

PENN STATE NUCLEAR ENGINEERING SOCIETY

MEETING MINUTES – March 17, 2017 – PSNES Teleconference

Participants:

PSNES Officers & Directors

Catherine Perego – President w/ proxy for Directors Beaumont & Tusar
Hilary Neal – Secretary /Treasurer
Rick Etling – Past President
Doug Wood – At-Large Director w/ proxy for Director Karchner
Matt Ellis – At-Large Director
John Atchison – At-Large Director
Matt Wargon – At-Large Director
Mike Pantano – At-Large Director

PSNES Members

Pat Loftus
Joe Sholtis

Other Meeting Attendees:

Chris Hennessey – MNE Communication Strategist
Candace Davison - RSEC Staff and PSU WIN Student Chapter Advisor
Mike Audey (2017 recipient of the Nuc E Outstanding Early Career Award)

OPENING

Catherine Perego began the meeting at noon, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Roll call was conducted, and it was confirmed that a quorum (8) was satisfied to conduct business (11 voting members present or by proxy).

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the previous business meeting (August 21, 2016) were not available for review. They will be reviewed and approved at a later time.

Summary of Present Board Roster

Following the August 21, 2016 post-election turnover, the Board composition was reiterated as follows:

- Officers
 - President - Catherine Perego (August 2016 - 2018 Election cycle)
 - Vice President/President Elect: Vacant
 - Secretary/Treasurer - Hilary Neal
- At-Large Directors

- Matt Ellis (2016-2020)
- Jim Tusar (2016-2020)
- Matt Wargon (2016-2020)
- John Atchison (2013-2018)
- Eric Beaumont (2013-2018)
- Duane Karchner (2013-2018)
- Vacant Position (vacated by Hilary Neal)
- Michael Pantano (2013-2018)
- Doug Wood (2013-2018)
- Non-Elected Ex-Officio Members
 - Chair of NucE Program (with vote) – Arthur Motta
 - Director of RSEC (with vote) – Kenan Unlu
 - PSNES Immediate Past President (with vote) – Rick Etling
 - ANS Student Chapter President (without vote) – Jeremy Barnhart
 - PSEAS President (without vote) – Dale Hoffman

NucE Time Capsule Status

The content for the time capsule has been collected but the completion of the capsule and its display is temporarily on hold. Further PSNES support for this project (sealing the capsule, display case, & selection of location) will be coordinated by Joe Sholtis with the MNE Department.

PSNES Computer Lab Naming Opportunity

Doug Wood brought up the PSNES naming opportunity for one of the computer labs in the new E-Knowledge Commons. No one in the meeting was certain on the exact amount already pledged or the date at which the opportunity might be released to other organizations or companies. Matt Wargon agreed to reach out to Susan Bohna for an update on the PSNES fundraising status and deadline before the next meeting.

NucE Outstanding Early Career Award

The 2017 awardee, Mr. Mike Audrey, has been selected and confirmed by the PSNES Awards Committee and the Program Chair. This year marks the first recipient of the award, which will be presented at the MNE Senior Recognition Banquet later in March. Mr. Mike Audrey was in attendance at the Board meeting, and thanked PSNES for establishing the award and for the opportunity to apply for it.

NEW BUSINESS

PSNES Outreach Initiatives

Membership Demographics & Regional Focus

In the interest of expanding the membership and influence, use of geographical and employer demographics should be used to address the way the membership is decentralized (not in State College). MNE has identified the following clusters of NucE

alumni and the Board suggested the following points of contact going forward:

- Pittsburgh area (including Beaver Valley & Bettis) – H Neal
- Greater Philadelphia & Harrisburg areas – M Pantano initially and possibly J Tusar & D Karchner later
- Washington DC / NRC – Eileen Supko

Coordination with existing regional PSU chapters, nuclear plant sites, and local ANS sections was suggested. Because lists of PSU alumni are private, it is impossible to view member names and locations to support networking. PSNES may have to use the MNE Communications Strategist (C. Hennessey) to identify approved ways of sending out messages or other communications (e.g., Constant Contact).

A voice vote affirmed general Board support for pursuing these regional outreach initiatives (no funding approved for any specific items).

Action: Prepare a communication to send out to PSNES members and NucE alumni in these focus demographics and provide to the MNE Communications Strategist – Catherine Perego

Short-Term Opportunity – ANS Student Conference in Pittsburgh in early April 2017

There is a Pittsburgh Pirates game on April 9 that falls within the schedule window of this year's spring ANS Student Conference in Pittsburgh. PSNES would like to have a tailgate at this for PSU NucE students or alumni either attending the conference or that live nearby. Jim Tusar is planning to attend as a vendor and Hilary Neal lives in the Pittsburgh area. It would be helpful to be able to use PSEAS grant funding to support this event, which would require requesting an extension beyond the present June 30 grant expiration date. The following actions were assigned for this item:

1. Prepare a flyer that can be distributed to ANS Student Conference attendees and e-mailed to PSNES members – Hilary Neal with support from Chris Hennessey
2. Coordinate April 9 tailgate publicity with PSU WIN – Candace Davison
3. Investigate possible ad in Student Conference mobile app – Catherine Perego
4. Request PSEAS APG Grant extension – Hilary Neal

Other Opportunities for Student Engagement

Additional potential opportunities to engage with students and utilize our APG grant funding include a US WIN Regional Meeting on September 22nd. There is no home game on September 23rd, so we could consider hosting a PSNES on-campus meeting and/or event at that time. PSEAS is also finalizing plans for a tailgate either on the 9/9 (vs. Pitt) football game or the 9/30 (vs. Indiana) game. Pat Loftus will know in 7-10 days and can share the information. A final consideration is another meeting and/or event in August in conjunction with the Nuc E orientation activities. The PSNES involvement in August 2016 was viewed as a success.

Action (completed): The PSEAS Tailgate is scheduled before the Pitt game on September 9, 2017. PSEAS will publicize that event rather than organizing a separate or concurrent event.

Separate New Working Website for PSNES Board

A website for posting useful information for PSNES Board members would be more efficient and useful than e-mail messages. Some examples of its future use are:

- Posting draft meeting minutes and comments
- Posting recommended changes to the PSNES Constitution
- Following the pledge balance toward the MNE e-Commons PSNES Computer Lab naming opportunity
- Track actions and completion
- Posting reference material that may not be of use or interest to the PSNES general membership

Action: Establish a location for the PSNES Board website and provide the URL to Board members – Catherine Perego

The meeting was adjourned at 1pm.