



IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Thursday, December 8 | 6:30 PM EST
Next Board Meeting & Alumni Award Nominations

For a complete list of alumni award descriptions and past recipients; as well as to submit a nomination:
www.dental.upenn.edu/awards

Upcoming alumni events can be found [here](#) as well as online at
www.dental.upenn.edu/events

Alumni Society Executive Board

Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2022

Board Members in Attendance: Scott Chanin (D'83), President; Alyssa Greenberger (D'02), Vice President; Abdalla Asi (D'22); Pam Alberto (D'80); Judy Bendit (DH'81); Carolyn Izu Bergmann (D'83); Larry Chacker (D'85); Gail Spiegel Cohen (C'76 D'80); Milan Doshi (D'07); Lee Durst (D'83); Keith Dunoff (D'84); Caryn Siegel Finley (C'95 D'99); Katherine France (D'16 GR'16 GD'18); Andrew Fraser (D'16); Maria Perno Goldie (DH'71); Andrew Henry (D'12 M'15 GD'18); Ken Ingber (D'71); Donna Jankiewicz (D'88); Roopali Kulkarni (D'19 GE'19 GD'21); Bernard Kurek (D'73 WMP'03); Kristen Leong (C'16 GED'20 D'21); Bret Lesavoy (D'19); Rachel Levarek (D'11); Ngozi Okoh (D'12); Lindsay Pfeffer (D'08 GR'08); Morrie Rosen (D'92); Lisa Schildhorn (DH'75); Shabnam Sedaghat (D'06); Ben Truong (D'19); Brigitte White Zinkovic (CGS'04 D'07).

Administration and Guests in Attendance: Sarah Burton Flynn, Director of Strategic Development and Alumni Relations; Maren Gaughan, Associate Dean for Leadership Giving; Lindsay Murphy, Associate Director of Annual Giving; Jenn Pacitti, Assistant Director of Special Events; Dom Gaeta, Development Assistant; John Shin (D'23), Exec Student Council President; Travis Chirman (D'24), Class of 2024 President; Karam Alyashooa (D'25), Class of 2025 President.

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M.

- I. The Meeting was opened by board president, Dr. Scott Chanin; rollcall was completed and new Board members were welcomed. Approval of the April minutes was obtained.
- II. Reports
 - a. President Report provided by Dr. Scott Chanin
 - i. Kicked off the first meeting of the new academic year
 - ii. Proposal to utilize subcommittees to engage the board in meaningful activities with the school and student body.

- iii. Proposal to consider an in-person/hybrid option for the board meeting
 - 1. Support given from Dr. Lee Durst and Dr. Larry Chacker
 - 2. Support for an in-person meeting in conjunction with a university or a school-wide event like Alumni Weekend was given.
- b. Institutional Advancement update provided by Sarah Flynn, Director of Strategic Development and Alumni Relations
 - i. Fiscal year 2022 was the second-best fundraising year for the school; the digital annual giving report will arrive in October and spotlighted in the Fall PDMJ
 - ii. CODA visit is complete, visitors were impressed with the school and no recommendations were given
- c. Student Exec Council update provide by John Shin (D'23), Exec Student Council President
 - i. Student Exec Council hosted first meeting of the year
 - ii. Council is currently planning Odontoblast; an annual social event for the entire PDM student body
 - iii. First club fair will be held on October 14
 - iv. Student Leaders Retreat currently in works with Student Affairs to build closer relationships between faculty, students, and administration
 - v. Elections underway for Class of 2026 (D1) class leadership
- d. Class of 2023 update provided by John Shin (D'23), Exec Student Council President
 - i. Residency applications are underway; many classmates are hearing back already
 - ii. Currently working on Phase II treatments
 - iii. Overall class is happy and doing well
- e. Class of 2024 update provided by Travis Chirman (D'24), Class President
 - i. First class to start clinic early (May); very positive experience as additional two months helped build confidence and prepare class
 - ii. Working on restoration and SRP's in clinic, starting crowns and dentures; also taking classes in Peds and Perio
 - iii. Overall, everyone is enjoying clinic and seeing their hard work pay off
- f. Class of 2025 update provided by Karam Alyashooa (D'25), Class President
 - i. First class to have summer semester which was very successful and decreased the Fall D2 pressure
 - ii. Started Prosth in September, going well
 - iii. Class is still going strong in GRD
- g. Judy Bendit asked whether students were having any issues acquiring the patients they needed based on the increased class sizes
 - i. Travis Chirman shared there is some concern since there is currently a lot of shuffling going on for chair space; patients are not an issue.
 - ii. Karam Alyashooa also shared concern since the Class of '25 will reach 200 students when the PASS class transitions later this year.
 - iii. Maren Gaughan added perspective that adequate chair availability is something administration is working on. Temporary issues arose when Sayre clinic closed and as we await opening of Cedar clinic this fall.
- h. Abdalla Asi asked whether the clinic at Cedar will be exclusive to the AGD program for which Maren clarified it will not

- i. Andrew Henry asked why the class size has grown so much each year which Maren clarified that classes increased because of the capacity in community site rotations but will not continue to grow.
- III. Sub-Committee Breakouts
- a. Alumni Awards & Nominations
 - i. Review of award categories and requirements
 - ii. Committee to help identify areas to improve communication and involvement from the general alumni body
 - iii. Committee to help identify potential nominees as well as review nominations
 - b. Alumni Engagement
 - i. Areas of opportunity:
 - 1. Alumni speaking opportunities with various student groups at PDM
 - 2. International, small in-person gatherings of alumni in their areas; good experiences with small dinners and local alumni
 - 3. Personal outreach to local alumni to increase event attendance
 - ii. Continue to invite all alumni to professional meeting receptions, opportunities have been well received and welcoming regardless of if someone graduated from the program (i.e. attending AAO reception as a DMD graduate and orthodontist from another institution)
 - iii. Board/Committee can also help alert the Institutional Advancement (IA) team when there are professional meetings in Philadelphia or opportunities where there will be PDM alumni. The IA team can coordinate tours at the School, provide swag, etc.
 - c. Student Engagement & Mentoring
 - i. Reviewed new IA initiated mentor form being distributed to PDM students (Fall 2022) with help from Student Affairs
 - ii. Board would like to play a more active role in both helping students find mentors as well as networking and mentoring students directly
 - iii. Discussion regarding leveraging current resources (ex. [MyPenn](#))
 - iv. Next steps:
 - 1. Roopali Kulkarni to utilize Bridging the Gaps alumni network to determine how/what they do since she has had good experiences
 - 2. Determine ways the board/committee can assist in student mentoring needs based on submissions received
- IV. Overview of Events
- a. Introduction of Jenn Pacitti PDM's new Special Events Coordinator ([meet Jenn](#))
 - b. Review of events held since last meeting
 - i. White Coat was held successfully for the Class of 2026 in August
 - ii. Welcome back BBQs held for each class including each pre-doc class as well as DADE (advanced dental classes); faculty and staff of PDM
 - c. Overview of upcoming events
 - i. [Alumni Reception hosted by Daniel \(D'02\) & Shanta \(D'03\) Richardson](#), Sept. 27 | Elkridge, MD
 - ii. [4th Annual Pride Celebration](#), Oct. 7 | PDM
 - iii. [Ortho Alumni Day](#), Oct. 28 | Union League of Philadelphia
 - iv. [Liz Magill Inauguration & Homecoming](#), Oct. 21-23
 - v. [Greater NY Alumni Reception](#), Nov. 28 | Elsie Rooftop

- vi. Florida CDE, Jan. 21 | Boca Raton, FL
 - vii. [Florida Alumni Brunch](#), Jan. 22 | The Breakers, West Palm Beach
- V. Other Business
- a. Upcoming Board Meetings
 - i. **Thursday, December 8** | Alumni Award Nominations
 - ii. **Wednesday, March 22**
 - iii. **Saturday, May 13** | Special Meeting of the Dean's Council & Alumni Society Executive Committee (optional in-person opportunity)
 - iv. **Thursday, June 8** | Board Nominations
 - b. Other Business
 - i. Lee Durst recommended a review of the Board's By-Laws; Alyssa Greenberger offered to assist with review

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.