

Villanova University Engineering Alumni Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January, 2003

Members in attendance ( **bold underline** indicates present)

**Steve Lester** , President **John Karpowicz**, 1 st V.P. Matt Marguardt , 2 nd V.P.

**John Happ** , Secretary **Bill O'Donnell**, Treasurer

**Barry Johnson**, **Dean Lynda Cappuzzi** , Asst. Dean Dr. Amy Fleischer, Faculty Rep

Christine Acchione, Alumni Office **Jim Zaleski**, Past President

Butch Acchione **Jim D'Arcy Pat Dougherty**

Carmen Laurelli Walt McDonald **Drew Milligan**

**Sean O'Donnell** Jenny Papatolis **Marco Napoletano** , Student Rep

Others in attendance: None

Excused: Matt Marguardt, Dr. Amy Fleisher (on sabbatical in Germany ), Christine Acchione, Jen Papatolis

#### **Attachments**

- Meeting Agenda Steve Lester
- Treasurer's Report Bill O'Donnell
- ME Liaison Report John Karpowicz
- Recruiting Plan John Karpowicz
- Student Project Proposals (5) Jim Zaleski

#### **Important Dates**

- January 14 th , 2004 EAS January Meeting
- April 13 th , 2003 EAS April Meeting
- June 11, 2004 EAS Awards Banquet

#### **Agenda/Minutes**

- **Welcome: Steve Lester, President**
- Steve called the 61 st meeting of the Engineering Alumni Society to order at 6:06 pm.
- Steve welcomed Marco Napoletano, ESC President and EAS Student Representative.
- Marco is a junior EE and also the Engineering Senator.
- **Minutes: John Happ, Secretary**

The minutes to the 60 th EAS Meeting (September 9, 2003) were approved without change.

- **Treasurers Report: Bill O'Donnell, Treasurer**
- Balance: \$22,400, an increase of \$6,000 since September.

- There are currently 204 paid members, with an incredible 18 that have paid for five years (through 2008).
- The database HAS the ability to filter out multi-year members so that they are not accidentally sent a renewal notice each year.
- Of the 204 members, 48 contributed extra money in support of student projects for a total of \$2,815.
- Thanks to Sean O'Donnell for concept, research and implementation of this online system.

- **Dean's Report: Dean Johnson**

2002-2003 Review:

- The interdisciplinary PhD program has been approved by the Board of Trustees.
- Added five 3+2 (Bachelor AND Masters) Programs
- Added CEE online distance learning.
- Research Grants totaled \$3.5M, an increase of 117%.
- The College's operating budget was increased by 57%.
- Dr. McAssey retired and is now consulting for the college.
- John Molyneux is the Assistant. Dr. Molyneux came to Villanova from the University of Rochester and Widner University .

2003-2004 Plans:

- Institutionalize the 3+2 (five year) program. Almost 50% of professional engineers have advanced degrees. This program is expected to generate great interest.
- Increase student affairs offerings:
  - Mentoring
  - Professional development
  - Hope to double research.
  - Structure Labs
  - 500K Kreskee Proposal
  - \$2.8M to rehab (\$1.1M raised to date)
  - Facility improvements are planned.
  - CEER 210 conference room has been improved – large conference table, lighting, audio-visual, etc. It can now be used to host corporate clients and alumni.
  - A committee has been formed to improve CEER
  - Adding additional distance learning classrooms/facilities.
  - Wireless laptop access.
  - Cafeteria.
- University Development personnel assigned to the college:

- Joan Chrestay
- Andy Baumbach
- The Dean is forming an advisory council that will ultimately consist of 50% alumni and 50% non-alumni. The initial meeting of key alumni will take place in December. This initial meeting will help identify the composition of the committee.
- Question: Technology Transfer
- Dean Johnson is a member of the Fraunhofer Institute in Germany . In addition, Dr. Amy Fleisher has just completed a sabbatical there. This institute has \$1.1 BILLION per year available for research. The college is pursuing a 4-year research grant.
- The Dean noted and wanted to thank engineering alumni for their annual donation. The college of engineering has the highest percentage of alumni participation. That is most commendable and should be strongly encouraged. The college has a number of initiatives that would benefit from increased participation as well as designated donations. Obviously the university prefers unrestricted donations and therefore does not provide space any designation. Please consider donating to the university and designating a portion to the college.
- Miscellaneous:
  - If all of Penn State 's campuses that offer engineering are included, there are an amazing 22 schools of engineering in the state of Pennsylvania . A report once suggested that 5% (1 in 20) of all professional engineers were educated in Pennsylvania .
  - Interesting tidbit: there are only five catholic universities with engineering schools. The only ones that could be named were Notre Dame and Marquette.
- **Membership Report: John Karpowicz, Committee Chair**
- Proudly membership was reported at 204 vs 156 one year ago.
- A second email (reminder) will be sent soon. Sean wants to proof the email to ensure that any web link functions properly. ( **ACTION: John K** ).
- We must be diligent on follow-up and continued contact.
- Thank you letters to be mailed soon ( **ACTION: Sean** )
- After discussing it was decided to post EAS minutes on the web rather than mailing as an attachment. It is still strongly desired to maintain contact with members throughout the year. One thought was to send a student project testimonial/thank you out shortly after each meeting. Student projects are a sentimental favorite of alumni as noted by their extra donations to these efforts. The mailing could also include a note with link that indicates the latest minutes were now available.
- IDEA: consider a target email to members to have them get one new member.
- **Department Liaison Reports**
- **Chemical Engineering: Drew Milligan**
- Nothing new to report
- **Civil & Environmental Engineering: Pat Dougherty**
- Nothing new to report.
- **Electrical Engineering: Jim D'Arcy**
- The 17 th Annual ECE Day, formerly Professional Day, was held on October 30 th .

- Afterwards 10 Alumni participated in review of the Senior Projects Posters.
- **Mechanical Engineering: John Karpowicz**
- See attached. Key points to note:
  - The Birle chair is currently unfilled. Besides world class credentials, the position requires a high degree of involvement with undergraduates.
  - Recruiting two assistant professors (Materials, and Control and Dynamics).
  - Dr. Amy Fleischer, also the EAS faculty representative, just returned from her sabbatical at the Fraunhofferr Institute in Germany . There she was involved in the study of microscale heat transfer in small-scale lasers.
  - The new Mechatronics minor, sponsored in conjunction with the EE department, continues to attract students.
- **Webpage: Sean O'Donnell, Committee Chair (and committee)**
- Plans are to update once per month.
- Send any updates or corrections to Sean.
- **( ACTION )** add the membership renewal form to the webpage for those that want to mail the membership renewal.
- **Awards Banquet: Pat Dougherty, Event Chair**
- Date: June 11, 2004
- Editor's note: the alumni award plaques hanging in CEER do NOT have the 2002 and 2003 award recipients listed.
- Awards Committee: Ed Dougherty, Committee Chair
- **( ACTION Drew / Pat )** contact Ed Dougherty, the new chair of the EAAC (Alumni Awards Committee) and invite him to the next meeting. Also send his email to Steve and John for distribution of minutes, etc.
- The first meeting (organizational) was recently held.
- **Centennial Planning: Dean Johnson**
- Kathy Howe, an external communications expert, has recently been hired by the college.
- Developing a 6-page partnership brochure that can be given to potential corporate partners and key alumni.
- Also developing the following:
  - A 20-page brochure for the college.
  - A 20-page brochure focusing on research.
  - A 6-page brochure for each department (and research center).
- Centennial committee to be formed that includes students, faculty and alumni.
- Considering a significant affair. The law school recently held an affair at the Kimmel Center .
- Events could be held at the end of the 2004/2005 academic year or front end of 2005/2006 year.

- **Student Projects**

- Received five student project requests for funding.
- Allocated \$4,600, which includes the \$2,800 designated from alumni donations.
- Mini Baja: \$1,000.
- SWE: \$600
- Concrete Canoe: \$1,000 (requested the max \$1,500. Facilities (Jim Z) to provide some materials (additives).
- Battle Bot: \$1,000 (requested the max \$1,500).
- Beettle Bot: \$1,000 (requested the max \$1,500).
- Jim Z to send notices to the student projects. (ACTION) copy Lynda.
- Projects receiving funding must agree to the following:
  - Provide a short acknowledgement/thank you that can be emailed to alumni to show EAS support.
  - Make a very short (5 minute) presentation at the start of the April EAS meeting. Dinner to be provided. The intent is to encourage professional development through both the proposal preparation as well as public speaking.
  - Provide project and student support to the planned activities in the Connelly Center during engineers week.
- Attempt to provide project (demo/model) support and IF POSSIBLE student support at the engineering alumni banquet. Student projects generate great interest from the alumni. Attendance at the banquet is NOT mandatory as it is realized that students have summer job commitments and quite possibly will not be in the local area. Any student support is of interest to the students as it will enable the EAS to provide even greater financial support.
- Money is held in continued support of Honduras. The nurses made a fall break trip.

- **Alumni News: Christine Acchione, Alumni Office liaison**

- Nothing significant to report

- **Old Business**

- The EAS is donating a memorial tree at Villanova in the memory of Rich Gatti, a founding member of the EAS and also an adjunct faculty member. ( ACTION Pat ) Contact Rich's family to see when is best for them to hold the memorial service and dedication.

- **New Business**

- EAS Board Membership:
  - ( ACTION Drew / Pat ) contact Ed Dougherty, the new chair of the EAAC (Alumni Awards Committee) and invite him to the next meeting. Also send his email to Steve and John for distribution of minutes, etc.
  - ( ACTION ) Contact Al Fasini. Need email address.
  - ( ACTION Steve, Bill and Jim ) meet with Sarah Carlson to explain the EAS board and gauge interest in having her join it. She has both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Villanova.
  - ( ACTION John H ) review EAS letterhead to ensure that it is up to date.

- Memorial Tree for Rich Gatti
- **Action: Jim Z** to follow up with Kevin O'Donnell.
- Rich's niece works with Pat. He will invite her to the memorial dedication .