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, November 18, 2013 6pm, Room 307 Levine

### Attendees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dean Eduardo Glandt</td>
<td>Robert Berkovits – D</td>
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<td>Nisar Amin – AL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Quale – Pres</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Jim Brennan – D</td>
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<td>Ernest Churchville – VP</td>
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<td>Jeannine Carr – D</td>
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<td>Carl Clyde – VP</td>
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<td>Dane Carswell – D</td>
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<td>Stan Warchaizer – VP</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Andrew Franklin – D</td>
<td>Alston Capone – AL</td>
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<td>Seville Mannickarottu – Sec</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Bill Kane – D</td>
<td>Ashish Chauhan – AL</td>
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<td>Henry (Hank) Guckes – Tres</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Paul McLaughlin – D</td>
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<td>Russ Miller – D</td>
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<td>David Goldstein – AL</td>
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<td>Brad Abrams – PP</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Jay Olman – D</td>
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<td>Eric Benshetler – PP</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Jason Rifkin – D</td>
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<td>Tim Carlsen – PP</td>
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<td>Alan Schultz – D</td>
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<td>Farnia Fresnel – PP</td>
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<td>William McGill – AL</td>
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<td>Marion Hubing – PP</td>
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<td>Jeremy Reeh – AL</td>
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<td>Walter Korn – PP</td>
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<td>Wayne Robbins – AL</td>
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<td>Dick Mulford – PP</td>
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<td>Jane Fried Sheinfeld – AL</td>
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<td>Harris Romanoff – PP</td>
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<td>Dawn Becket – AD</td>
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<td>Alison Capponi – AD</td>
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<td>Ellie Davis</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Jocelyn Nelson – AD</td>
<td>Sherri L. Wykosky – AL</td>
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<td>Gabrielle Gary</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Eileen McCarthy Feldman – AD</td>
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<td>George Hain</td>
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<td>Craig Schorr – AD</td>
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<td>Rosette Pyne</td>
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<td>Harry Vartanian – AD</td>
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President’s Welcome and Remarks (M. Quale)

- Called meeting to order at 6:02pm
- Provided a quick recap of the 79th Annual Alumni Award of Merit Gala
  - Harris gave a great introduction followed by a great acceptance speech by Farnia.
  - Overall, it was a great event
- Attended the Penn Alumni Board of Directors & Council of Representatives Meeting on the Saturday morning of homecoming.
  - Discussed that alumni groups can be formed through shared interests.
  - Distributed the alumni activities report which shows that our group is very active.
- Engineering Homecoming reception had a great turnout
  - Over 250 people attended vs 80-100 people over the last several years.
  - Large turnout might be connected to the basketball game which followed.
- Mark calendar for the Board Appreciation night on March 1st.

Approval of the October 21, 2013 Minutes (M. Quale)

- Proposal to not print the minutes because of the environmental footprint.
- Proposal approved.
- Russ sent a number of corrections to Sevile.
- Include bio for Dr. Zandi.
- Minutes approved with corrections.

Open Action Items:

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

Action Items from October Minutes (S. Mannickarottu)

- **Bob** – needs photo, contact info, bio for the website. – pending
- **Hank** – Update planning sheet to reflect having two lines, request security and to include in the invite e-mail that US issued photo ID or passport is required to get alcohol – pending – Matt will send him a copy of the planning sheet.
- **Matt** - will send out invite to board for “Back to Penn Engineering Event” – Done
- **Sevile/Jay** - Update planning sheet to reflect having ‘take-aways’ and to work w/ Rosette when determining dates for events. – Done.

Open Action Items:
**ACTION:** Matt: Send Hank a copy of the BBQ event planning sheet for him to update.
Development Office Report (G. Hain)
- Given by Ellie as George is travelling in California.
- There will be an end-of-year solicitations by the development office.
- Walt – Solicitation firm called him. They were very nice and very thorough.

Open Action Items:

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

Career Services Report (R. Pyne)
- Great PE presentation. Tim and Bill attended.
  - Over 40 students attended.
  - Requested that everyone sign up for the externship program.

Open Action Items:

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

Alumni Society Awards Update (J. Brennan)
- Last time the committee mentioned that they had reviewed 11 candidates and they chose two, a primary candidate and a back-up.
- Assuming the board approves, the committee will contact the candidate.
- Tim: The selected candidate should be reviewed and discussed with the Dean and the Development office.
- The Board approved the primary and back-up candidate.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:
**ACTION:**

Sophomore Mentoring - Second Year Externship (P. McLaughlin)
- Program to bring students to alumni work places.
- There are currently 14 of the 20 minimally requested slots filled.
January 8-10 & 13-14 and May 14-16, 19-21 are the dates for these externships.
There is a sign-up sheet available for Board members join.
The hosts do not have to be in the Philly area as the externship is being held during student holidays. They even have a host from Italy.
Deadline is this week for January; for May, the cut off will be around March 15th.
Matt: This is a great way to get involved especially for those who are not local.
Rosette: It is just one day and shouldn’t be too difficult to commit to. EDAB is excited about this too.
Matt: Students will need to provide their own transportation too.
Paul: The event is very similar to ‘take your child to works” if a company has concerns about IP.
Rosette: Reach out to friends too!
Tim confirmed that he, as well as Bill Kane, are on the list.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**

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**Homecoming Debrief (J. Brennan)**
- Blown away by the number of people.
- Gabrielle and Patty did a great job.
- It was a very large event.
- Matt – perhaps next year we might move it to the Singh Center.
- Gabrielle – There were a lot of young engineering alumni.
- Alan – As nice as the post-game reception was, the highlight was the Singh Center tour narrated by Dean Glandt. It was one hour.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**

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**PE Presentation Debrief (T. Carlsen)**
- Very successful event – special thanks to Rosette.
- Mostly juniors, seniors and grad students attended.
- There was Tim, Bill as well as Robert Cargill (MSE 91, PhD 94 in Bioengineering).
- Discussed what it means to be a PE.
They prepared a one page summary sheet with exam dates and how to prepare.
- Better prepared to deal with international students than in previous years.
- Pizza arrived on time which was great.
- Rosette: Very interactive presentation since Tim had videos and pictures.
- PE License is getting more ‘modern’ with exams for various fields including software.
- We should definitely continue doing this.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**

**Back to Penn Engineering Debrief (A. Schultz)**
- Matt: Great turn out to this event just before the meeting.
- Alan stated that they had just concluded a very inspiring class and lab tour experience.
- Saw what goes on interactively between freshmen, faculty, upper classmen and grad students.
- Saw a number of robots.
- Really worth the time.
- Matt: Students also got to see that nothing in the real world ever works perfectly.
- Students had an assignment for 40 new ideas for next week which was a remarkable challenge.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

**ACTION:**

**SEAS Alumni Network Worldwide Debrief (J. Rifkin)**
- The Fall Event went well: It was the second happy hour which was held on Tuesday November 12th.
- Graduates from the last 20 years were invited.
- About 50-60 people attended.
- There were a number of follow ups.
- Hope to have an event for the early Spring.
- Bob, Jay, Farnia and Nikos were instrumental in organizing this.
- Stan: From either event, was there an interest of folks wanting to get involved with the actual Alumni board?
Not really that interested, perhaps because of the location.
- Stan: Perhaps people may wish to be involved in other ways.
- Rosette: Can we use the email addresses of these folks who attended to be used in the externship program?
- Matt: That decision is up to the Dean and Development office. Perhaps add to check-in sheet to ask if you are interested in being involved with other events.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

Student Engagement Committee (J. Olman)
- Bioengineering held an alumni event
- Seville explained that they had 9 alumni attending and about 50 undergraduates.
- Event was held on the 7th of November at the Amado Recital Hall in Irvine Auditorium.
- The students who attended the event enjoyed, and the alumni enjoyed it.
- The students did a very good job of organizing it.
- We were able to give the alumni EAS cards, along with information about the Externship program.
- In general, the event was very successful. Next year the group hopes to begin planning earlier and to start contacting alumni earlier.
- Matt – CBE had an AIChE networking event. It was very good. Sponsored by Dow.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

Maintaining EAS Website (R. Miller)
- Added PE presentation to the events page.
- Worked with Beth to include the externship program.
ACTION:

Improving Social Network Presence Update (R. Miller)

- Russ mentioned that there are up to 2974 people
- Thanked Hank for checking all join requests against Quakernet to verify that they are indeed alumni or students.
- 315 members on Facebook.

Open Action Items:

New Action Items:

ACTION:

Around the Table (All)

- Matt welcomed a new member, Sherri. Matt asked Sherri to introduce herself – Attended the BE networking event, wants to get more involved. Graduated in 2006. Spent 7 years in R&D with DePuy Synthes. Currently, she works as a Business Development Associate at Invibio Biomaterial Solutions.
- Tim: Thanked Gabrielle for helping to feed the students at the PE presentation.
- Harris: Great meeting!
- Russ: Have a happy Thanksgiving!
- Ernest: Plan to have two to three speakers for next few months.
- Eric: Great to see Joe Bordogna at the Gala. Harve Hnatiuk, EE’74 was also there.
- Carl: Mentoring program is going to go in full swing in January.

ACTION:

Adjournment (M. Quale)
The board meeting was adjourned at 6:58pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 13, 2013 at 6:00pm in Room 307 Levine Hall (Location to be confirmed).

Minutes prepared and submitted by Sevile Mannickarottu.