



IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

**Wednesday, April 24 | 6:30 PM EST
Next Board Meeting & Alumni Board Nominations**

Board nominations are due March 20th. Submit your nomination [here](#).

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

Alumni Society Executive Board

Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2024

Board Members in Attendance: Alyssa Greenberger (D'02), President; Katherine France (D'16 GR'16 GD'18), Vice President; Gail Spiegel Cohen (C'76 D'80); Caryn Siegel Finley (C'95 D'99); Kara Fraiman (D'92, GD'94); Stephen Howarth (D'16); Ken Ingber (D'71); JV Kracke (D'17, GD'19); Roopali Kulkarni (D'19 GE'19 GD'21); Bret Lesavoy (D'19); John Newland (D'84); Lindsay Pfeffer (D'08, GR'08); Lisa Schildhorn (DH'75); Shabnam Sedaghat (D'06); Josh Simpson D'16; Gary Wegman (D'83); Michael Yasner (C'79, D'83, GD'84, GD'86); 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; Dom Gaeta, Development Coordinator; Elizabeth Ketterlinus, Vice Dean, Institutional Advancement; Lindsay Murphy, Associate Director of Annual Giving; Dr. Sean Meehan D'92, Chief Dental Officer, Penn Dental

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M.

- I. The Meeting was opened by board president, Dr. Alyssa Greenberger D'02 and roll call was completed. Approval of the December minutes was obtained.
- II. Reports
 - a. Student Reports
 - i. Student Report for D4 class provided by Student Exec Council President, Stephanie Ng D'24.
 1. Shared thoughts on the ADEX exam
 2. Announced that Odonoblast went great and there are 100 days until graduation
 - ii. Student Report for D3 class provided by Vice President, Kendra Demotor D'25
 1. Discussed her class' adjustments to clinic and clinic rotations specially with the new Cedar location.
 2. Shared their experiences with the integrative board exams.
 - iii. Student Report for D2 class provided by President, Franz Lugay D'26

1. Reviewed his class' ongoing learning in the spring semester and their recent social events.
 2. Just welcomed the incoming PASS class into their class.
 - iv. Student Report for D1 class provide by President, Dean Emanuel D'27.
 1. Discussed his class' overall positive experience with dental school thus far highlighting faculty and staff support.
 - b. Chief Dental Officer Report
 - i. Dr. Alyssa Greenberger introduced PDM's new Chief Dental Officer, Dr. Sean Meehan D'92 to give an overview of his new position with PDM and the role he plays.
 1. Dr. Meehan introduced himself and shared his experience and background highlighting that he is a retired navy captain.
 2. He emphasized enhancing and improving protocols, policies and practices at the school.
 - c. Alpha Omega Meeting Report
 - i. Dr. Bret Lesavoy D'19 provided an update regarding the Alpha Omega chapter event hosted at PDM in early January 2024 highlighting Dean Wolff's involvement and presentation regarding the history of antisemitism and addressing antisemitism on Penn's campus.
 - ii. Dr. Lesavoy emphasized the difficult position Dean Wolff is in and acknowledges again Dean Wolff made it evident he is trying to advocate for all.
 - iii. Liz Ketterlinus mentioned an upcoming symposium on antisemitism taking place on April 7, 2024, hosted by the Jewish Studies Program at Penn. More details are to come.
 - d. Special Meeting with Dean Wolff Report
 - i. Dr. Michael Yasner C'79, D'83, GD'84, GD'85 shared insights from the special meeting with Dean Wolff. They discussed the evaluation of antisemitism on campus and efforts to create a safe environment.
 - ii. Dr. Yasner shared that Dean Wolff discussed the many opportunities and programs developing from the work of the taskforce to address antisemitism on campus as well as the challenges they face to rebuild trust within the Penn community.
 - iii. Dr. Yasner's major takeaway was that the University is taking matters very seriously and that steps are being taken.
- III. Breakout/Committee sessions
- a. Dr. Katherine France D'16 GR'16 GD'18, introduced the guidelines of the breakout sessions. The sessions will last 15 mins and once completed, each chair will discuss a few takeaways to mention to the larger group.
 - i. Student Engagement
 1. Dr. Brigitte White Zinkovic CGS'04 D'07 guided the committee to discuss how to amplify student interaction with alumni at both the networking event and in general.
 - a. It was noted that finding convenient times/locations and teaming up with student organizations could really help.
 - b. Suggested the idea of collaborating with a new student organization called "Tooth Talks". This club is focused on connecting with alumni and has asked Dr. Roopali Kulkarni D'19 GE'19 GD'21 to be their faculty advisor.

- c. *Action Item: Lindsay to set up a meeting with Dr. France, Dr. Greenberger, Dr. Wegman and Dr. White Zinkovic to further discuss this opportunity.*

ii. Alumni Engagement

1. Dr. Gary Wegman D'83 shared that his group discussed becoming more involved in a selective and utilize the alumni network as speakers.
2. In addition, the committee discussed the networking event and making sure to recruit as many alumni as possible to attend and emphasize the importance of mentorship.
3. Dr. Stephen Howarth D'16 and Dr. Josh Simpson D'16 referenced the value of alumni driven selectives remembering a popular selective while they were in school called "100 things you didn't know about dentistry"
 - a. *Action Item: Lindsay to research if this selective still takes place.*

iii. By-Laws

1. Dr. Greenberger highlighted that initial reviews have been made and discussed regarding the By-Laws with the intention of sharing copies of the amendments prior to the next board meeting.

iv. Nominations

1. Dr. France noted that all PDM alumni are invited to be part of the Alumni Society Executive Committee including DMD, Graduate Dental, and Dental Hygiene graduates. Nominated alumni will run for open positions during the April 24th meeting and, if elected, serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2023.
2. All board member nominations are due by March 20, 2024.
 - a. Submit a nomination here:
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/97fbc1a4f13e41f8a6899298de9fa118>

- v. Before moving to the overview of events, Dr. Greenberger encouraged everyone to please sign up for the Networking event. She is making the trip up from Florida and would love to see and connect with as many people as possible.

IV. Overview of Events: Reported by Lindsay Murphy

a. Review of Events Held Since Last Meeting

i. Yankee Dental Alumni Reception Feb 7, 2024 | Boston

1. Sarah Flynn shared that this was a well-attended event that had many young alumni attend wanting to engage with the school more.

ii. Florida Alumni Brunch Jan 21, 2024 | Palm Beach

1. Dr. Greenberger shared how well attended this event was this year and how great it was to see the support of so many in Florida.

iii. Island getaway

1. Maren Gaughan reported the success of this trip and encouraged those with any interest to really consider joining an opportunity like this. Alumni who attended really enjoyed both the fun activities and CE programs.

b. Overview of Upcoming Events

i. Chicago Mid-Winter Meeting | Feb 22, 2024

ii. Alumni- Student Networking Event | March 7, 2024 | Loewes Philadelphia

iii. PDM Alumni Ski trip | March 20, 2024 | Park City, UT

iv. Alumni Reception at AAOM Annual Conference | April 18, 2024

v. Lindsay encouraged everyone to always visit www.dental.upenn.edu/events for

the full “Alumni Events” list including CDE, professional meeting receptions, and regional events.

V. Other Business:

- a. Dr. Greenberger invited the opportunity for other business to discuss and shared information regarding our upcoming board meetings.
- b. Upcoming Board Meetings
 - i. **Wednesday, April 24** | Meeting #4 - Virtual (**Board Nominations**)
 - ii. **Saturday, May 18** | Special Meeting of the Dean’s Council & Alumni Society Executive Committee (optional in-person opportunity)
- c. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.