

Academy of Chemical Engineers  
West Virginia University  
2022 Annual Meeting Minutes  
Holiday Inn and Zoom  
April 8, 2022

**Attendees** ... Brian Anderson, Lisa Baker, Madelyn Ball, James Bero, Stephen Cain, Anesa Chaibi, Gene Cilento, Victor Dean, Jack Dever, Kevin DiGregorio, James Faller, John Gainer, Stuart Goodman, Emer Gunter, Richard Haden, Larry Lilly, James Mitchell, Srinivas Palanki, Michael Prudich, Linda Rogers, Vince Stricker, Richard Turton, Darrell Velegol, Laurie Wiegand-Jackson

The minutes below provide highlights and key items and activities of the Business Meeting and some highlights of other presentations, but slides for most of the presentations were or will be distributed to the Academy Membership for further information.

**Academy Business – *Jim Bero***

Slides were distributed to the membership, but highlights are provided below.

- ***Moment of Silence for Betty Miller ... Jim Bero***
  - BS ChE 1947
  - WVU ChE Academy – 1994
  - First Female Inductee
- ***Recognition of Executive Committee Service ... Jim Bero***
  - Jim Bero (President)
  - Vince Stricker (First VP)
  - Stuart Goodman (Second VP)
  - Kevin DiGregorio (Secretary / Treasurer)
  - Emer Gunter (2-Term Past President)
- ***Nomination / Election of Executive Committee for 2022-2024 ... Jim Bero***
  - Executive Committee nominated Vince Stricker (President), Stuart Goodman (First VP), Kevin DiGregorio (Second VP), and Darrell Velegol (Secretary / Treasurer)
  - No further nominations from the floor
  - Motions were properly made and seconded to close nominations for each position in succession
  - All motions unanimously approved with abstentions from nominated persons
  - Jim Bero automatically moves to Past-President

- ***By-law referendum results ... Jim Bero, Stu Goodman***
  - 100% of Member votes cast were in favor of the Bylaws revisions
  - 52 votes were cast (45 electronic and 7 physical votes)
  - Voting results represented 76.5% of Membership which exceeded the required three-quarters threshold
- ***Statler College Academies – Best Practices ... Jim Bero***
  - Jim worked with other Statler College Academy Presidents to share main issues and identify best practices
    - ... Jim Bero (CBE, Chairperson)
    - ... Ryan Hunter (IMSE)
    - ... Michael Manley (LCSEE)
    - ... Keith Funkhouser (MAE)
    - ... Carol Stevens (CEE)
  - Major Areas Identified: Identification of New Members ... Membership Participation & Engagement ... Alumni & Development Data Access ... Administrative Support ... University Staff Turnover
  - Best Practices document distributed to membership and will be used by EC to address key concerns or needs
- ***Meeting Attendance and Membership Engagement ... Jim Bero***
  - One major area of concern ... Membership Attendance ... discussed, showing trends since 2008
  - EC will form Nominating Committee with task of identifying candidates for membership ... Jim asked for volunteers and EC will seek others as needed
  - EC will have discussion with WVU Foundation VP Chuck Kerzak (Senior Associate Vice President, University Development & Campaign Management)
  - EC will consider other committees, including Galli Lab and Day of Giving

### **Chemical and Biomedical Engineering (CBE) Department Update – Srinivas Palanki**

Slides were distributed to the membership, but some highlights are provided below.

- 20 Faculty Members
- 3 teaching faculty
- 17 research faculty
- 10 assistant professors
- 250 Undergraduate Students
- 66 Doctoral Students (44 in CHE and 18 in BMEG)
- 10 out of 20 faculty members are female
- About 45% of the undergraduate students are female

- Faculty from 4 continents and graduate students from 5 continents
- About 50% of the undergraduate students are from out of state
- Recent changes to improve retention, improve recruiting for doctoral students, streamline masters program, and increase Department visibility
- Discussed metrics, vision, Chair's Role

### **Other Updates ... Slides Have Been or May be Distributed**

- Statler College Update – Dean Pedro Mago
- DEI Initiatives – Cerasela Zoica Dinu
- Department Spotlight: Research Quadrants and Grants

... Stephen Cain: Biomedical Engineering

... Madelyn Ball: Catalysis and Reaction Engineering

... Oishi Sanyal: Transport and Interfaces

... Srinivas Palanki for Yuhe Tian: Process Systems Engineering

- Development Update – Tammy Cavarretta and Travis Finney

Srinivas identified six priority areas for funding and giving:

1. Galli Lab
2. Graduate Scholarships
3. Seminar Series
4. Facility and Lab Maintenance
5. New Faculty Equipment
6. Endowed Professorships

### **Action Items**

- EC will form Nominating Committee with task of identifying candidates for membership and will seek volunteers as needed
- EC will have discussion with WVU Foundation VP Chuck Kerzak (Senior Associate Vice President, University Development & Campaign Management) to discuss identification of candidates for membership and related items
- EC will consider other potential committees, including Galli Lab and Day of Giving
- EC will continue to work with Statler Development (Tammy Cavarretta, Travis Finney, Stephanie Martin) on Academy giving opportunities

### **Innovation Center Tour ... Official Meeting Adjourned**