

Ontario Tech Alumni Association Council

Annual Meeting of General Members

Virtual: Zoom

Saturday, June 12, 2021

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Lee (Chair)
 Kaitlynn Gambier (Vice Chair)
 Amber Morley
 Astrid DeSouza
 Brian Lieuw Kie Song
 Ijlal Gondal
 Keegan Guidolin
 Muhammad Mahad
 Shaikh Farhan Rashid
 Suroy Thamotharam

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Aaqib Azeem	Eric Brown	Logan Robinson	Rathiban Raveendran
Abhilash Patnaik	Foram Shukla	Luisa Rojas	Richard Acheampong
Alanda Richards	Hailey Saunders	Mallik Fernando	Rizwan Thawer
Alexandar Mihaylov	Iyanuoluwa	Mariam Mendez	Robina Brah
Ali Alsaedi	J.J. Kemlo	Mashid Bessed	Rohit Kumar
Amanda Paul	Jacob Pyper (Jacob)	Matthew Fawcett	Sarah Shepherd
Arda Celik	Jamara Smith	Matthew Mairinger	Saravanaa Kesavan
Auston Mats	Jeff Miller	Matthew Putric	Sarkar Begum
Bryan Persaud	Jody Dowdall	Miguel Mendez	Sathursan Kantharajah
Catherine Weddum	John Mksyartinian	Mohammed Al Ali	Scott Wheatley
Chantelle Whidden	Kathleen Raininger	Nabeel Khan	Shantel Jackson
Dan Bullock	Kenneth Clarke	Naudia Nelson	Stanley Kment
Dilraj Soor	Kristen Colquhoun	Naureen Lakhani	Tiffany Wong
Dwight Thompson	Kyu-Jin Jeon	Nicolas Bermeo	Yvonne Choi
Edyta Chorostkowska	Lisa Dietrich	Patil Mksyartinian	Zoha Khan

ONTARIO TECH UNIVERSITY STAFF PRESENT:

Alison Broadworth
 Carolynn Howard

1. OPENING REMARKS

William Lee, Chair of the Alumni Association Council (AAC) called the Annual General Meeting to order on Saturday June 12th at 11:52 AM.

W. Lee welcomed everyone to the 2021 Virtual Annual General Meeting and introduced the AAC members who were present: Engagement Chair Ijlal Gondal, FEAS, Class of 2016; Governance Chair Astrid DeSouza, FSci, Class of 2015; Finance Chair Suroy Thamoatham, and the general members of Council: Amber Morley, FSSH, Class of 2019, Brian Lieuw-Kie-Song, FBIT, Class of 2017, Keegan Guidolin, FSci, Class of 2013, Muhammad Mahad, FEAS, Class of 2016, and Shaikh Farhan Rashid, FBIT, Class of 2014.

All motions required for our meeting will require they be moved, seconded and then voted upon. To assist with voting we will use the poll function.

W. Lee requested a motion to approve the Agenda for the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

It was moved by Keegan Guidolin and seconded by Ijlal Gondal

Motion approved

Carried.

W. Lee requested a motion to approve the 2020 Annual General Meeting meeting minutes

It was moved by Ijlal Gondal and seconded by Muhammad Mahad

Motion approved

Carried

2. ANNUAL REPORT

W. Lee presented the Annual Report, beginning with the reminder of the AAC's vision: Connect. Engage. Succeed. Celebrate. Followed by the mission: Inspire Ontario Tech's global alumni community to feel connected and supported through programs and services designed to promote the spirit of lifelong success and alma mater pride.

W. Lee recapped council highlights. The Council expanded event offerings by working with Athletics to identify Ridgeback Alumni who could be speakers in the Alumni Speaker Series, along with working with the Career Centre and Athletics to invite upper year students to the events. Council created new alumni merchandise with the new Ontario Tech brand. With second year of funding from the RBC Future Launch, Council continued to use Ten Thousand Coffees as the mentorship platform. Council met their goal of adding an additional 100 registered alumni and students. Council awarded one Returning Alumni Award scholarship for 2019-20 and increased awards

available for 2020-21 year.

I Gondal presented the 2021 Speaker series events, starting with January, Travis Dutka, FBIT. February was the first Ridgeback alumni event with Megan Legge and Emily Uza. April was Law with Ruth Richards, Carleigh Taggart and Sweta Tejpal. May was another Ridgeback speaker event on the theme of teaching with Alison Ng, Fabio Campoli and Kayla De Souza. The last speaker event was the AGM and guest speaker, Naheed Dosani from the Faculty of Science.

With the help of the Alumni Office we focused on increasing our digital presence. twitter.com/OT_alumni we have more than 1,600 followers; facebook.com/OTALumni we have more than 2,200 followers and our Instagram account has just surpassed 1,000 followers – so go start following if you aren't already! This is an excellent way for our alumni to stay connected and share news.

Astrid De Souza presented the Governance update. Council implemented the new timeline for nominations, with the new term starting July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

S. Thamotheeram presented the Financial report. This year, due to the pandemic we were not able to host in-person events.

S. Thamotheeram stated revenue growth shown year over year is as a result of the partnership with Johnson Insurance.

As you can see, we have a good size budget for engagement opportunities. The Council redirected half of the Reception budget (\$3,500) to the Student Relief Fund to help current students who were experiencing immediate and urgent financial need due to COVID-19 and lost jobs, etc.

RAA was increased from three one hundred dollar awards to three five hundred dollar awards due to extra budget from reduced reception costs.

Council also overspent on our Merchandise line to purchase new branded items. All of which can be seen and purchased online at alumni.ontariotechu.ca

Budget for 2021-2022 operations based at \$18,000 with the hope of going through more in-person events but is subject to change depending on how the year goes.

Questions were received during the Annual Report

Matthew Fawcett asked: Projections put forward with respect to the budget, is there a back up plan should the situation change to allow for more live events as things get better in the next year?

W. Lee answered: Budgets are flexible and council is flexible to adapt to the situations presented. A number of possible events are in the “pipeline” should an opportunity present itself.

Alum in chat asked if socks were available for merchandise, and W. Lee confirmed socks are available

W. Lee presented the goals for the 2021-2022 year.

1. Seek out additional affinity partners for increased revenue, e.g. credit cards and other discount programs for direct savings.

2. Continue to investigate the potential ‘Alumni Hall’ and survey what alumni want from this space.

3. Add 100 new alumni to the Ontario Tech Hub.

4. Increase our social media engagement.

5. Continue to improve our events offering.

3. Governance Committee Report

Astrid De Souza, Chair of the Governance committee outlined the Nomination Process for members. Council has a maximum of ten members and works on a rotating schedule to ensure knowledge transfer by avoiding a full transition of new members in one year.

W. Lee acknowledged and thanked the following AAC members who will not return to the Council next year: Shaikh Farhan Rashid, who served as Chair of the Council and has been a great help to members. Keegan Guidolin, who provided great assistance to members and was part of a successful Medical school speaker event. Astrid De Souza then thanked William Lee for his leadership as Chair of the Council, and wished him the best as he also departs from council.

This year, there were three positions available to be filled. The governance committee continued to use a hybrid elections model. The call for nominations was sent in the Spring and Summer for candidates to apply. Following a thorough review of all applications received, each candidate was interviewed by members of the governance committee who recommended a Slate of candidates to be approved by the Council.

The council approved the governance committee’s recommendation for the Slate and brought forward to the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

- Keiver Goodwin, Class of 2020, Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science

- Patil Mksyartinian, Class of 2020, Faculty of Health Science
- Rathiban Raveendran, Class of 2019, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

A De Souza requested a motion adopt the Slate of new members as presented.

It was moved by Matthew Fawcett and seconded by Shaikh Farhan Rashid

Motion Passed

Carried

Thank you for participating and welcome to our new members.

4. OTHER BUSINESS:

W.Lee invited other business from the general members assembled, and invited members to use the chat function to post questions.

As our organization grows, there are many opportunities to get involved both as council members as well as in more informal and short-term roles such as mentors, alumni ambassadors, working groups and Alumni Networks.

Within the Alumni Association Council, membership on the Engagement Committee is open to the general alumni community to assist with specific activities, obtain insights on the operations of the council, and inspire them to become future council members.

I want to thank everyone for being here today to celebrate our alumni community and for your participation in these proceedings.

There being no other business, W. Lee called for a motion to adjourn the 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Tech Alumni Association.

Dwight Thomson moved that the Annual General Meeting of the Alumni Association be adjourned.

The motion was seconded by Nadia Nelson.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.