IMPORTANT DATES:
November 18: Dean’s State of the School
November 30: Greater NY Alumni Reception
Every Tuesday: Excellence in Restorative Dentistry Lecture Series
Every Thursday: The Periodontics’ Chair’s Speaker Series
See Calendar of Events for full schedule.

Alumni Society Executive Board
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2020

Board Members in Attendance: Hope Berman C’77, D’83; Larry Chacker D’85; Scott Schanin D’83; Katherine France D’16, GR’16, GD’18; Andrew Fraser D’16; Alyssa Marlin Greenberger D’02; Maria Perno Goldie DH’71; Wendy Halpern D’99, GD’02, GD’03; Stephen Howarth D’16; Bernard Kurek D’73, WMP’03; Bret Lesavoy D’19; Rachel Levarek D’11; Ngozi Okoh D’12; Lisa Schildhorn DH’75; Shabnam Sedaghat D’06; Josh Simpson D’16; Matt Sones D’12; Ann Eshenaur Spolarich DH’82; Gary Wegman D’83

Administration and Guests in Attendance: Elizabeth Ketterlinus, Vice Dean, Institutional Advancement; Maren Gaughan, Associate Dean for Leadership Giving; Sarah Burton Flynn, Director, Strategic Development and Alumni Relations; Lindsay Murphy, Assistant Director of Annual Giving; Yarrow Randall, Development Assistant; Olivia Sheridan, Associate Dean for Admissions; Menty Bayleyen, Associate Director of Admissions; Kara Fraidman D’92, GD’94; Kristen Leong, Executive Student Council President; Neel Shah, President, Class of 2021; Shivam Patel, Vice President, Class of 2022; Eric Verdeyen, President, Class of 2023; Travis Chirman, President, Class of 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 P.M.

I. Welcome and Approval of Minutes- Maren Gaughan
   a. Minutes
      i. Motion to approve minutes by Alyssa Greenberger. Seconded by Scott Chanin.
      ii. Minutes approved.
      iii. Special meeting on December 16 to vote on the nominations for the Alumni Awards.

II. Admissions Report
a. Olivia Sheridan – interviews and admissions days are all virtual for this year’s applicant cycle.
   i. National applicant pool increased for the first time in 11 years. The national applicant pool is about 11,000 this year.
   ii. Penn Dental’s applicant pool will be about 2100 this year.
      1. Very diverse applicant pool this year – possibly due to capturing a wider demographic this year due to the pandemic and virtual opportunities.
   iii. Probable that application cycle will continue to be virtual through next year.
      1. Created a virtual tour and recreated Interview Day.
         a. Chat rooms with current students, continued with 2 interviews per applicant, and a chat with Corky. Still get an overview of the school and Philadelphia with Menty and Olivia, as well as a financial session.
            i. Stand out among other dental schools.
   iv. December 15 – first day of acceptances agreed upon by all dental schools in the US.
      a. Accepted students will receive 6 short videos with current student profiles.
   v. Thank you to Alyssa Greenberger – Bio-dent program. This year we have 12 students from the biodent program.
      a. Encourage students who are interested in shadowing, etc to check out our free Coursera courses or offer to do a 1 hour interview to talk about your career, and use Youtube.

b. Menty Baylen, Associate Director of Admissions – Oversees the admissions to the PASS program.
   i. Application cycle begins March 6. – One of the first schools in the nation to conduct interviews virtually (due to the pandemic). Now a leader for other schools in the process.
   ii. Day begins at 8:30AM EST. Overview, history of Penn, Penn resources, and living in Philadelphia. Then an opportunity to introduce themselves.
      1. Dr. Hangorsky provides overview of curriculum, and Margaret Yang provides overview of financial aid.
      2. 2 interviews with Dr. Hangorsky and Menty and a third interview with a faculty member.
      3. Also get the virtual tour, narrated by a current student.
      4. Q&A session during lunchtime with 4/5 current students without faculty and staff.
         a. Continue communication between applicants and admissions ambassadors. Very positive response from both sides.
   iii. Accepted 41 students for this year’s PASS class. 18 countries and 31 languages spoken. Very diverse group.
   iv. PASS Talk series – date of acceptance to January to continue communication with school. Acquainted with the school and faculty.
1. Meet Dean Wolff, financial aid, curriculum, clinical faculty, and more.

v. Important to maintain the human aspect of the interview process and application process through different virtual initiatives.

c. Bret Lesavoy – How large is the graduating class with an expanded PASS class?
   i. 135 target for the 4-year DMD program.
      1. Enrolled a class of 137 due to uncertainties with COVID.
   ii. Ultimate goal is to graduate a class of 170.
      1. Been able to expand the capacity due to external partnerships.

d. Introduce Dr. Kara Fraiman who is now working with the admissions office.
   i. Biodent student at Penn and then completed the Endodontics program at PDM.

III. Special Announcement

   a. Sarah Burton Flynn is now taking over as the representative to the Alumni Society Executive Committee from Institutional Advancement.

IV. Student Reports

   a. Kristen Leong, Executive Class Council President
      i. The last few months have been awesome.
      ii. In terms of our peers, PDM has been doing the best at getting students back in the clinic
      iii. Students have loved working at the community sites – Yay Spectrum!
      iv. New PPE as we learn more about what does and does not work best. New face shields that work well with the loupes.
      v. D3 and D4 will miss having D1 and D2 assistants as they leave for extended winter break.
      vi. Next Friday, phase 1 of match.
      vii. Printed scrub caps as a gift for D4 students.

   b. Neel Shah – President, Class of 2021
      i. Finished ADEX mannequin.
         1. Mostly passed.
         2. Record high of failures in the endo portion.
            a. School is offering to host the re-take.
      ii. Perio, Prosth, Ortho, etc. match being determined next Friday.
      iii. Delivering cases and wrapping up towards graduation.

   c. Shivam Patel, Vice-President, Class of 2022
      i. As a class, feeling more comfortable with patient treatment.
      ii. Progressing through clinical experiences.
      iii. Most students involved in phase I treatments.
         1. A few starting in phase II treatments.
      iv. Fixed OSCE portion of the year.
         1. Using GRD skills in the clinic.
      v. Continuing academic courses from 7:30-9:00AM.
      vi. Exploring routes after DMD as well through the curriculum.
      vii. Excited for Thanksgiving and the holiday break – had a fast-paced and disruptive year. Looking forward to rest.

   d. Eric Verdeyen – President, Class of 2023
Heavy in didactics.

Just finished two exams and have a combined exam next week.

Assisting in clinic. Applying knowledge to

After-hours clinic open, which puts PDM far above other peer schools.

- Some students have put together their own at-home labs.

Looking forward to Thanksgiving and Winter break. All in-person activities cease at Thanksgiving and will resume in January.

Want to begin treating patients earlier than previous students.

No spring break this year with COVID.

e. Travis Chirman – President, Class of 2024

- Lot of new for the class.

- Really beginning to get into the swing of everything.

- Almost finished with the fall semester – leave at thanksgiving.

- Working in clinic for DAU – getting hands-on experience and interactions with D3s and D4s and more faculty.

- #8 and #30 wax ups.

- Sim-lab working with the mirrors.

- Impressions and dental models and lectures.

- Not everyone in the class has met everyone else.

  - 4 groups that are split up with different days in person. Only have met in person ¼ of the class.

- Spring semester will be long due to COVID and no spring break.

f. Question from Bernard Kurek – Why was there so many failures in the Endo portion this year.

- Andrew Fraser – similar issue with his class (D’16)

  - Seems to be an issue with the way it’s taught versus what is on the exam.

- Katherine France – tooth is different in the exam than what they experienced in practice.

- Bret Lesavoy – In his experience, the practice and the exam were much more in line.

V. Interview Report - Alyssa Greenberger

a. Set up 2 virtual meetings for biodent committee interviewers to hear from the Dean and get an update on the school

  i. What is the admissions team looking for in students in the biodent program.

  ii. Update on what is happening with COVID and updates to the school – Disabilities Center, B-13, and other renovations.

b. An opportunity to thank our interviewers and acknowledge that our program is the standard for similar programs across the country.

c. Potential to continue this virtual meeting throughout the future.

VI. Development Report- Maren Gaughan

a. New Personalized Care Suite aka the Care Center for Persons with Disabilities is almost complete.

  i. Fully open for patients in January.
ii. Soft opening after Thanksgiving – pulling patients from Medically complex center.

b. November Challenge – Lindsay Murphy.
   i. Goal to get new donors during the Power of Penn Campaign.
   ii. Giving Week – entice new donors to give to the annual fund when you donate you get either branded socks or hats.
   iii. Look out for social media and share with your networks.

c. Take A Seat – bigger push recently.
   i. Cheung Auditorium (formerly B-60) is almost full.
   ii. Levy Auditorium (recently renovated B13) – will be getting seat numbers this weekend and has seats available.

d. Engagement in our upcoming events.
   i. November 30 – Greater NY alumni reception. Trying out a new virtual platform that makes conversation easier – similar feel to being in a physical space as a group.
   ii. Would greatly appreciate your attendance and your feedback.
   iii. Also looking for volunteers to “host” a “table” or “specialty”
   iv. Students will be invited to the event as well to encourage networking.

e. Reminder that the Fall version of the Penn Dental Medicine Journal will be published soon *virtual only*

VII. New Business

a. Nominations for the alumni awards – please think about nominees for Alumni Weekend 2021. We want to celebrate those who make our community excellent.
   i. Voting will take place on December 16. Nominations due by December 4.

b. Scott Chanin – Developing a program for students to get a job. This year is going to be an incredibly difficult year for our students.
   i. Penn Dental Medicine is revamping our Career page – you can post any open positions with us. Promote this resource to your colleagues and classmates.
   ii. PDM is starting an AEGD program this year – July 2021 we will be accepting 4 students.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.