

**Minutes of 4/22/2006**  
**Penn State Nuclear Engineering Society Annual Meeting**

Submitted by: Frank Buschman, Secretary/Treasurer

The annual meeting of the Penn State Nuclear Engineering Society was held at 125 Reber Building, University Park, Pennsylvania on April 22, 2006.

Attendees:

- Len Pasquini, President
- Melissa Hunter, Vice President/President Elect
- Frank Buschman, Secretary/Treasurer
- Jeff Jeffries, Immediate Past President
- Larry Hochreiter, Faculty Representative
- Fred Sears, Director, RSEC
- Jack Brenizer, Program Chair, Nuclear Engineering
- Ken Hunt, Board Member
- Jen Butler, Board Member
- Rick Etling, Board Member
- Pat Loftus, Board Member
- Steve Routh, Board Member
- Doug Wood
- Traci Shimmel
- Diana Brenizer

Len Pasquini called the PSNES annual meeting to order at 8:03 am. The first order of business was for all those present to introduce themselves. Following the introductions Jack Brenizer presented the status of the Nuclear Engineering Program.

Currently there are 105 undergraduates and 47 graduate students enrolled in the nuclear engineering program. Of the 47 graduate students; 24 are M.S. and 23 are Ph.D. students with a near 50/50 split between US and foreign students. The undergraduate enrollment has been increasing at a 12% rate since 2000. Using the current enrollment figures and assuming that 33% of the NE students will pursue the NE/ME concurrent majors program there will be between 51-56 juniors this fall. If this trend continues the program will produce more B.S. degrees than ever in two years. Currently work is being done to add a second degree path to the program. The addition of a Nuclear Science option will hopefully add balance to the type of graduates the NE program is producing.

How PSNES can help improve the quality of NE graduates and the visibility of the NE program was discussed. The main area Dr. Brenizer was interested in help from PSNES is bringing the alumni's experience to students by teaching a class, presenting a seminar, or through mentoring students working as interns or coops at their companies. PSNES can help by developing a database to identify alumni interested in these activities.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read by Frank Buschman. Len will draft a mission statement for consideration at the next meeting. Jack Brenizer asked that we try to act more independently from Traci Shimmel, as she is volunteering her time since Kim has not been replaced as the special programs coordinator for the MNE Department. The minutes were approved as read with a motion by Rick Etling and second by Jeff Jeffries.

Len Pasquini discussed the election process to maintain a full board and an update of the constitution which was proposed at the meeting last August. During discussion of the election procedure it was expressed that maintaining a student voice on the PSNES board is important to the Society's goal of improving alumni/student relationships. It was proposed that the President of the PSU-ANS Student Section be made an ex-officio member of the PSNES board. It was also suggested that an effort be made to find a student interested in running for one of the open slots on the board in the next election. Pat Loftus moved, with second by Ken Hunt, that the PSU-ANS Student Section president be made an ex-officio member of the PSNES board. This motion was passed unanimously.

The change to the constitution can not be made at this meeting or the next scheduled meeting of the society because the constitution states that changes can only be made the annual meeting. It was approved that at the next annual meeting the constitution be changed to allow amendment at any scheduled meeting of the society.

Three new board members need to be elected this spring for terms beginning in August 2006. Nominations are being held on the PSNES website until the end of May. Voting will begin at the end of the nomination period and continue until August.

Len Pasquini looked into the possibility of obtaining a block of football tickets to a game this fall. In order to obtain tickets to a game this fall the request and deposit had to be submitted the week before the meeting and the games available were extremely limited. The only home games available were Illinois and Michigan State and availability for any game is not guaranteed.

Len Pasquini led a discussion on how to increase participation in PSNES events. Jack Brenizer and Larry Hochreiter suggested that a NE faculty members could attend a local meeting of PSU NucE alumni organized by a PSNES member. In order to organize a local meeting, a notice could be put in Penn State Engineering magazine or a local section chapter newsletter or one could try to contact HR at their company in an attempt to locate PSU NucE grads. Another suggestion was to attempt to have PSNES participation in the PSES golf outing or other events organized by the college.

The date and location for the next meeting was discussed. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the ANS winter meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico in November. The meeting will be held before the Penn State Alumni and Friends Reception on Monday evening. The time and location of the meeting will be determined at a later date.

### **New Discussion:**

Fred Sears presented the current status of the Radiation Science and Engineering Center. The RSEC submitted its second application for license renewal in December and are currently awaiting comments. The current Associate Director for Operations (ADO) is retiring and Dr. Sears is asking for support in the search for a replacement.

Doug Wood suggested that specific requests to members will get better response than general requests for information or assistance.

Steve Routh expressed concern that with the addition of a nuclear science option in the NE program we must remain strong in the nuclear power area.

Pat Loftus suggested that it may be within the PSNES's role to recognize alumni. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Jack Brenizer received the distinguished service award from PSES.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15am with a motion by Jeff Jeffries and second by Doug Wood.

### **Action Items:**

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| Len Pasquini                  | -Constitution Changes: ANS Student Section President to be an ex-officio member of PSNES board, change amendment procedure to occur at any meeting instead of at the annual meeting |
|                               | -Develop a Mission Statement for consideration at next meeting  |
|                               | -Make contact with Penn State Engineering Magazine  |
| All                           | -Push for internships at companies, try to increase membership among colleagues, try to mentor PSU students who are interning at their companies                                    |
| Steve Routh &<br>Rick Ettling | -Get pictures of active construction sites to Dean  |