

**Arkansas Academy of Mechanical Engineering (AAME)  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 22, 2016  
Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION REMARKS:**

The Board of Directors Meeting of the Arkansas Academy of Mechanical Engineering was called to order at 1pm Central Time on Friday January 22, 2016, by President Russ Rasnic. President Rasnic noted that the assembled had had a very interesting tour at the Clean Harbors facility.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** AAME Officers and Board Members present at the meeting were: President Russ Rasnic, Past President Bob Harrison, Treasurer Jeff Hayes, Jim Evans, Frank Porbeck, and Jeff Hayes. From the ME Department Jim Leylek, Elissa Bates, and Melynda Hart attended (Elissa, and Melynda via telecon). Also attending by teleconference were: Secretary Cristine Wolf, Rick Couvillion, Bill Green, Mac Hogan, Rob Porbeck, and Zane Boatright.

✓ **APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

President Rasnic presented the minutes of the AAME quarterly meeting in October 2015, as recorded by Secretary Cristine Wolf to the assembled members for approval; a motion was made to approve the minutes, was seconded, and the minutes from the October 2015 meeting were approved.

✓ **TRESURER'S REPORT:**

Treasurer Jeff Hayes provided the Treasurer's report. He noted that the Fall contribution level was up, however part of that was due to a large contribution that was made by one member. A final report for 2015 will be presented at the Annual Meeting in April.

# 01-22-2016 Draft

## ARKANSAS ACADEMY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, ME BUILDING, FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72701, 479-575-4153

### (Preliminary) FINANCIAL REPORT Dec. 31, 2015

		Change from <u>9/30 Report</u>
Beginning Balance as of January 1, 2015	\$ 60,499.16	
INCOME:		
I. Member Contributions	\$ 34,319.70	\$ 13,200.00
II. Matching Gift Contributions	8,325.00	\$ 600.00
III. Interest Income	8,696.15	\$ 2,197.83
IV. Misc. Income	50.00	\$ -
Total	<u>\$ 51,390.85</u>	\$ 15,997.83
EXPENDITURES:		
I Transfer to Scholarship Account	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
II Student Competitions	-	\$ -
III Special Projects	14,500.00	\$ -
IV. Annual Meeting Costs	17,180.03	\$ -
V. Operations, Misc.	930.62	\$ 173.56
Total	<u>\$ 47,610.65</u>	\$ 173.56
Ending Balance, Sept. 30, 2015	\$ 64,279.36	\$ 15,824.27
LOCATION OF FUNDS:		
U of A Foundation, Open Account	\$ 28,409.48	\$ 13,645.02
U of A Foundation, Endowment Earnings Cash Fund	35,869.88	\$ 2,179.25
Subtotal	<u>\$ 64,279.36</u>	\$ 15,824.27
U of A Foundation, Endowment Fund (Restricted), Net Asset Value	\$ 203,212.31	\$ 970.84
Total AAME Assets	<u>\$ 267,491.67</u>	\$ 16,795.11

Prepared on 1/15/2016 by: Jeff Hayes, AAME Treasurer

AAME: Honoring Distinguished ME Graduates, Promoting UA Mechanical Engineering

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### ✓ **Membership Committee Report:**

It was noted that Bob Harrison and Bill Green have both already submitted nominations for 2016 (induction in 2017). The Membership Committee Report was presented by Vice Chair Jim Evans, who noted Bob Norwood's excellent work in creating the report. 2015/2016 was an outstanding year, with the largest class of nominees (as well as recruiters and candidates) in many years. Since the October meeting, eleven candidates were elected, compared to the goal of eight. It was noted that RSVPs for the Annual Meeting are being collected. 88.5% of the members voted to increase the number of annual inductees from 10 to 20 (retroactively). There was discussion of recruiters to step up for this year.

#### ✓ **Conduct and By-Laws Committee Report:**

The number of nominees language in the by-laws was discussed; Chairman Zane Boatright suggested simply dropping the by-laws language capping the number of nominees, and just leaving the language capping the number of active members at 200. This would allow leeway without having to change the by-laws to allow larger nominee classes. It was noted that other Academies have varying numbers of inductee classes. It was noted that some other academies do not have active member caps. It was moved that the cap on nominees be removed and presented to the Membership at the Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The second amendment to be discussed, 2-16, was to increase the number of active members from other universities should not exceed 23; and allowable nominees from other than the U of A not exceed two annually. ABET accreditation language will be added. The amendment was passed by the Board and will be presented to the Membership. The third amendment discussed 3-16, was to change the language in the by-laws from "dues" to "contributions", to be more consistent and accurate. The amendment was passed by the Board and will be presented to the Membership. Changes related to Honorary Membership status have been completed. Lastly, discussions were held on retiring UA professors and how they should be listed.

#### ✓ **Fundraising Committee:**

Chairman Chris Weiser was unable to attend.

#### ✓ **Finance Committee Report:**

Chairman Frank Porbeck presented the Finance Committee Report. The number of contributing members is approximately 62%. It was noted that there is a small number of members who are nearing the end of their life, whose children or heirs had responded to the membership activity query. We continue to maintain a balanced budget, actually showing a slight budget surplus of \$3782. Because of a soft market, our endowment fund was down. The proposed 2016 budget will also be balanced and consistent with historical data.

#### ✓ **Awards and Nominations Committee:**

Chairman Rick Couvillion noted that there is a very strong candidate for COE Distinguished Alumni and he is working on the submission for CoE.

#### ✓ **Newsletter and Publicity Report:**

Melynda Hart and her staff did an excellent job with the last issue of the Newsletter.

✓ **Student Liaison Committee:**

The Career Development office is holding another event, in which AAME will participate and represent MEEG and COE. Resume' reviews and mock interviews will be conducted, and a number of Academy members have pledged to attend. Will Myers reports that additional help is being sought. In addition, there will be a Freshman Engineering Networking Event in March with a projected attendance of 250+ students. Bob Harrison will be one of the speakers.

✓ **ME SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT AND BUDGET:**

Dr. Leylek discussed a number of items:

1. The new Chancellor will meet with each unit of each college by May of this year. He will take about 10 minutes to layout his vision, followed by an hour long presentation by each unit, highlighting their plans goals and accomplishments. Dr. Leylek will prepare and present the MEEG story.
2. MEEG is seeking 3 tenure track professor, one of which will come through the EE department. These actions are consistent with UA goal of being a top 50 research university.
3. The Freshman Engineering Program has 814 students in it. Dr. Leylek presented the MEEG story to them and received excellent reports and reactions. There were lots of questions about CDIO
4. Rick Webb, friend of Dr. English is working with the Walton Foundation to further boost economic diversity in NW Arkansas. Mr. Webb was highly impressed with CDIO and the direction being taken with it.
5. Nidec Motors in Mena, Arkansas is a 400 person organization that produces 200-2000 hp electric motors. They have 20 engineers on staff and would like a closer connection to the UofA COE.

## **ACADEMY LEADERSHIP FORUM**

**Bob Harrison reported that the initial plans have been made to hold a meeting of Academy Presidents and Department Heads to discuss options and plans for joint Academy functions and support, while maintaining autonomy. Dr. Kevin Hall from the CE Department will be the lead faculty member in attendance. The meeting will be held at Bob Harrison's home in Little Rock.**

## **OLD BUSINESS/REPORTS:**

### **A. Engine Week/STEM/Career Fair Decision**

STEM Fair:

Engine Week: There are currently no plans to resurrect the Engine Week to the levels we have discussed. The Academy's assistance is better served in support of Career Fairs and other similar events.

### **B. Campaign Arkansas Committee Status**

Mac Hogan reports that Campaign Arkansas is currently in the "soft-ask" phase. Thus far, they have raised \$20+ million. Discussions were held about the need for a new MEEG facility. Dr. Leylek reported that he still has everyone crammed under one roof, after the research labs were relocated. ABET noted a significant lack of research space for undergrads, and an unacceptable faculty/student ratio of >40. 3 tenured track faculty are to

be added, but MEEG recently lost 2, making only a net gain of 1. The MEEG building is barring progress and growth, making it the most impactful issue facing MEEG. Mac Hogan will organize a planning session with select AAME members and Dr. Leylek to discuss items to present to the Membership.

### **C. 2016 Annual Meeting**

There will be a format change at the Annual Meeting. There will not be a guest speaker, putting more focus on the inductees. Russ Rasnic is planning to "Pass The Hat" for additional scholarship contributions, in much the same way as other Academies do. Further discussion led to decision not to do this at the banquet, due to concerns of embarrassing members who do not contribute for any variety of reasons.

### **D. Student Presentations at BOD Meetings**

Need Input

### **E. Pursuing Database for Academy Member Locations**

Need Input

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. 2016 Annual Meeting Format**

Russ Rasnic and Melynda Hart will work on a revised banquet format to eliminate the guest speaker and focus more on the inductees and award winners.

### **B. Calling All Alums Response**

Need Input

### **C. Discussion of Non-Participating Members Plan**

Need Input

D. There will be an IMA Design Competition, sponsored by various industry partners. This will be a CDIO Team competition, involving creative and new designs. The intent is to make it fun and exciting from the start. David Albers will be the faculty representative. There will be a presentation banquet at the end that AAME members can attend.

e. Melynda Hart requested that the Academy consider changing our Fiscal Year to match that of the U of A, which is July 1 through June 30. This remains under discussion.

President Rasnic adjourned the meeting at 3:40pm.

*Prepared and Submitted by Cristine L. Wolf, AAME Secretary*