

Minutes of Meeting

Time & Date: 7:00pm, Thursday, April 22, 2021 (Next meeting is scheduled for May 20th, 7 pm)

- Zoom Meeting: <https://aiaa.zoom.us/j/95963441809?pwd=TjdUODZQSnRlQkl2amlRaEdSNEo5dz09>
- 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, Allison Tsai, Albert Moussa, Elisheva Shuter, James Sherwood, Joe Vornehm, Kirsten Bowers, Idahosa Osaretin, Umanga Balasuriya, Hiro Endo

Apologies: Dave Guo

1. Opening Remarks & Administration (Charlie)

- Publication – Aerospace America
 - Obituary for Gene Niemi published in April Aerospace America, page 59. Copies were sent to Gene's family from HQ. Sustained Achievement Award info submitted. Thank you, Charlie, for pursuing this.
 - Looking for more articles, possibilities are:
 - Aerospace Robotics Competition
 - WPI-AIAA model jet engine
- Section funding of AIAA Short Courses – Please inquire with Charlie if anyone is interested.
- Nomination Committee Slate (Charlie, Joe, John):
 - New Officer for the next year:
 - Chair: Hiro Endo, Vice-Chair: Allison Tsay, Secretary: Caroline Lamb, Treasurer: Osa Osaretin
 - No other nomination from the membership.
 - Congratulations!
- Welcome and introduction by Osa Osaretin & Charlie's intro about Caroline Lamb.

2. Reports by Committee Chairs & Volunteers:

- Website/LinkedIn (Hiro)
 - No significant event – Both LinkedIn and Engage website is working well:
 - Posting 2-3 items every month. Promoting zoom talks, cross-promoting other AIAA talks, and events...
 - A new talk on Sustainable Aviation coming up on 4/26th – A good material to re-post (Charlie will send Hiro a link).
 - If anyone is interested in posting promotions or share interesting content – please contact Hiro.
- Finances / Expenditures
 - Funds available to date: \$22,000
 - Expenses to date: \$9,254
 - ARC: \$2012
 - Two STEM Grants (\$250 ea) & Tello Drones give away: \$618
 - Dr. Forzyck books to 9 student branches: \$252
 - WPI Jet Engine Project Funding (2 yrs): \$3500
 - Possible MIT-LL BWSI support: \$1000 - not yet committed
 - AIAA-NE News Letters: \$1390

- Long achievement awards: \$1152
- Ref: https://drive.google.com/file/d/15ZzDENLuthPMpoFofwY7K_4bIGu4Zr7/view?usp=sharing
- College Outreach (Umanga)
 - Umanga sent emails to student branches to introduce himself. Only two branches responded so far...
 - Prof. Grace recommends that we organize an event for students in the fall 2 weeks after schools start (possibly an in-person get-together, pending a relaxed COVID situation).
- WPI-AIAA/WoAA (Kirsten Bowers)
 - Kirsten is succeeding Krys Waters as the chair of AIAA-WPI and WoAA-WPI – congratulations!
 - Reporting on WPI activities:
 - Drone project – WIP
 - Jet Engine Project: The student started to work in the maker lab space / Testing electronics.
 - HPRC – Recently gained the permit to launch. The team is building the rocket and preparing for the launch! Scheduling a parachute ejection test with Hiro at Test Devices.
 - DMF (Design, Make & Fly) project: Started a Solar wind airplane about 4 weeks ago
 - WoAA: Sending a survey to recruit volunteers for ARC / working with Allison.
- STEM / K12 Outreach
 - Aero-Robotics Competition - ARC (Allison)
 - 6 students competed at times. Competed on three challenges – Aerohoop, aerobatics, and wave-point challenge...
 - Held a Mentor Spotlight talk presentation by Dr. Johnny Worthy (MIT-LL) on Space Traffic Management.
 - Planning to expand the competition to include the southern and eastern NH schools. Targeting especially the high-schools with the students in foster care.
 - Allison requested if AIAA-NE can support giving a cash prize for winners – She will consult the ARC organizers to recommend the amounts for the prize.
 - Kirsten and Osa are interested in collaborating with ARC – Allison to send them emails.
 - When COVID is lifted, Allison is planning to hold the competitions at selected schools. Also, perhaps we can organize the ARC competition as a part of the AIAA outing event (eg. Collings Foundation Day)?
 - Allison is putting together a summary ppt to wrap up the season.
 - MIT-LL Beaver Works Summer Institute (Bob Shin & John Blandino)
 - John and Bob have started to plan for the first summer session.
 - Planning to target students from underserved communities (women, minorities, etc). Recruitment is planned to start around June/July.
 - John is working on a memorandum of the agreement with MIT-LL. We need to understand how the section can do this (Charlie to check up)
 - Inquiries and request for AIAA-NEW:
 - Could AIAA-NE sponsor and provide partial funds for BWSI? The AIAA-BWSI fall program will cost around \$15,000 to run. Bob can use the money to buy hardware and kit them ahead of time - Charlie suggested \$750.
 - All K-12 students are eligible for free AIAA membership. This would be a good way to encourage students to join AIAA in the future.
 - John (WPI) is recruiting the Robotics and Aerospace graduate students to volunteer as mentors. Could UMass help with the recruitment – Prof. Sherwood?
 - Bob speaking with Tufts University for their possible involvement.

- \$250 STEM Grants (Endri)
 - Endri is in conversation with Quincy High School – The principal is interested in the grant and she plans to submit a proposal for the grant.
 - Endri, Osa, Charlie and others have a meeting with the NSBE president on 4/28 (from 12 noon). Interested in building momentum and a collaborative relationship...
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (Charlie/Osa)
 - Osa will be taking over the lead role on DEI from Charlie.
 - Charlie to introduce Osa to Dexter Johnson (NASA).
- Upcoming Zoom Webinars
 - April 27th, Dr. Deborah Douglas on the new MIT museum.
 - Other Future Zoom Candidates:
 - MIT-LL TCAS (Jim Kutcher?) – Joe to reach out and inquire for a potential speaker to his MIT-LL contacts.
 - Possible talk by an Astro-biologist (Endri's contact)
 - Possible talk by Boeing 737Max talk – from Engineers' perspective (idea by Dr. Douglas. Boeing Office is about the new MIT Museum)
 - WPI Jet Engine Project Team – Student Presentation.
 - Lauren Trollinger may be able to link us into one or more Vertical Flight Society [was American Helicopter Society] zooms.
 - Dr. Elad Kivelevitch (Mathworks): AIAA Intelligent Systems TC.
 - New ideas with Zoom platform:
 - Setup an ~1hr zoom session for aerospace-related debate (Dr. Moussa)
- STK Project (Endri)
 - Waiting for a project to get approved.
- Honors & Awards (Charlie)
 - Sustained Achievement Award (10 years):
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qcvPgCEDJ0zagF6HUkCX9jmC0b1W2Qxr/view?usp=sharing>
 - Prof. John Blandino, Prof. Hsiao-Hua Burke, Ian Dargin, Dr. Deborah Douglas, Prof. Sheryl Grace, Prof. David Guo, Dr. Philip Hattis, Col. Douglas Joyce, Bruce Mackenzie, Dr. Albert Moussa, Prof. Gene Niemi, Prof. John Wilkes.
 - Special Awards:
 - Yari Golden-Castaño, Martina Stadler, and Hiro Endo
 - Congratulations & thank you for your contributions!
- Public Policy (Dave / Endri)
 - Endri and Phil Hattis talked to Rep. Steven Lynch on March 19 for Congressional Visit Day. Discussed the following topics:
 - Providing stable funding for Aerospace and Defense sectors.
 - Anti-spying effort against China and Russia.
 - Every New England state, except VT, were represented.
 - Phil has submitted much more info on the Section's involvement to Jeff Mobed for inclusion in the Spring Newsletter

3. Other

- Next council meeting on May 20, 7:00pm-8:00pm.
- Proposed in-person event for 2021 (Pending COVID situation):
 - Mass Air & Space Museum in Hyannis, massairspace.org – Jeff (TBD)
 - Pratt & Whitney Hangar Museum Tour (Fall 2021)
 - Collings Foundation – STEM Promotion Day with Students (Late summer / Fall 2021 or June 2022)
 - New MIT Museum visit (TBD)
 - Boeing / Aurora Flight Science office visit (Above the MIT Museum) (TBD)
 - Science Day (TBD)