# Minutes of the Engineering Alumni Society Board of Directors

*University of Pennsylvania*

Philadelphia, PA 19104

[www.seas.upenn.edu/alumni/](http://www.seas.upenn.edu/alumni/)

Monday, February 27, 2017 6pm, Room 307 Levine

**Attendees:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dean Vijay Kumar</th>
<th>Robert Berkovits – D</th>
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<th>Oladayo Adewole – AL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Seville Mannickarottu – Pres</td>
<td>X Ernest Churchville – D</td>
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<td>Sarah Badin – AL</td>
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<td>Dawn Becket – VP</td>
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<td>Andrew Botelbo – AL</td>
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<td>Jim Brennan – VP</td>
<td>X Hank Guckes – D</td>
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<td>Lyle Brunhofer – AL</td>
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<td>Paul McLaughlin – VP</td>
<td>Lauren Hedvat – D</td>
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<td>Alison Capone – AL</td>
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<td>Jay Olman – Sec</td>
<td>X Bernard Jones – D</td>
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<td>Parth Chopra – AL</td>
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<td>Russ Miller – Tres</td>
<td>T Jonathan Lombardo – D</td>
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<td>David Goldstein – AL</td>
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<td>William McGill – D</td>
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<td>Yijie Hu – AL</td>
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<td>Jason Rifkin – D</td>
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<td>Ramsey Kraya – AL</td>
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<td>Brad Abrams – PP</td>
<td>T Craig Schorr – D</td>
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<td>Jeffrey Ng - AL</td>
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<td>Eric Benshelter – PP</td>
<td>T Alan Schultz – D</td>
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<td>Matthew Serota – AL</td>
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<td>Tim Carlsen – PP</td>
<td>T Heather Stern – D</td>
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<td>Jane Fried Sheinfeld – AL</td>
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<td>Farnia Fresnel – PP</td>
<td>Marion Hubing – PP</td>
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<td>David Solomon – AL</td>
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<td>Walter Korn – PP</td>
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<td>Leah Sutten – AL</td>
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<td>Dick Mulford – PP</td>
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<td>Jeremy Wang – AL</td>
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<td>Matt Quale – PP</td>
<td>X Dane Carswell – AD</td>
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<td>Stan Warchaizer – AL</td>
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<td>Harris Romanoff – PP</td>
<td>X Nikos Lioutas – AD</td>
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<td>Harry Vartanian – AD</td>
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<td>Ellie Davis – F/S</td>
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<td>Gabrielle Gary – F/S</td>
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<td>George Hain – F/S</td>
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<td>Rosette Pyne – F/S</td>
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<td>Brad Richards – F/S</td>
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<td>Vasiliki Papanikolopoulos</td>
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<td>Edmund Hammond</td>
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**Positions:**

Pres: President  
VP: Vice President  
Sec: Secretary  
Tres: Treasurer  
PP: Past President  
D: Director  
AD: Associate Director  
AL: At Large Member  
F/S: Penn Faculty/Staff  
UG: Undergraduate
I. Call to Order (S. Mannickarottu)
   • Called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

   Open Action Items:

   New Action Items:
   **ACTION: Owner** – None

II. President’s Welcome and Remarks (S. Mannickarottu)
   • Thanks to Brad and George and the Development Office for the EAS appreciation brunch and basketball game
   • A lot of stuff today, so we want to try to wrap up everything in order to finish on time.
   • I’d like to introduce Eddie Hammond from the SEAS Council. Eddie:
     o We provide resources and mentorship for students
     o After spring break, we’re having a panel presentation about interning at startups
       ▪ Students don’t always know how to go about getting into the startup search and whether it’s the right thing
       ▪ Looking for Philadelphia startup alumni to join the week after spring break
       ▪ Send people who might be a good fit to Sevile to pass along

   Open Action Items:

   New Action Items:
   **ACTION: Owner** – None

III. Development Office Report (G. Hain)
   • The big news is that Patricia Petz is retiring and tomorrow is her last day.
   • President Gutmann has announced that we’re going to enter another campaign.
   • Having a terrific year

   Open Action Items:

   New Action Items:
   **ACTION: Owner** – None

IV. Career Services Report (R. Pyne)
   • Rosette reports that we had a successful startup fair and spring fair
   • Jay: I attended the startup fair and it was on the snow day, but there was still a good turnout and it was again a really good event.
Open Action Items:

New Action Items:
**ACTION:** Owner – None

V. Old Business:

a. Approval of the January 23, 2017 Minutes (Directors)
   - No corrections needed

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:
**ACTION:** Jay – Update attendance

b. Open Action Item Review (J. Olman)
   - Attendance from November has been updated

Open Action Items:
**ACTION:**

c. EAS Website/Social Networking – (R. Miller)
   - LinkedIn up to 3902, Facebook up to 474
   - Patent presentation is on the site
   - November meeting notes uploaded

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:
**ACTION:**

VI. New Business:

a. Alumni Society Awards (J. Brennan)
   - The candidate has accepted and is interested in coming to the Senior Design Competition.

Open Action Items:
New Action Items:

**ACTION:** Russ – Update title of Yarnall Award page with correct spelling


- Request is in for an alternate date (3/16); once confirmed, an invite will be sent out for the event.
- Bernard will try to post event on the Facebook page.
- The event is at Strangelove’s on 12th St., where we had the last event.
- This is a joint SWE Philly/EAS event, after having an EAS-only event last time.
- SWE has held their own events like this in the past.
- If this event goes well, we could arrange a space and expand in the future.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:** Owner – None

c. Prevention Through Design Presentation – 3/16 (T. Carlsen)

- Currently in a good spot, one revision away from finalizing the announcement
- The committee doesn’t have much experience in this space, but Tim has engaged Bucknell professor Mike Toole to co-present. He’s really involved in this space.
- The event is being held 3/16, a Thursday evening.
- We’re inviting current SEAS students and architecture students as well.
- I’m encouraged and enthused and looking forward to presenting this in a couple of weeks.
- Bob: Is this going to be limited to building construction forensic engineering?
  - Tim: We’re going to have examples from there, but content from other areas as well
- Sevile: This sounds great. It would be great to work with Rosette to push this out to the faculty email list too.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:** Owner – None

d. Patent Presentation – 3/22 (J. Lombardo)

- Presentation is coming together well
- We have speakers and the invitation is compiled
- Tim will moderate again
- Room booked already
e. Regional Engineering Alumni – NYC (J. Rifkin)
   • We’re getting together another event late this month
   • The theme is not yet established
   • We’re reaching out to the past 15 years of alumni. We’re also reaching out to other alumni in the area and not just people living within NYC.
   • If we get 100 or 150 people, we can put together a more formal program if we know to expect so many to attend.
   • Matt: One other suggestion is to look at employment address because of how people commute.

f. Philly Penn Alumni Club – 4/11 (F. Fresnel)
   • We’ve arranged a number of speakers at the Pennovation Center for a panel discussion
   • Now we’re trying to coordinate possible food
   • Matt: That’s spring break for a lot of suburban schools, so we may run into scheduling conflicts for alumni with school-aged kids.

 g. Student Engagement – AWE – 4/24 (D. Becket)
   • The Tassel and Toast event is becoming an annual one.
   • We invite seniors to an hour-long catered event that’s essentially a congrats to graduating students.
   • Seniors want to interact with alumni and we’re able to recruit for the board.
   • The event is being held 4/24 from 6-7pm
   • Hoping to have 5-8 board members attend
   • This is an interesting group to reach out to. Hopefully this helps participation down the road.
New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – None

### h. Senior Design Competition – 4/28 (J. Olman)
- Brad and I met with Gabrielle last week to download all of her knowledge from running the event in the past.
- We’re in good shape for everything.
- I’ve shared the judging criteria with the committee (criteria is the same as last year)
- Any particular high schools anyone feels strongly about inviting?
  - Dawn: The Shipley School came last year and had an amazing time and would love to be invited again.
  - Matt: I’ve been working with the Abington Friends School FIRST robotics team. I’ll pass along the contact info.
- Leah: Are we doing the electronic voting again?
  - Jay: Yes: the same process will be available again and will be presented as the standard scorekeeping method rather than as a backup. Paper score sheets will be available if needed and for taking notes.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION: Owner** – None

### VII. Around the Table (All)
- Bernard: I just got an email back from the venue confirming the night, so I’ll be sending out a note shortly.
- Tim: I’m excited about the device-driven voting for Senior Design
- Eric: Glad to hear so many events are coming up
- EJ: We’ll be choosing a date for the speaker series soon
- Vasiliki: I have a good list of SWE Penn alumni, so I’ll make sure to invite them to the event
- George: Something interesting: we’re a national leader in using Venmo to make gifts to Penn. Also, thanks to the group for your time and dedication.
- Marion: I attended a Penn volunteer leadership conference at the Pennovation Center. I saw a really amazing presentation at the drone and robotics lab. It was really good publicity for the engineering school.
- Sevile: We have a lot of events and I’ll be ensuring they’re all added on the Google calendar.

New Action Items:
ACTION: Sevile – Send out meeting minutes earlier

VIII. Adjourn (S. Mannickarottu)
  • Adjourned at 7:06 pm.

_The next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2017 from 6:00-7:00pm in Room 307 Levine Hall._

Minutes prepared and submitted by Jay Olman