

Minutes of the Ontario Tech Alumni Association Council Meeting April 8, 2019 from 7 to 9 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT (IN-PERSON)

Angelo Pineda (Chair) and Shaikh Farhan Rashid (Vice-Chair)

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT (PHONE)

Tameka Bailey, Reuben Gomes, Sean Kell, William Lee and Michael Riseley

REGRETS

None

ALUMNI OFFICE STAFF PRESENT

Alison Broadworth and Jennifer Goldsmith

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pineda called to order at 7:06 p.m. Seconded by T. Bailey.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda. Moved by M. Riseley. Seconded by S. Farhan Rashid

Carried.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10 MEETING

Motion to approve minutes.

S. Kell requested an amendment for the minutes to reflect that he sent his regrets for the February.

Following that change, W. Lee motioned to approve minutes.

Seconded by T. Bailey.

Carried.

4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. Alumni Achievement Awards Sub-Committee

A. Pineda shared that he and S. Kell will lead the awards sub-committee this year and suggested that they have at least four reviewers from the Council. In case of a tie-breaker between multiple candidates, the Council will vote on the winner.

Sub-committee will be: A. Pineda (Committee Chair), S. Kell, S. Farhan Rashid, R. Gomes and W. Lee.

The Council discussed the timelines for the Awards process. Council decided to close the nominations on June 9 at 11:59 p.m. Final award decisions will be confirmed at the Council meeting on June 24.

b. AAC Elections

M. Riseley reported that the AAC Elections sub-committee needs to be struck and the nomination packages needed to be created. He recommended Council use the 2018 package can be used as last year; the Council agreed.

The Council discussed the number of new members required for the 2019-2020 year. S. Farhan Rashid, T. Bailey and W. Lee are all up for election for their second term. Therefore, there are six spots up for election.

M. Riseley asked for volunteers to serve on the Elections sub-committee. S. Farhan Rashid reminded Council that current members up for election cannot be in the sub-committee unless they are not planning to run again.

M. Riseley confirmed and thanked the sub-committee volunteers who came forward: sub-committee will include A. Pineda, S. Kell and M. Riseley.

A. Pineda to update the [nomination package](#) and seek an electoral officer.

c. Connected Editorial for May Issue

A. Broadworth shared the proposed editorial line-up for the May issue of Connected, to be sent by May 8. Content to include:

- Alumni Survey regarding Net Directories. (To include an open-ended question – what kind of events/or programs would be of interest to you?)
- Merchandise ad
- Events summary
- Pi Day update and thank-you
- Alumni awards open for nominations
- Ask for Convocation volunteers
- Profiles (2 needed)

A. Broadworth asked if Council had any further ideas to propose. A. Pineda mentioned meeting an alumnus at the Donor Appreciation Reception who is the recipient of the AARAA award. He has a policy with Johnson Insurance and it sounded like a great deal. S. Kell shared that he was impressed by the discount he received when looking for insurance quotes and is also a Johnson Insurance client. The Council would like to include a story with testimonials from alumni who have insurance through our affinity partner.

A. Broadworth to confirm with Johnson Insurance if they have any articles with testimonials from Ontario Tech alumni, and if not, request confirmation that we can write an article and include alumni who are willing to provide testimonials.

5. ITEMS FOR DECISION

a. Changing AARAA Name

A. Pineda led the discussion to consider a new for the Alumni Association Returning Alumni Award, as the current name is very long. This year will be the final year under the current gift agreement. This gives the Council the opportunity to create a new name with a new gift agreement. The group discussed and created a short list of new names to be voted on by email during the meeting.

1. AAC Returning Alumni Award
2. Alumni Association Council Award
3. Continuing Education Award (CEA)
4. Returning Alumni Award
5. Continuing Education Alumni Award (CEAA)

A. Pineda asked J. Goldsmith to email the options to all Council members for their vote. After two rounds of votes, Returning Alumni Award received the highest number of votes to be declared the new name.

A. Broadworth to bring a new gift agreement and report on the current award to the next meeting to confirm the Council's interest in proceeding with the award.

b. Pick a date for Alumni Day

A. Broadworth requested the Council discuss and select the date for the 2019 Alumni Day to allow the Alumni Office to include the date in promotion of the Alumni Achievement Awards and the upcoming Election. The Council considered Saturday, September 28 or Saturday, October 5 and selected September 28.

A. Pineda asked for a motion to select September 28 for Alumni 2019.

M. Riseley moved. S. Kell seconded.

Carried.

The A.O. will check with the President's schedule and include promotion to all Faculties once details are confirmed.

6. ALUMNI OFFICE UPDATES / INFORMATION SHARING

a. Receptions and Speakers Series

Next event: Alumni Pub Night at Riley's on April 25. Please join us at Riley's and be sure to share with your networks.

Speakers Series planning is on-going.

Blue Jays tickets for July 24 vs. the Cleveland Indians are now on sale. The first tickets have already been purchased.

A. Broadworth reported that the President is hosting an alumni event in Bruce County alumni on May 10. The event will feature Bruce Power President and CEO, Mike Rencheck and Ontario Nuclear Innovation Institute President, Frank Saunders in conversation with President Murphy.

b. Pi Day Results and Wrap-up

A. Broadworth reported on Pi Day activities:

- Overall a great success – funding goal reached with more than \$53,000 being raised which was matched by Johnson Insurance and the Board of Governors' fund, several examples of earned media, flag raisings across the Region of Durham with many townships proclaiming that March 14 was the university's Pi Day of Giving.
- Thank you W. Lee for hosting a Pi Party at OPG, and thanks to A. Pineda and S. Farhan Rashid for attending and assisting at the Pi Day Community Movie Night (which raised over \$100).
- Alumni who are also staff at the university gathered for a Pi Day kick off party, it was a great event with strong engagement.

c. Online Portal Testing

Not started. A. Broadworth shared that we will continue to use Net Directories for this year's Elections voting and most communications. Shared that a few departments at the university are considering the [Ten Thousand Coffees](#) networking and mentoring platform and encouraged the Council to have a look at it. This could increase alumni-to-alumni mentoring as well as provide alumni to student mentoring opportunities which would be of benefit considering the difficulties with StAMP.

d. Merchandise Inventory

J. Goldsmith shared the current inventory totals with the Council. Group consensus that there is no need to order additional items before Convocation. Event pricing will be in effect at Convocation with the goal of having the existing inventory sold by August 2019.

e. Convocation Speakers

A. Broadworth reported that the university invited the Council to have a member or alumnus/a speak at each Convocation ceremony. The Council discussed available speakers, A. Pineda and S. Farhan Rashid offered to speak.

- Thursday, June 6 – 9:30 a.m. – FESNS and FEAS – A. Pineda
- Thursday, June 6 – 2 p.m. – FBIT AND FSCI – S. Farhan Rashid
- Friday, June 7 – 9:30 a.m. – FED AND FSSH – If no Council member is available, the Alumni Office will invite a past Alumni Achievement award

winner to speak.. S. Farhan Rashid offered to speak at a second Convocation ceremony if the invitation declined.

- Friday, June 7 – 2 p.m. – FHSc - invitation to be sent by Alumni Office to former Alumni Achievement award winner.

S. Farhan Rashid offered to speak at a second Convocation ceremony if the invitations are declined.

7. OTHER BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS

S. Farhan Rashid asks about the status of the Innovative Initiatives Fund application. J. Goldsmith shared that it is not going ahead due to lack of institutional budgets for both Durham College and the university. We may still have Council-to-Council meeting or put on a collaborative event.

S. Farhan Rashid asked why there is no event being planned for August. A. Pineda noted that it was previously decided that nothing would be planned for that month. J. Goldsmith reminded the Council that there are August activities even if no planned event (Elections, Alumni Day planning.)

8. ADJOURNMENT

A. Pineda motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Seconded by M. Riseley.

Carried.

ACTION ITEMS

- J. Goldsmith to revise February minutes to include S. Kell under regrets, send updated copy to Council and update the file available on the AAC webpage. (Note: Completed during meeting)
- 4. a - J. Goldsmith to revise the Alumni Awards website:
 - Timelines
 - Updated nomination form
 - Add 2018 winners
- 4. b – A. Pineda to update the [nomination package](#) and to seek an electoral officer
- 5. a – J. Goldsmith to revise alumni website with new award name
- 5. b – J. Goldsmith to add September 28 to Alumni Day web page, and events page
- 6 e. – Alumni Office to invite discussed alumni to speak at June 7 Convocation ceremonies