



IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Wednesday, March 22 | 6:30 PM EST
Next Board Meeting

Nominations:

Award and Executive Board nominations can be made anytime [online here](#) or by emailing Sarah Flynn at sburton@upenn.edu.

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; Deena Alani, D'13; Judy Bendit, DH'81; Carolyn Izu Bergmann, D'83; Larry Chacker, D'85; Gail Spiegel Cohen, C'76 D'80; Keith Dunoff, D'84; Katherine France, D'16 GR'16 GD'18; Joel Frankel, C'02 D'06; Andrew Fraser, D'16; Maria Perno Goldie, DH'71; Andrew Henry, D'12 M'15 GD'18; Stephen Howarth, D'16; Ken Ingber, D'71; JV Kracke, D'17 GD'19; Daniel Kubikian, D'01 GD'04 GD'05; Roopali Kulkarni, D'19 GR'19 GD'21; Bernard Kurek, D'73 WMP'03; Kristen Leong, C'16 GED'20 D'21; Bret Lesavoy, D'19; Lindsay Pfeffer, D'08 GR'08; Trevan Samp, D'14; Shabnam Sedaghat, D'06; Caryn Siegel Finley, C'95 D'99; Josh Simpson, D'16; Ben Truong, D'19; Gary Wegman, D'83.

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, Special Events Coordinator; Dom Gaeta, Development Coordinator; John Shin (D'23), Exec Student Council President, Travis Chirman (D'24), Fraz Lugay (D'26), Class President Class of 2026

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

- I. The Meeting was opened by board president, Dr. Scott Chanin; and rollcall was completed. Approval of the September minutes was obtained.
- II. Reports
 - a. President Report provided by Dr. Scott Chanin
 - i. Kicked off meeting highlighting current teaching opportunities in the Restorative Department. If interested, contact Sarah at sburton@upenn.edu who can put you in touch with the department

- ii. Announced Alumni-Student Networking Event will be held Thursday, March 2, 2023 at The Bellevue (6:30 PM).
 - 1. Great event and opportunity to network especially with students and young alumni
 - 2. No night clinic so students can participate
 - 3. All members in the Philadelphia area are encouraged to attend
 - iii. Recently facilitated an opportunity for two students to attend the American Society for Dental Aesthetics in Palm Springs last month. Great professional experience for them.
- b. Student Exec Council update provide by John Shin (D'23), Exec Student Council President
 - i. A Student Club Fair was held in October with over 50 clubs in attendance
 - ii. Council also held a Fall Fast in October with cider and donuts; the event was very well attended and was meant to reconnect/recharge the student body mid-way through the semester.
 - iii. The 1st interdisciplinary event with Med and Vet was held to explore educational experiences through building tours and overview of education, resources, etc. The event sold-out with over 50 dental students participating. Will be planning future interdisciplinary opportunities given the interest.
 - iv. A Leadership Retreat was held to help bridge student leaders with PDM Administrators including Dean Wolff. Event was well attended and feedback very positive. Hoping to make an annual event.
 - v. Planning is underway for Odontoblast; an annual social event for the entire PDM student body in February!
- c. Class of 2024 update provided by Travis Chirman (D'24), Class President
 - i. Class has been in clinic for over three months and classmates are really enjoying the experience so far. Mostly completing cleanings, crowns, dentures, and starting Phase II.
 - ii. Many classmates are deciding on specialties as they begin to think about residency programs and applications.
 - iii. Boards coming up this summer and class is finding it hard to believe they are already half-way through the 3rd year
- d. Class of 2026 update provided by Fraz Lugay (D'26), Class President
 - i. Recently selected as the D1 Class President this fall; hails from the Hudson Valley, NY area and the son of two PDM alumni (D'92 and D'94)!
 - ii. Class consists of 150 members 97 women, 53 men
 - iii. All classes are officially back in person and there have been no large outbreaks of COVID; PPE/masks are still required in class and clinic.
 - iv. Overall class feels that the courses are challenging, but interesting; and are working on 3D simulators as well as in the GRD lab.
 - v. "Reflect and Connect Programs" have been a big hit for the class
 - 1. Program was started by a Penn undergrad and is now a 501c3 organization
 - 2. Incorporated into curriculum and provides opportunities for students to talk in small groups in a confidential space.

- vi. Kuddos for classmate Lauren Hogstrum who's feature on the "Dentists role in domestic violence intervention" was published in ASDA's November/December 2022 publication, *Contour*. [Read the article here »](#)

III. Alumni Award Nominations

- a. Dr. Alyssa Greenberger presented the slate of nominations with support by the Nominating Committee including:
 - i. Thomas Evans Achievement Award
 - ii. Alumni Award of Merit
 - iii. Young Alumni Award of Merit
 - iv. Honorary Alumnus
- b. Dr. Scott Chanin proposed discussion to allow an additional nomination for Dr. Raj Shah in recognition of his 40 years of service to Penn Dental
 - i. Dr. Andrew Fraser acknowledged his support
 - ii. Judy Bendit recommended the Board present a certificate in appreciation of his service or hold as candidate for the 2024 Honorary Alumni Award.
 - iii. Motion was approved to present a certificate of appreciation for Dr. Shah's during the Alumni Awards presentation on Friday, May 12.
- c. There was discussion of the nominees and after a confidential vote the slate was unanimously approved as presented

IV. Sub-Committee Breakouts

- a. Alumni Awards & Nominations
 - i. Discussed ways to increase engagement by the Board and greater alumni body in nominations
 - ii. Consider regular reminders to the Board
 - iii. Consider opportunities like the Spring PDMJ as well as heavier social media coverage in the late-summer/early-fall period as well as solicitation of milestone reunion classes.
- b. Alumni Engagement
 - i. Discussed areas of opportunity including:
 - 1. Utilizing Board members to help personalize email communication related to specific regional events.
 - 2. Consideration of more text messaging specially to engage the graduating class; acknowledgement of Board members in their area
 - 3. Consideration of more pop-up events to re-engage post-pandemic
 - ii. Conversation regarding returning to D4 exit interview:
 - 1. Maren Gaughan shared they are hard to organize, and the yield was much lower than expected
 - 2. Lindsay Murphy added that Student Affairs has a much more extensive exit interview structure and survey now.
- c. Student Engagement & Mentoring
 - i. Dr. Ben Truong, recommend an "Alumni Society Selective" possibly in partnership with the Career Office to cover topics related to professional development and "things you wish you knew as a student (examples contract negotiations; marketing and social media)
 - ii. Dr. Roopali Kulkarni also recommended potential partnership with ASDA which she serves as faculty advisor. Idea for a possible specialty fair so students can network with alumni in particular fields. Would be great to utilize the Board members.

V. Overview of Events

- a. Review of events held since last meeting
 - i. Greater NY Alumni Reception during the GNYDM was well attended with nearly 80 alumni – including several members of the Class of 2022.
 - ii. On Monday, Dec. 5, University President, Liz Magill, toured the school and met students, faculty, and staff; check out highlights on our social media pages.
- b. Overview of upcoming events
 - i. [Tax Talk](#), Dec. 15 | Zoom Webinar
 - ii. [Florida CDE](#), Jan. 21 | Boca Raton, FL
 - iii. [Florida Alumni Brunch](#), Jan. 22 | The Breakers, West Palm Beach
 - iv. [Alumni-Student Networking Event](#), Mar. 2 | Philadelphia
 - v. [Alumni Ski Trip](#), Mar. 8-12 | Vail, CO
 - vi. [Alumni Weekend](#), May 12-13 | Philadelphia
- c. Remember to visit www.dental.upenn.edu/events for the full “Alumni Events” list including CDE, professional meeting receptions, and regional events with President Magill

VI. Other Business

- a. Upcoming Board Meetings
 - i. **Wednesday, March 22** | Meeting #3
 - ii. **Saturday, May 13** | Special Meeting of the Dean’s Council & Alumni Society Executive Committee (optional in-person opportunity), 9:00 AM
 - iii. **Thursday, June 8** | Meeting #4 & Board Nominations
- b. Other Business
 - i. Request for Alumni Society Executive Board Member-at-Large Nominations
 - 1. All PDM alumni are invited to be part of the Alumni Society Executive Committee including
 - 2. DMD, Graduate Dental, and Dental Hygiene graduates. Nominated alumni will run for open positions during the June 8 meeting and, if elected, serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2023.
Nominations due Monday, May 15, 2023.
 - 3. Submit a nomination here:
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/97fbc1a4f13e41f8a6899298de9fa118>
 - 4. For more information, please visit
www.dental.upenn.edu/alumnisociety
- c. Red & Blue Advisory Committee, if you are interested in participating, **please [use this link](#) and submit comments by 12/9**. Participation in this process is completely voluntary.
- d. Help PDM reach 10,000 followers on Instagram - follow us and share [@penndentalmed](#)

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.