

Minutes of Meeting

Time & Date: 7:00pm, Thursday, March 18, 2021 (Next meeting is scheduled for April 22nd, 7 pm)

- Zoom Meeting: <https://aiaa.zoom.us/j/95963441809?pwd=TjdUODZQSndiQkl2amlRaEdSNEo5dz09>
- or call: 877-853-5257 US Toll-free or 888-475-4499 US Toll-free
- Meeting ID: 959 6344 1809 / Passcode: 910506

AIAA-NE online information:

- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/aiaa-new-england>
- Website: <https://engage.aiaa.org/newengland/home>

Attendees: Charlie Wilson, Phoenix Tom Robbins, Endri Lesha, John Blandino, Ianl Dargin, Allison Tsai, Bruce McKenzie, James McIntire, Joe Vornehm, John Tylko, Krystina Waters, Naveen Sri Uddanti, Paul Ellingwood, Robert Shin, Zach Taillerfer, Hiro Endo

Apologies: Dave Guo

1. Opening Remarks & Administration (Charlie)

- Potential articles for Aerospace America - Focusing on Aerospace Robotics Competition, WPI-AIAA model jet engine, Prof. Gene Niemi, and Sustained Achievement Awards. The last two will be submitted within a week.
- Inviting more members to take short courses. Allison took one on Green Engineering and produced an excellent 37-page powerpoint summary.
- More contents for Newsletter wanted – Please send it to Jeff & Charlie if you have any ideas!
- We are looking for a volunteer to lead the College Outreach activities!

2. Reports by Committee Chairs & Volunteers:

- Website/LinkedIn (Hiro)
 - Posting 2-3 events & articles per month. Generating 500-1000 views / impressions.
- Finances / Expenditures
 - Our expenditures to date are within our \$11,000 budget to support our members. The budget is the sum of unspent HQ rebate funds from 2019/2020 and rebate for 2020/2021.
- College Outreach
 - AIAA/WPI Jet Engine Project: The funding for 2-year proposal was accepted and a check was issued. More updates to come. (Hiro)
 - WPI High Power Rocketry Club is interested in applying for AIAA funding. Hiro sent the team an info. Waiting for their response. (Hiro)
 - BU. Kathryn Moslener asked for a help to promote a Zoom event. A lecture by Dr. Jenny Gruber NASA JSC. Hiro to post promo material on the Engage and LinkedIn.
 - WPI/WoAA (Krys): Just held an election, and new chair was selected to succeed Krys Waters. Krys will be graduating – Thank you for your contributions!
- STEM / K12 Outreach
 - Aero-Robotics Competition - ARC (Allison)
 - Competition is underway. Currently in Challenge 2 of 3.
 - Two teams and one individual are in the competition.
 - \$250 STEM Grants (Endri)
 - Received one new application, but it was rejected. The requested funding amount was too large.

- New AIAA K-12 Initiative (Endri)
 - Offering free membership to K12.
- MIT-LL Beaver Works Summer Institute (Bob Shin & John Blandino)
 - Cube-Sat Challenge: [AIAA-BWSI Fall 2021 Build a CubeSat Challenge - Google Docs](#)
 - John is determining how best to support the BWSI. Some ideas in consideration are: providing volunteers for judges. advertising and supporting event organization...
 - Key highlights:
 - BWSI received 1700 initial applications and accepted 175 the last time this was offered.
 - Offering the online courses helped to expand the outreach.
 - Working hard to enhance the diversity of the participating students. Trying to get African American / minority students to participate. Currently 50% are women.
 - What's next:
 - Need to define how BWSI and AIAA work together.
 - Start the planning early for the next round.
- Upcoming Zoom Webinars
 - March 23rd Student presentation by WPI High Power Rocket Club.
 - April 7th, AIAA BU (Kathryn Moslener) – Lecture by Dr. Jenny Gruber NASA Johnson Space Center.
 - April 27th, Dr. Deborah Douglas on the new MIT museum.
 - Other Future Zoom Candidates:
 - Lauren Trollinger may be able to link us into one or more Vertical Flight Society [was American Helicopter Society] zooms.
 - A Distinguished Lecturer.
 - Dr. Elad Kivelevitch (Mathworks): AIAA Intelligent Systems TC.
 - WPI Jet Engine Project Team – Student Presentation.
 - WoAA at MIT and WPI.
- STK Project (Endri)
 - Endri is looking into purchasing the software for a project not directly related to the Section.
 - Endri may be able to create a map of the New England Section with the distribution of AIAA Section membership
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (Charlie)
 - Charlie has been working hard to find a suitable person to be the liaison for African American students, but no luck so far.
 - Plan to try the following paths:
 - Get some advice from contacts from MIT-LL.
 - Endri offered to reach out to one of his contacts.
 - James McIntire (MIT-LL, Interceptor Tech Group Lead) – Helping Charlie with Diversity work.
- Honors & Awards (Charlie)
 - Sustained Achievement Awards being prepared for another eleven long-time contributors. At James' suggestion one will be for Eugene Niemi's family.
 - Sustained Achievement Awards - Large Trophies: Dr. John Blandino, Dr. Hsiao-hua Burke, Ian Dargin, Dr. Deborah Douglas, Professor Sheryl Grace, Professor David Guo, Philip Hattis, Col. Douglas Joyce, Bruce Mackenzie, Dr. Albert Moussa, Professor Gene Niemi, Professor John Wilkes.
 - Small Awards: Dr. Hiroaki Endo, Yari Golden-Castaño, Martina Stadler.
 - Congratulations & thank you for your contributions!

- Public Policy (Dave / Endri)
 - Endri will be talking to Rep. Steven Lynch on March 19 for Congressional Visit Day – Promoting R&D, workforce development, STEM K12, supporting initiative for national and global opportunities...

3. Other

- Next council meeting on April 22, 7:00pm-8:00pm.