

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

Monday, April 10, 2023 6pm, Virtual Only

Attendees:

<i>Executive:</i>	<i>Directors:</i>	<i>At-Large Members:</i>	
Dean Vijay Kumar	Yijie Hu	V Jason Bethala	
Associate Dean David Meaney	Ramsey Kraya	Ed Chan	
Bernard Jones - Pres.	V Ernest Churchville	V Parth Chopra	
Dawn Becket - VP	Robert Berkovits	V David Goldstein	
Lyle Brunhofer - VP	V Jim Brennan	V Scott Levitt	
Jeffrey Ng - VP	V Carl Clyde	George Lin	
Jonathan Lombardo – Sec.	Jonathan Dunsay	V William McGill	
Jason Rifkin – Tres.	Lamis Elsayah	V Vasiliki Papanikolopoulos	
<i>Past Presidents:</i>	Lauren Hedvat	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			
Matt Quale	<i>Guests:</i>		
Harris Romanoff	Ken Chen		
Seville Mannickarottu	V Emily Miller		
Jay Olman	V Jackie Moriniere		
	Sushmitha Yarrabothula	<i>Faculty/Staff:</i>	
<i>Associate Directors:</i>	Shira Rieke	Jamie Grant	V
Sandeep Bhat	Michaile Rainey	George Hain	V
Patricia Z. He	Wendy Sandinsky	V Brad Richards	
Kush Mehta	V Ricky Rajani	Emily Parry	
Craig Schorr	V Chase Bender	V Monica Stepanow	
Amrita Singh	Madeline Maurer		
	Archit Dhar (joined for first time)	V	

X=In-person T=Telephone V=Virtual

- I. Call to Order** **B. Jones**
- a. Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM.
- II. President's Welcome & Remarks** **B. Jones**
- a. Bernard:
- i. No Meet the Board presenter tonight.
 - ii. Welcome a new member attending: Archit Dhar, 2021 grad, BSE & MSE in Systems Eng.; Pres. Of Eng. Dean's advisor Board, Hexagon member and Commencement Speaker.
- III. Development Office Report** **G. Hain**
- a. George: Doing well. Most of the fundraising dedicated to capital projects, such as Amy Gutman Hall and Vagelos Labs by the Ice Skating Rink. SEAS is 25% owner of the new Vagelos Labs building.
- b. Thanks to Seville, Lauren and Matt for their great work on the February challenge. We had well over 600 donors and got match, thanks to the challenge.
- c. Doing well with annual giving.
- d. Brad could not join but says to make sure to sign up for Senior Design, as it's the last call.
- e. Alumni Weekend is May 13. Our tent will be out on Hill Field. Come out to the tent; come out early. Our new President may stop by early (around noon).
- f. Bernard: Note that before that weekend, our next meeting is May 8, as the calendar shows. There will be nominations, discussed later this meeting, to vote on at the next board meeting.
- IV. Career Services Report** **J. Grant**
- a. Planning fiscal 2023 already. Career Day will have virtual date on Wednesday September 13 and in-person on September 14.
- b. Working on Graduation Day.
- c. Next summer will move to Career Services only building at 3939 Walnut St. (the "McDonald's Building"). Move date: July 1, 2024.
- d. Pilot of having space in the Engineering School was wildly successful and will continue.
- V. Old Business:**
- a. Approval of prior EASB Meeting Minutes **Directors**
- i. Two sets of meeting updates. Minor updates to January minutes

- ii. March minutes: Correction: In Around the Table, minutes state “Funeral on Friday” for Walt Korn. Should state he graduated as: (EE '57, GEE '68) and funeral was Friday after our January meeting, January 13.

- 1. Unanimous vote for March minutes, with minor corrections.

b. Open Action Item Review

J. Dunsay

- i. No Open Action Items.

VI. **New Business:**

a. Yarnall Award - Presented on March 30

J. Brennan/B. Jones

- i. Bernard: Presented in a new building, on the 10th floor. Great presentation and format. Extremely worthy candidate. Recipient will be working on the floor below where award was presented.
- ii. Ryan Wade: Same building that my company is moving to.
- iii. George Hain: Our lease is for 10 years.
- iv. Jim Brennan: great candidate; amazing resume. Looking forward to next year.

b. Senior Design – Judges Last-Call

L. Brunhofer/B. Jones

- i. Bernard: Last call to sign-up
- ii. Lyle: looking forward to in-person

c. 2023-2024 EAS Board

J. Olman

- i. Jay: Reminder of how the process works; three categories of Board members: Executive, Director, and Associate Director
- ii. Executive: Each serves a one-year term, with a limit of 3 consecutive terms.
- iii. Associate Director: a one-year term.
- iv. Director: Eligible to serve two consecutive terms of 3 years. Some musical chairs possible after then.
- v. Want to do 3 things with roles:
 - 1. Everyone should be active, with the most active in roles requiring participation.
 - 2. One thing pointed out was to make sure there's representation of different populations across different board roles: current board reflects current student population more than in past.
 - 3. Some turn taking will be required, as is usual in the process.
- vi. Most of executive leadership stays the same with small changes.
 - 1. Propose rotating Yijie into the Treasurer role.

- vii. Switching from Treasurer to Director is Jason Rifkin.
- viii. Kush had been but moved to time zone where hard to meet; able to meet again recently.
- ix. Sandeep has been active.
- x. Reach out to me if any questions.
- xi. If you look closely at by-laws, the Nominations Committee is not formally established as sole decision maker. But based on experience to recommend what the next board slate should look like.
- xii. Eric: The idea is to find a slot for everyone who is interested in helping.
- xiii. Rob Berkovits: As a past treasurer, beware of false emails requesting money.
 - 1. Jay: We never actually requested any money, so ignore if it seems we do so.
- xiv. Bernard: Yes, watch out for phishing.

d. EDAB Earth Day and Mentorships

K. Mehta/B. Jones

- i. Kush: Passionate about rejoining as Director.
- ii. Dr. Sonia Gwak wants to join students and alumni for Earth Day celebrations.
- iii. If you are in Philadelphia, it would be great to attend in-person: Sat., April 22, 2023, 2-4 PM, S. 45th & Regent St., Green Shed.
- iv. Joining with Penn Engineering Student Learning and Engagement (PESTLE)
- v. Bernard: What to bring?
- vi. Kush: Comfortable clothing (older) and shoes. All other material is provided; keep an eye on the weather.
- vii. Bernard: Will check with Brad to email.
- viii. Bernard: Is there a limit to turnout?
- ix. Kush: The more, the merrier. Even if material required to do work runs out, you can still build relationships with students.
- x. Jay: Families? Five-year old?
- xi. Kush: Think that it's fair game, but watch the weather.
- xii. Bernard: Water provided? Food?
- xiii. Kush: No water; bring one. Do not think there is food.
- xiv. MENTORSHIP. Bernard: mentorship pairing is usually preferred with more recent graduates (1-6 year recent grad) and not the more seasoned board members.
- xv. We may send an email to solicit candidates.

- xvi. Kush: Spot-on. Was President of Penn Engineering Council (PEC) in past. EDAB had a successful event with a chat between seniors and freshman. Want to have alumni, senior, and freshman to have a chat. Let's follow-up offline and see if we have interest from students. One-hour phone call is the commitment.
 - xvii. Lamis: I am interested in this.
 - xviii. Jeffrey: I see these as more like a coffee chat type setting. I am on People Grove (PG); how is more formal mentorship facilities using this?
 - xix. Kush: PG is focused on MEAM. Major focused and curriculum driven. Kind of like a pilot. Right Jamie?
 - xx. Jamie: Yes, the idea is to launch next year for all undergrads. Plan to do more off-site at alumni employers.
- e. Penn Engineering Council (PEC) Co-host Happy Hour **B. Jones**
- i. Madeline Maurer and Ciara Jacobs are interested in co-hosting a happy hour. They could generate a list of students to attend. We would work to find a co-host location. George, are there funds available for something like this?
 - ii. George: Allergic to funding anything with alcohol. Anything funding seniors in April may be hard because they won't show up.
 - iii. Bernard: Okay if funding went to food?
 - iv. George: Less allergic
 - v. Robert Berkovits: Had a visiting prof. from Stanford and had an event for the students. Today, EE and Systems are combined, right?
 - vi. George: Yes, Eduardo combined them several years ago. George Pappas is the chair of EE/Systems Engineering.

VII. **Around the Table**

All

- a. Jon: Let's compare notes for names, please, for minutes.
- b. Ernest: Look forward to Senior Design Competition coming up.
- c. Jay: Great meeting.
- d. Paul: Happy Easter, Passover, and Ramadan. Enjoy the Spring.
- e. Craig: Nothing else.
- f. Lyle: Nothing else.
- g. Yijie: As treasurer of my household, I hope that everyone has confidence in me and look forward to next board meeting.
- h. Archit: Look forward to it.

- i. Eric: George, two awards at Commencement are technical co-sponsored by EAS, could we get info about the recipients? We used to do pro-forma approval of their nomination; S. Reid Warren Teaching Award and the E. Stuart Eichert Student Award.
- j. Jamie: Outcomes for this year link is live: Post-Graduate Outcomes interactive data set available.
- k. Chase: None from me.
- l. Jeffrey: None.
- m. Jim: Great meeting.
- n. George: Forgot to mention, this Sat. April 15th, have San Diego presentation with Dean. I am having a hip replaced on April 26, so won't be able to attend Senior Design.
- o. Lamis: All the best George. All the best for the season.
- p. Bob: We should talk about speakers. Can they put the alumni weekend pass in the tent instead of Alumni Center to help those who have problems with mobility? They have golf carts for those who need.
- q. Ernest: If in a bind for speakers, I could do a presentation on communication around the world. Kind of stuff that I do.
- r. Wendy: I enjoyed the mtg and hope to join you IN PERSON for design competition! Happy celebrating all holidays!

VIII. **Adjourn**

B. Jones

- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2023 from (6:00pm to 7:30pm)

Minutes prepared by Jon Dunsay