

**APPROVED MINUTES OF PSNES ANNUAL MEETING  
(PSU Reber Building & Telecon)  
April 26, 2010**

**10:00 Welcome, Member Roll Call, and Announcements** – Pat Loftus called the face-to-face meeting (with call-in line) to order and confirmed a quorum to conduct business. Dial-In number provided by Jim Tusar. (Thank you!)

**Board Participants:**

Pat Loftus – President  
Rick Etling – VP/President Elect  
Jack Brenizer – Program Chair

**PSNES Directors:**

Doug Wood (Acting Secretary for 4/26/10)  
Jim Tusar (via telecon)  
Jim Stavely

**PSNES Members:**

George Smith  
Jim Adams  
Sam Levine  
Jay Holtz  
Joe Sholtis (via telecon)  
Ron Brown

**Other:**

Don Lenze – College of Engineering  
Jennifer Theiss – College of Engineering  
Karen Thole – Department Mechanical & Nuclear Engr  
Traci Shimmel - Nuclear Engineering

**Board Proxy Votes (designated via e-mail to PSNES President):**

Dick Gill  
Ed Klevans  
Len Pasquini  
Jeff Jeffries  
Mark Lloyd

Following the roll call, Jack Brenizer announced to the group that after 11 years of service to the Department, he has decided to step down as the Nuclear Engineering Program Chair. His appointment will end on June 30<sup>th</sup>. After a sabbatical during the fall semester, Jack will return to teaching, research, and service as a faculty member in the Department. Karen Thole thanked Jack for his service to the program and department, and welcomed the PSNES meeting attendees.

**Old Business**

- **Meeting Minutes Approval** - The February 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes were approved as written. (See Attachment 1)
- **PSNES Financial Report (Jack Brenizer)**  
The status of the PSNES finances and account balances are unchanged from the February 15 meeting, and are repeated here for completeness.

Cost Center	2007 Balance	Expenditures	Current Balance
PSNES General Account	\$4400	\$1029.84	\$3370.16
PSNES Student Awards	\$6050	\$4000	\$2050

- There are sufficient funds to run the student awards for one more year. Additional funds will be needed to sustain the awards beyond the 2010-2011 Academic Year.
- It is possible to allocate funding from the PSNES general account to the student Awards account if the Board approves this.
- In addition, Jack indicated that because these awards are a priority for the Program, the Program would likely supplement the available PSNES funds if a shortfall were to occur.
- All agreed that it is important that funding for these awards continue to be made available by PSNES members and Alumni, but that it was equally important that PSNES not actively engage in fundraising. It was noted that to date, the student award has been funded by unsolicited contributions from alumni.

- **Nuclear Engineering 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events** (Jack Brenizer)

Jack summarized the activities that have, in the aggregate, constituted the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, including:

- The L. E. Hochreiter MNE Distinguished Lecture Series was established, and the first two lectures held on campus. The inaugural lecture was given on September 3, 2009 by Dr. Aris Candris, President and CEO Westinghouse Electric Co, and the second was given on January 21, 2010 by Mr. Alan Hanson, Executive Vice President, Technologies and Used Fuel Management of AREVA.
  - The 2009 Nuclear Energy Symposium was held at The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center on October 15-16, 2009, led by Dr. Arthur Motta.
  - The annual Nuclear Engineering Program/PSNES Reception was held on November 16, 2009 from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM in the Palladian Ballroom at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington DC (site of the ANS Winter Meeting). Over 500 attended this reception.
  - The last major event in the year-long celebration is an entire day of on-campus Nuclear Engineering Program events following this PSNES Annual Meeting. Activities include a luncheon for students, alumni, and friends at the Alumni Center, tours of the department in the Reber Building, a “Molly the Trolley” hosted campus tour, and an afternoon tour of the RSEC and reactor. The day’s activities culminate with a Nuclear Engineering Alumni & Friends reception, dinner, and after-dinner speaker at the Nittany Lion Inn.
    - Although this event was highly publicized by the Program and used the user-friendly university-supported web-based reservation system, attendance is believed to have been hampered by moving this event off the Blue-White weekend and into the work week so as to not conflict with the major university-level Alumni Fundraising Campaign kickoff. A number of regrets were received from alumni that could not fit the event into weekday work schedules.
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- **Potential New Initiative – PSU Nuclear Engineering Living Memorial Proposal** (Rich Martin)
    - Prior to the February meeting, Rich Martin and Jack had contacted the university Department of Communications to see if we could get someone to help us with storyboarding, potentially shooting some video and providing scripting or voiceover support for us.
    - Rich Martin confirmed that no further positive activity had transpired since the February 2010 meeting. Although the Department of Communications has the resources and capability to assist with such a project, they were only interested in providing fully funded support.
    - **The Board approved a motion to close this initiative.**
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- **Nuclear Engineering Student Mentoring Program and ANGEL Pilot** (All)
    - Based on the discussions in previous meetings, the Nuclear Engineering students have confirmed an interest in a student-initiated mentor resource using ANGEL. PSNES has committed to support this mentoring initiative as one of the PSNES top three priorities. The Program has committed to assist PSNES members establish ANGEL credentials and help them learn the system.
    - There was a question as to whether recent NucE graduates could participate in the Mentoring Program. The Board reiterated that the current focus would be on current students, which was one of the reasons ANGEL was selected as the means to deploy the program. The NucE Program confirmed that access to ANGEL is automatically terminated shortly after graduation when the student computer accounts are closed. The Program would have to take the initiative to extend or reopen ANGEL access if PSNES wanted to offer the Mentoring Program beyond graduation. The Board agreed to initially offer the Mentoring Program to students only, and could consider extending it at a later time if warranted.
    - The following PSNES members have expressed an interest in being available as mentors: Rick Etling, Jim Stavely, Jim Tusar, Pat Loftus, Doug Wood, Joe Sholtis, & George Smith.
    - There was an open action from the February meeting for Board Members to go to the ANGEL site, add their picture and bio, and let others know if successful and if there were any issues. Several of the Board Members have updated their ANGEL profile with photo, contact information, and a bio or resume. Others have updated the contact information but have not uploaded photo or text files. Others have either not logged in or made any updates. Traci offered to assist members in updating

their profiles if they are having difficulty and creating user accounts (with Program approval) for volunteers not on the Board.

- There is still a need for Board members and alumni (particularly those that volunteered to be mentors) to upload their information to ANGEL. **Action carrying forward for PSNES Board Members and Mentor Volunteers: Upload information, including a picture to the ANGEL site. This information should also indicate the preferred method for others to contact you.**
  - There was no follow-up discussion from past meetings of also using ANGEL for students to request Board Members or alumni to provide resume reviews. **Action carried forward: Board to consider using ANGEL for resume reviews.**
  - It was reinforced by Rick Etling that the Mentoring Program is one of the top priority and focus items for the Board in 2009-2010 and should be carried forward to 2010-2011.
  - **Action for Mentor Volunteers: draft a letter of introduction to the students for PSNES Board review that can be placed in the NucE student ANGEL space telling them about the service and how to initiate their request on a one-to-one basis with a PSNES mentor volunteer. This must be posted to ANGEL no later than June 30, 2010.**
  - **Action for Program: Create a PSNES NucE Mentoring Group in ANGEL that includes the mentoring volunteers.**
  - Other models and best practices for alumni/student mentoring programs were discussed. PSNES has a program for Mechanical Engineering students, and “templates” for their materials are available to us. Many of these other programs, unlike PSNES, have some type of central board that makes or facilitates mentor matchups. PSNES reaffirmed that our initial plan is for the PSNES program to be totally student initiated.
  - **Action carrying forward: There should be a periodic (annual) assessment of the PSNES Mentoring program.**
- **Recognition Initiatives – PSU Alumni Volunteer Awards** (Jim Tusar)
    - As discussed at the February 15 meeting, PSNES, as an Affiliate Program Group (APG), decided to nominate the PSNES Undergraduate Student Awards Program for an Alumni Volunteer Award. Jim Tusar coordinated the PSNES nomination with help from the PSNES officers to meet the March 1 due date. Jennifer Theiss confirmed that the nomination had been received and that the winner of this award has not yet been announced. The Board recognized Jim Tusar for his initiative in preparing the nomination.

## **New Business**

- **PSNES Secretary/Treasurer Vacancy**
  - Bill Naughton has resigned from his PSNES Board position of Secretary/Treasurer. His elected term of office is April 2009 to April 2011.
  - The Board recognized Bill's contribution during his multiple terms on the board.
  - Options for filling positions when resignations occur based on Section IV of the PSNES constitution were identified and discussed during the February 15 meeting.
  - Pat Loftus reminded the Board of the following terms of the present officers and board members, as well as those that cannot run for the board after their current term (marked \*) due to 2 consecutive term limit:
    - Officer Term Expires April 2011
      - President – Pat Loftus (will become Immediate Past President April 2011 – April 2013)
      - VP/President Elect – Rick Etling (will become President April 2011 – April 2013 & Immediate Past President April 2013 – April 2015)
    - At-Large Board Positions expire April 2011
      - Jeff Jeffries \*
      - Mark Lloyd \*
      - Rich Martin
      - Jim Tusar \*
    - At-Large Board Positions expire April 2013
      - Richard Gill
      - Ed Klevans \*
      - Jim Stavelly

- Jim Stover
  - Doug Wood \*
- Pat Loftus stated that both Doug Wood (Advent) and Mark Lloyd (Westinghouse) had previously expressed interest in being appointed to serve the remainder of the vacated Secretary/Treasurer term ending April 2011. Although the PSNES constitution is silent on limiting access to officer positions based on company affiliation, she and Rick Etling felt uncomfortable with having all three of the officers being Westinghouse employees, and Jack Brenizer concurred this should be avoided if possible. Based on a prior discussion of this situation, Mark Lloyd withdrew from consideration. There were no other nominees from the Board besides Doug Wood to fill the vacated Secretary/Treasurer term until April 2011. Doug Wood stated that if appointed to fill the vacancy, his preference was to return to his present At-Large Board position from April 2011 to April 2013.
- **Resolution Passed by the Board: Doug Wood shall be appointed to serve as Secretary/Treasurer for the remainder of Bill Naughton's term expiring in April 2011, and then shall return to his At-Large Board position for the remainder of his elected term ending April 2013.**
- Nominations were opened for persons interested in "backfilling" Doug Wood's At-Large Board position while he served as Secretary/Treasurer. Ron Brown expressed interest in this position, and there were no other nominations from the floor.
- **Resolution Passed by the Board: Ron Brown shall be appointed to serve as At-Large Board Member for the remainder of Doug Wood's term expiring April 2011.**
- With the approval of the resolutions above, all elected officer and board positions are filled going forward to the 2011 election. A nominating committee for the 2011 PSNES elections will be formed at the next scheduled PSNES meeting.
- **PSNES 2009-2010 Undergraduate Student Awards** - Update from Awards Committee (Jim Tusar)
  - It was reiterated that the undergraduate student awards are one of the 3 top priorities for PSNES
  - Presently, there are two awards, each with a \$1000 monetary value. These awards were presented at the February 15, 2010 MNE Senior Recognition Banquet.
    - Undergraduate Student Service and Leadership Award selected by a PSNES Awards Committee  
Emily Stumbris was the 2010 award recipient.
    - Undergraduate Student Academic Award (based on GPA) selected by the Program  
Christopher Joe Ulmer was the 2010 award recipient.
  - This year the application form for the service award was changed to get better information from the applicant and references. This change accomplished the objective and the revised form is expected to be used for next year's award. The weighted score sheet used to evaluate the applications was proven to be effective and is recommended for future awards.
  - The present balance in the Student Awards account was donated by private donors and is sufficient to fund the awards for next year.
  - **Resolution Passed by the Board: The PSNES Undergraduate Student Awards shall be continued next year using the available funding in the PSNES student awards account.**
  - The award applications need to be available no later than October 2010 for next year's awards.
  - Ed Klevans, Jeff Jeffries, Jim Tusar, and Ron Brown volunteered to be on the Awards Committee for the 2011 awards. **Action: Jim Tusar to send out an e-mail to initiate the committee's activities, which will include selecting a leader or committee chair.**
  - The College of Engineering Development representative strongly suggested that PSNES embark on a longer-term objective to make the awards self-sustaining. The preferred model would be to endow the awards, which would nominally require \$20-25K (e.g., \$5K for 5 years). The endowment could be funded through fundraising or individual gifts. The College is in the final stages of such an endowment for the Undergraduate Student Service and Leadership Award funded by a generous individual gift from Pat Beecher Loftus (as announced at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner).
  - **Action: The Board took an action to revisit sustainability of the awards during the coming year in keeping with the high priority of the undergraduate awards.**

- **Department and Program Update** (Jack Brenizer)

- Jack Brenizer has stepped down as Nuclear Engineering Program Chair after over 11 years in that position. During that time, the program has experienced unprecedented low enrollment (6 graduates in 1997) to the present unprecedented large enrollment (90 graduates this year and approximately 120 expected next year). Jack is taking a sabbatical at Oak Ridge starting in the fall, and is looking forward to focusing on his teaching, research, and new responsibilities on the ANS National Board of Directors.
- Student Enrollment - In the fall 2009 semester, there are Nuclear Engineering 47 graduate students on campus, with 24 Masters and 23 PhD candidates. There are 164 undergraduate students in the program with 92 juniors. It is expected that there will be 110 to 130 juniors in the program in the fall of 2010. There are 135 students participating in the distance learning program, many from Naval Reactors, and the demand is challenging the teaching resources. In terms of freshman enrollment, there are usually approximately 25 Nuclear Engineering students. Currently, there are 48 freshmen that have expressed interest in the program.
- With the increase in student population, there is a need for additional faculty members. A new nuclear engineering faculty member with a specialty in radiation sources will be joining the department this summer.
- For incoming engineering freshmen to Penn State, the number one degree desired is Mechanical Engineering. There are presently approximately 1100 MNE students total enrolled in the department.
- Penn State sent approximately 25 people to the ANS Student Conference this year hosted by the University of Michigan, although only 4 of these students presented papers. However, 2 of these 4 students won presentation awards.
- The Alpha Nu Sigma chapter has become active again this year, with 27 new members.
- A priority item for students is mentoring, based on the PSNES survey taken earlier this year.
- The department continues to need quality presenters for the weekly seminars. The seminars are held weekly during the fall and spring semesters on Thursday afternoons from 4:00-5:00 PM, and are attended by approximately 100 students. The department does not pay travel or living costs for these speakers. Jim Tusar confirmed he had presented a Nuc E 590 seminar during this past year.  
**Action: PSNES Board members to consider potential opportunities for speakers at the weekly Nuclear Engineering department seminars.**
- Keeping in Touch –There are already tools in place to help students stay connected, but acknowledged that many do not. ANGEL, for example, is only active approximately 3-6 months after the student graduates (typically the amount of time that their Penn State account remains active). **Action: PSNES to give consideration to ways to improve alumni staying connected with students and the department.**
- Jack acknowledged the generous \$2M grant made to the MNE Department for Nuclear Engineering by Toshiba-Westinghouse. The grant will fund 7 Toshiba/Westinghouse student fellowships, support the revamping and update of the design courses through the efforts of 6 to 8 engineers each spring, greatly expand the Nuc E electives offered by the department, and other activities.

- **RSEC News** (Jack Brenizer for Kenan Ünlü)

- Jack provided the following summary highlights:
  1. The focus of the RSEC has been on making several facility improvements, including a recently completed \$2M security upgrade of the perimeter fence and other assets.
  2. Penn State learned in February that we were unsuccessful in an application for a NIST \$6.5M Construction Grant for expansion of the RSEC facilities. Both the Dean of the College of Engineering and the Vice President for Research say that Penn State plans to resubmit the application for this grant next year based on the merit of the project.
  3. License renewal was received in November 2009. This achievement was cited in the March 2010 Nuclear News (article begins on page 50).
  4. There will be a tour of the RSEC and reactor as part of today's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration events.

- **New Recognition Initiatives – New Proposals (All)**
  - Joe Sholtis asked if the group would consider putting together a time capsule with contents relevant to Nuc E, with the possible objective of opening it 50 years from now on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program. Pat Loftus asked Joe to prepare a short write-up that could be discussed at the September 23 meeting. Don Lenze and Jennifer Theiss said they would check on existing programs or policies at the College or University level that could impact the viability of a time capsule, and suggested Joe talk to them before preparing his write-up.
  
- **Alumni Outreach (All)**
  - The College of Engineering has a Facebook page. PSNES is encouraged to contribute content (articles, photos, publicity for events, etc.) to this page. This can be done without creating a Facebook identity and page for PSNES.
  - Jennifer Theiss reminded the group that Penn State Engineering Alumni Society (PSEAS) has established an infrastructure to facilitate sharing information and best practices among various programs. PSEAS activities include a monthly conference call, as well as the opportunity for each program to establish an Affiliate Program Group (APG), which would fall under the umbrella of a newly established APG Resource Committee. Pat Loftus and Rick Etling reported that they have been sharing the responsibility of representing PSNES. Pat and Rick suggested that representing PSNES in these forums would be easier if the group's representatives were extended beyond the PSNES officers. Jeff Jeffries and Jim Stavely agreed to share our support responsibilities. In addition, Joe Sholtis offered to share his recent University of New Mexico experience having similar organizations with the PSEAS.
  - Note. During a break in the PSNES Board meeting, there was an informal discussion to the effect that PSNES activities and sharing PSNES best practices with the PSEAS APGs is supported by alumni volunteers and that as a result, PSNES does not commit any specific level of support to PSES or its activities such as committee meetings and other initiatives. ACTION: Don Lenze - help clarify the distinction between sharing of APG best practices and obligations of PSNES to PSES.
  
- **Upcoming Events & Meetings**
  - September 23, 2010 – PSNES Quarterly Meeting (via teleconference) (proposed date)
  - November 11, 2010 – PSNES Quarterly Meeting (via teleconference) (proposed date) – note that the ANS winter meeting is in Las Vegas, which would not be ideal for a face-to-face PSNES meeting. There was some discussion about November 11 being the last day (Thursday) of the meeting and that some people attending the meeting may not be able to participate in the phone call.
  
- **2010-2011 PSNES Priorities and Focus Areas**
  - PSNES Undergraduate Student Awards
  - Nuclear Engineering Student Mentoring Program
  - Alumni Outreach
  
- Recognition of Traci Shimmel
  - The Board and Program Chair recognized Traci Shimmel for her outstanding support of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration events and other PSNES activities and events.

**Adjourn - at approximately 12:05.**

**Attachment 1**  
**MINUTES OF PSNES QUARTERLY MEETING (Telecon)**  
**February 15, 2010**

**11:30 Welcome and Member Roll Call** – Pat Loftus called the meeting to order and confirmed a quorum to conduct business. Dial-In number provided by Jim Tusar. (Thank you!)

**Board Participants:**

Pat Loftus – President  
 Rick Etling – VP/President Elect  
 Dr. Kenan Ünlü – RSEC Director, Faculty Member  
 Jack Brenizer – Program Chair

**PSNES Directors:**

Doug Wood  
 Jim Tusar  
 Jim Stavely  
 Ed Klevans  
 Jeff Jeffries  
 Mark Lloyd – Acting Secretary for 2/16/10  
 Richard Martin  
 Jim Stover

**PSNES Members:**

Joe Sholtis

**Other:**

Don Lenze – College of Engineering  
 Frank Nedwidek – ANS Student Chapter President  
 Emily Stumbris – ANS Student Chapter VP  
 Traci Shimmel

**Board Proxy Votes (designated via e-mail to PSNES President):**

None

**Old Business**

- **Meeting Minutes Approval** - The November 16, 2009 Meeting Minutes were approved as written. (See Attachment 1)

**PSNES Financial Report**

Cost Center	Cumulative Total to Date	Expenditures	Current Balance
PSNES General Account	\$4400	\$1029.84	\$3370.16
PSNES Student Awards	\$6050	\$4000	\$2050

- The main expenditures from the general account are one-time expenses (50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banner, Board approved recognition) and annual expenses including blue-white tailgate and the refreshments provided at the annual PSNES meeting (~ \$333 per year).
- There are sufficient funds to run the student awards for one more year. Additional funds will be needed to sustain the awards beyond the 2010-2011 Academic Year
- It is possible to allocate funding from the PSNES general account to the student Awards account if the Board recommends this.
- Joe Sholtis recommends that a sub-group be formed to discuss funding options to sustain the Undergraduate Student Awards. **ACTION for Pat Loftus, Rick Etling, Don Lenze and Jack Brenizer to discuss this topic offline and bring back to the Board for additional discussion.**

## Nuclear Engineering 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Update and PSNES Support - Jack Brenizer/Don Lenze

Jack reviewed the activities that have been conducted to date in support of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, including:

- The first L. E. Hochreiter MNE Distinguished Lecture Series was held in September 2009 with Dr. Aris Candris, President and CEO Westinghouse Electric Co. as the speaker
- The 2009 Nuclear Energy Symposium was held at The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center on October 15-16, 2009, lead by Dr. Arthur Motta.
- The annual Nuclear Engineering Program/PSNES Reception was held on November 16, 2009 from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM in the Palladian Ballroom at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington DC (site of the ANS Winter Meeting).
- The second speaker in the L. E. Hochreiter MNE Distinguished Lecture Series was Mr. Alan Hanson, who is the Executive Vice President, Technologies and Used Fuel Management of AREVA. This lecture was held on January 21, 2010 at Penn State.
- The last major event in the year-long celebration is the Nuclear Engineering Alumni & Friends Reception and Dinner at the Nittany Lion Inn on April 26, 2010. This event will include a dinner and an after dinner speaker.
  - There was an action from the November 2009 meeting to determine if blocks of rooms can be reserved for this event given that the President's Campaign on-campus activities are currently scheduled for Blue-White Weekend which ends on April 25, 2010. Alumni should contact the Nittany Lion Inn directly.
  - For the Dinner and Reception, the Nittany Lion Inn will be able to accommodate 300 individuals. If the response is greater, alternative arrangements would need to be considered.
  - Traci Shimmel reported that the registration for this event will be similar to the MNE Senior Recognition Banquet. There will be tours, etc. that individuals can register for via this web site. We are still awaiting the web site to be ready such that the URL can be included in the invitation letter that will be sent to PSNES members and department alumni. It is expected that the web site will be ready by the end of February. In general, students will not be invited to attend this event. The web site will include a link to sponsor students for alumni that are either attending the event or for those that cannot attend.
  - Per the action from the November 2009 meeting, Don Lenze has drafted an Ambassador letter. The letter requires a few more edits, including insertion of the registration URL into the letter, before it can be issued. It is the hope of PSNES that we will use our network of contacts (friends, co-workers, classmates, etc.) and that they will, in turn, forward the information and encourage attendance at this event.
  - **Action: PSNES to communicate the information and use network of contacts to get the information out.** Jack reminded the group that a "save the date" reminder had previously been sent out to alumni.
- The PSNES 2010 Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, April 26, 2010 from 10 AM-12 PM at Penn State. Dial-In access will also be provided. Following the meeting on 4/26, the Program is tentatively planning a lunch-time alumni networking event to be funded by those attending. The Program will also have other activities in the afternoon, including tours of campus and the RSEC. The MNE area in Reber Building will have posters displayed that show current research projects within Nuclear Engineering.
- The reception will begin at 5 PM with the dinner to follow. Location for the event is at the Nittany Lion Inn.
- We are still looking for pictures or other memoirs of our time at Penn State in support of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event. Dr. Catchens is working with Victoria Courier to publish a pamphlet containing this information. To support publication of the pamphlet, information needs to be provided by the end of February, although contributions could still be made after the deadline. The letter from PSU will contain a paragraph on how to contribute photographs or memories online.



### ANS Update – Frank Nedwidek and Emily Stumbris

- The ANS Student Conference will be held at the University of Michigan from April 8-11. Twenty ANS members are going, with 6-7 presentations being made.
- Outreach - ANS will host the Boy Scouts at the RSEC on March 20 for a tour and various activities. Participation by the Boy Scouts in this event will allow them to achieve their Nuclear Merit Badge.
- Outreach – a plant tour of the PSEG Salem and Hope Creek reactors is being planned.
- The Penn State Student Chapter of ANS is looking to bring back Alpha Nu Sigma to Penn State. This honors program has been on hiatus at Penn State for the past few years. Emily and Frank will serve as the interim President and Vice President respectively until officers can be formally elected.
- Resume Reviews – this is an on-going need which aligns with PSNES core mission. Alumni who have interest should note their interest on ANGEL. **Action: Board to consider using ANGEL for resume reviews.**

### Potential New Initiative – PSU Nuclear Engineering Living Memorial Proposal

Rich Martin provided the following update on the potential PSU Nuclear Engineering Living Memorial Proposal:

- Rich and Jack have contacted the university Department of Communications to see if we could get someone to help us with storyboarding, potentially shooting some video and providing scripting or voiceover support for us. To date, they have been unresponsive to our requests for support. Apparently we have not connected with the right individual at the Department of Communications and we will try to be persistent.
- **Action will remain open.** The Board will carry the action for one more meeting and then decide at the April 2010 meeting to either move forward with the initiative or put it on hold.

### Nuclear Engineering Fact Sheets (Rich Martin, Jim Stover, Mark Lloyd, Joe Sholtis, Pat Loftus)

- Rich and Mark had the action to send the draft Nuclear Engineering Fact Sheet and individual/company contact information to the Board for final action. This action was completed and that Board agreed to close the action. Jack Brenizer agreed that the Nuclear Engineering Fact Sheets provided a good base of reference and could be used in response to requests or inquiries that the department receives for information from students or from the public.
- The Board discussed if this information should be posted on the department web site or elsewhere. There is a fine line between what is posted on the department site versus what would be placed on ANGEL. The recommendation from the Program was that the Fact Sheet be posted on ANGEL.
- Jack appreciates that he now has an on-call list of names that he can use to direct questions to. (Thank you to Jim Stavely, Jim Tusar, Melissa Hunter, Joe Sholtis and Dick Gill!) **Action: If there are other Board members that would like to have their names added to the list, please indicate your interest via email to Jack Brenizer, Traci Shimmel and Pat Loftus.**
- **Action for Traci Shimmel / Jack Brenizer to confirm that they have the information needed to register Melissa Hunter and Joe Sholtis on ANGEL.**

### Alumni Outreach – Facebook

- As a means of strengthening connections with the Alumni base, the Board considered creation of a PSNES Facebook page. The Program indicated that our Alumni volunteers would need to manage a PSNES Facebook page ourselves and the overhead costs are too high to commit to doing this. It was also discussed that Facebook is blocked by many company servers.
- The College of Engineering (COE) maintains a Facebook page. PSNES has decided to submit articles, information, etc. for consideration by the College of Engineering to be posted on the COE Facebook page versus creating our own PSNES Facebook page.

### Nuclear Engineering Student Mentoring Program and ANGEL Pilot

- Some Board members indicated that they were unfamiliar with ANGEL or found it difficult to navigate within the system. Jack Brenizer recommended another tutorial be provided or a step-by-step document be created for ANGEL, if necessary. It was also suggested that students could help Board members upload information or help us use the site if it is needed.
- **There is still a need for Board members and alumni to upload their information to ANGEL. Action: Upload information, including a picture to the ANGEL site. This action will be carried forward.** There is an open item for how to handle non-Board alumni who want to be mentors, but do not have access to the ANGEL site. Jack and Traci could add these individuals to ANGEL.

- In terms of mentoring, it is possible that we can use the time after the April Board meeting and before the dinner to meet with prospective mentee.
- It was reinforced by Rick Etling that the mentor program is one of the top priority and focus items for the Board in 2009-2010.
- **Action for Board members to submit interest in being a mentor to Pat Loftus and Rick Etling with copy to Doug Wood and Mark Lloyd.**

## New Business

- **RSEC News – Kenan Ünlü**

- The RSEC includes the following facilities: 1) Breazeale Nuclear Reactor, Gamma Irradiation Facilities, Hot Cells, Radiation Detection and Measurement Facilities, Neutron Beam Lab, Radio-Nuclear Application Lab, Angular Correlation Lab, Low-Pressure Integrated Test Facility and support Facilities.
- Dr. Ünlü provided an update. To summarize:
  5. The focus of the RSEC has been on making several facility improvements. A security upgrade was recently completed and is functioning well. Other upgrades are ongoing and should be complete in time for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in April.
  6. We applied for a NIST Construction Grant for expansion of the RSEC facilities. The total grant application is for \$6.5M. The State of Pennsylvania provided a \$1.5M match. The result of this application was announced in February 2010 and Penn State was not successful in winning this grant money. Both the Dean of the College of Engineering and the Vice President for research likes this RSEC project very much and we will therefore resubmit our application for this grant next year.
  7. License renewal was received in November 2009. This achievement was cited in the March 2010 Nuclear News (article begins on page 50).
  8. All other RSEC facilities are functioning well.

- **Department and Program Update – Jack Brenizer**

- Student Enrollment - In the fall 2009 semester, there are Nuclear Engineering 47 graduate students on campus, with 24 Masters and 23 PhD candidates. There are 164 undergraduate students in the program with 92 juniors and 55 seniors. It is expected that the program will award 90 Bachelor's degrees. There are ~ 135 students enrolled in the distance learning program with ~70 students participating in the MEng degree program. In terms of freshman enrollment, there are usually approximately 25 Nuclear Engineering students. Currently, there are 48 freshmen that have expressed interest in the program. 120 juniors are expected for next year.
- With the increase in student population, there is a need for additional faculty members. Several faculty candidates have been considered and the top candidate for a position has been identified but not yet landed.
- The department is doing well with grants.
- For incoming freshman to Penn State, the number one degree desired is Mechanical Engineering.
- A priority item for PSNES is student mentoring.
- The Program is in need of presenters for the weekly seminars. The seminars are held weekly during the Fall and Spring semesters on Thursday afternoons from 4:00-5:00 PM, with a reception beginning at 3:30 PM. Approximately 100 students attend these seminars. The Program will pay for a lunch and/or dinner for speakers, but cannot pay travel or living costs. **Action: PSNES to consider an outreach initiative to identify potential opportunities for speakers at the weekly Nuclear Engineering seminars.**
- Keeping in Touch – It was noted that many students lose touch with the university in the first 7-10 years following graduation before they want to reconnect. The University of New Mexico implemented a contact card program to help graduates stay connected with the university. Jack Brenizer noted that there are already tools in place to help students stay connected, but acknowledged that many do not. ANGEL, for example, is only active approximately 3-6 months after the student graduates (typically the amount of time that their Penn State account remains active). **Action for PSNES to give consideration to ways to improve staying connected with young nuclear professionals.**

- **Recognition Initiatives**

- Volunteer Awards – There is a March 1 due date for nominations for Alumni Volunteer Awards. PSNES can submit an activity or program for consideration as an affiliate group. Jack Brenizer recommended that PSNES consider a nomination if we can do it within the timeframe allowed. Jim Tusar recommended that PSNES student awards program be nominated. The submission process is online and straightforward. There was some discussion considering the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration activities as a potential for nomination, but these activities have been mostly run by the program and not by PSNES.
- It was the consensus of the Board to nominate the Undergraduate Student Awards program.  
**Action for Jim Tusar and Ed Klevans to draft the award nomination and review it with Pat Loftus and Rick Etling prior to submittal on March 1st.**

- **PSNES Secretary/Treasurer Position**

- Bill Naughton has resigned from the PSNES Board. Bill's contribution both as a Board Member and Officer were recognized. The Board discussed how to best fill the role of Secretary/Treasurer.
- Articles IV & V of the PSNES Constitution describes what happens when a Board member / Officer resigns their position. In consideration of the Constitution and past practice, options for filling the role considered by the Board included: (1) leaving the office position vacant until the next election and seek volunteers from the Board prior to each meeting to take meeting minutes; (2) appoint an Acting Secretary/Treasurer to fill the remaining term and appoint a new Board Member to fill the remainder of the term for this individual; (3) appoint an Acting Secretary/ Treasurer to fill the remaining term and leave the Board Member's seat vacant; (4) call a special election.
- Mark Lloyd is the acting Secretary for the February 2010 meeting with Doug Wood support and Doug will be the acting Secretary for the April 2010 meeting.
- In general, the PSNES Board supports someone filling the position on an interim basis until the next election in Spring 2011. Mark Lloyd expressed a willingness to fulfill this role on an interim basis.
- **Action: This subject will be discussed at the April 2010 meeting with candidates and volunteers to be considered.**
- The Board provided thoughts on how to fill the Board position left vacant by Bill Naughton's resignation. Consideration was given to others that had previously campaigned for a position on the Board, including Ron Brown and Joe Sholtis. Jack Brenizer thought that the Board would function well whether or not we backfilled Bill's position.
- **Action: Joe Sholtis to let Pat Loftus know privately if he is interested in the open position. Pat Loftus will contact Ron Brown separately. This subject will be discussed at the April 2010 meeting.**

### Upcoming Events & Meetings

- April 26, 2010 – PSNES Annual Meeting @ PSU (including dial-in access)
- April 26, 2010 – Nuclear Engineering Alumni & Friends Dinner @ The Nittany Lion Inn @ PSU
- September 23, 2010 – PSNES Quarterly Meeting (via teleconference) (proposed date)
- November 11, 2010 – PSNES Quarterly Meeting (via teleconference) (proposed date) – note that the ANS winter meeting is at a west coast location, which would not be ideal for the PSNES meeting.
- We will review the overall schedule of events at the Annual Meeting in April.

**Adjourn at approximately 13:05.**