michelle respond to us? I agree with your idea.
4. Dawn: Michelle may be busy. We would like to set up a Zoom meeting. Will keep trying. Thinking this may be a Plan B, which can help us at least get moving by end of year and contact engaged seniors.
5. Bernard: feel free to involve me in any way I can help.
6. Jay: in the past it has been difficult to get new alumni to get involved immediately.

**VI. New Business:**

a. Regional Meetings/Updates

B. Richards

i. Brad:

1. Two dates to key in on:
  - a. Friday April 28<sup>th</sup> – in person Senior Design
  - b. Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> – Alumni weekend
2. Regional outreach: several events in the works – Seattle in March, Boston in April, NY in May, and the Bay Area in June. Also looking at Philadelphia and Central NJ (will discuss central NJ with Sandeep)
  - a. Looking for any feedback from you all

ii. Bernard: any tentative dates?

1. Brad: in flux. Trying to nail down faculty
  - a. June 7, 8, or 9 for Bay Area. Will be coming out there with online learning staff to engage our online learning alumni (similar to what we did in Seattle). Goal is to engage our online communities, which are growing very quickly. We want to connect them with greater alumni group



family is a tradition. Love classical music – I live near the Lincoln Center and play piano. Love Legos – got more interested during quarantine

VII. **Around the Table**

**All**

- a. Bernard: from Homecoming weekend, there were some photos taken. Should I send them to Jeffrey?
  - i. Jeffrey: Yes
  - ii. Bernard: meeting minutes too?
    - 1. Yes, good through last meeting. Will add most recent
- b. Jeffrey: went skiing
- c. Seville: was great, great to be back.
- d. Ernest: holiday was good. Spent time with wife and children. Now subbing at all Springfield Township elementary, middle, and high schools teaching all subjects and grades. Very busy! Book is going well too! Happy New Year everyone
- e. Jon Dunsay: was good. looking forward to next meeting
- f. Brad: great New Year. nothing else from me.
- g. Jamie: had a great new year and things going well. Excited for busy spring!
- h. Jay: nothing specific to add, great presentation Lauren! Thanks to Ryan for coming up with this idea!
- i. Ryan: rocking my 16-month daughter to sleep during that presentation. Wife sick with whooping cough, but everyone on the mend now.
- j. Lamis: went out in NYC on New Year's Eve but left before ball dropped.
- k. Lauren: Thanks everyone for listening and it was great to speak today!
- l. Sandeep: I am at a high school wrestling match now. Happy New Year folks!
- m. Paul: Happy New Year everyone! Got a new puppy right before Christmas
- n. Yijie: Went to fireworks on waterfront. Very good presentation!
- o. Wendy: I am in Philadelphia now, but spent New Years in Boca Raton FL. Did champagne fountain! Great to be back with group.
- p. Eric: spent New Years with friends. I am teaching Econ starting tomorrow. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy new year!
- q. Matt: Happy New Year everyone! Thanks, Lauren for the great presentation!
- r. Carl: great holiday, despite retiring from the Mummies, spent time in town for the holiday.
- s. Jon: holiday was good! Happy New Year everyone

- t. Bob: Happy New Year everyone! Almost went to Florida, but it was cold down there. For speakers there is Professor Bassett working with quantum computing. Professor Megan Ryerson is also a good candidate
- u. Lyle: Love helping out with Senior Design. Definitely excited for in person part
- v. Dawn: Happy New Year everyone. For New Year holiday went to Central Park
- w. Marion: Lauren - loved your presentation! My New Years was quiet! Looking forward to working with the Board this year!
- x. Bob: for chemical engineers saw a note about MIT solving 99% of micro-plastic problem! Saw it online.

VIII. **Adjourn**

**B. Jones**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm

***The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2023 from (6:00pm to 7:00pm)***

Minutes prepared by Jon Lombardo