

Minutes of Meeting

Time & Date: 7:00pm, Thursday, July 22, 2021 (Next meeting is scheduled for August 19th, 7 pm)

- Zoom Meeting: <https://aiaa.zoom.us/j/95963441809?pwd=TjdUODZOSndiQkl2amlRaEdSNEo5dz09>
- 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: Umanga Balasuriya, Kristen Bowers, Hiro Endo, Caroline Lamb, Endri Lasha, Jeffrey Mobed, Christian North, Idahosa Osa Osaretin, Thoams Phoenix Robbins, Kevin Schultz, Bob Shin, Naveen Sri Uddanti, Charlie Wilson

Apologies: John Blandino, Allison Tsay

1. Opening Remarks & Administration (Charlie)

- Highlights since the last meeting:
 - DEI & STEM:
 - Laptop donation to Empower Yourself/NSBE Jr. – Cedric Turner Brockton Highschool
 - Summer program teaching students to program; Charlie spearheaded connection with MITRE to obtain donation of laptop computer to provide to students in program.
 - Tello drone donation to NSBE Jr. – Gael Gattera
 - Donation will support NSBE chapter activities in Connecticut
 - Hydrogen Fuel Panel Discussion (Albert & Allison)
 - ~50 attendees; Bruce Holmes and Zoltan Spakovsky as speakers
 - TCAS zoom talk (Hiro)
 - ~50 attendees; Jim Kuchar as speaker
 - Confirmed that Hiro is compiling a list of attendees from webinars to support end of year reporting.
- Finances / Expenditures (Osa)
 - Cost to ship drone to Gael @ NSBE (\$15.50)
- 2021/2022 Planner & upcoming activities ([Link to the planner](#))
- Other announcements:
 - Volunteers wanted - AIAA/IEEE Electric Aircraft Technologies Symposium, Aug 11-13 ([more info](#))

2. Reports by Committee Chairs & Volunteers:

- Newsletter (Jeff / Charlie)
 - We hope to distribute a draft on Monday (7/26)
 - Jeff is delayed by family considerations
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (Osa, Charlie, Endri)
 - Cedric looking for volunteers for Lunch & Learn

- Every Friday from 12-1; program runs through last Friday in August; informal invitation to speak with kids in the program- inspire them with your journey into engineering. Hiro is speaking with the group on August 6. Interested parties should contact Osa or any of the New England AIAA Council members.
- Other updates & plans
- College Outreach (Umanga)
 - Networking with college branches & understanding what they do
 - Reachout completed to non-responsive student branches
 - Response received from Northeaster chapter.
 - Recommend reaching out to branches again once the school year after chapter leadership is likely to have changed
 - Nominations for leadership awards
 - Potential criteria:
 - Demonstrate initiative and is actively involved in AIAA student branch activities
 - Actively promotes their AIAA student branch to garner interest from current and prospective students
 - Is an excellent role model and mentor to other students
 - Time award for the Dec/Jan timeframe so winners can include on their CV
 - Events for college students without a student chapter
 - Considering establishing additional student branches.
 - No requirement for the host school to have an aerospace engineering degree program
 - Middlesex Community College (lacks faculty with AIAA membership; potential to partner with UMass Lowell), so is not eligible, more discussion below.
 - There are still schools with Student Members (e.g. UNH) who will not be able to make the minimum requirement for a student branch (perhaps lack of broad student interest) - how can we serve those individuals?
 - AIAA Career Fair upcoming - reminder will be sent to student branches
- College Branch Activities / Updates from Advisors
 - WPI-AIAA/WoAA (Kirsten / Prof. Blandino)
 - WPI will be fully in-person in the fall; all clubs will be permitted to meet in person!
 - WoAA activities
 - Not active during the summer; have been reaching to sister branches to coordinate activities for the fall
 - WPI AIAA chapter activities
 - UAV/Drone: purchased drones and UAVs in preparation for the Fall
 - Model Rocketry: getting ready for upcoming launch
 - Jet Engine Project: Peter has been on-campus; working on/off
 - High Power Rocket Club activities: creating video content for YouTube stream to familiarize new members with tools, processes. Starting design for next year. Kevin Schultz - new captain for the team introduced himself during the meeting.

- Working to change platform to ease internal communication; create alumni channel; plans to publish a branch newsletter
 - Request: will the Chapter have funding against which the other subcommittees could apply? Now, later? Umanga - indicated he will send Kristen the application.
 - Questions:
 - Might the rocket team be willing to present to Cerdic's student group? Osa has an action to connect Kristen with Cedric.
 - Can section members be invited to the launch? Considering that the launch may take place remotely in VT or elsewhere, it is a great opportunity for AIAA members in that area to attend an event with other members.
 - Middlesex Community College (MCC) - Model Aviation Club (Christian)
 - Change in chair of Engineering Department - waiting on response to letter of intent to partner with UMass Lowell on a student branch
 - Two members graduated and are now enrolled at UMass Lowell
 - Goal to participate in DBF this year
 - MCC will be hybrid this fall; access to the campus will remain limited at this point
 - Others
- STEM / K12 Outreach
 - Aero-Robotics Competition (Allison) - no update
 - MIT-LL Beaver Works Summer Institute (Bob Shin & John Blandino)
 - John B, Hiro, and Bob met with Region 1 STEM director and Craig Merrret - overall AIAA STEM Chair - to discuss funding request for Beaverworks course.
 - MOA was forwarded to AIAA HQ; waiting on response.
 - \$250 STEM Grants (Endri)
 - Little activity at present
 - Anticipate flood of activity when schools start in the Fall.
 - Hiro - recommended sending information about grants to our Educator Associate members
- Professional Development & Technical Courses:
 - Sustainable Aviation (Charlie)
 - We hosted a successful panel discussion this past month with ~ 50 attendees - see below.
 - Electric vehicle seminar upcoming for \$250 - potential for chapter reimbursement for attendees willing to brief content to the chapter after the fact
 - Cybersecurity (Charlie)
 - Timely topic- should be of interest to our members
 - Steve Lee, AIAA Aerospace Cybersecurity Program Manager is willing to participate in a Zoom webinar with our section; Naveen is pursuing this opportunity in Sept or Nov. He has taken the lead for the section and is now a member of the AIAA Cybersecurity group (exact name?) He can form a section committee and be its chair.
 - Space / Commercial Space (TBD) - no update
 - Hypersonic (TBD) - no update
 - Other (TBD) - no update

- Zoom Webinars (Hiro)
 - Planning a talk with Raytheon in Oct (Phoenix/Hiro)
 - Talk scheduled with Dr. Winters Tuesday October 26, 7-8pm
 - Update on the Distinguished lecturer (Naveen)
 - Charlie provided some suggestions/leads on prior DL events
 - No other topics/speakers stood out as particularly motivating in DL catalog.
 - Are there speakers in Urban Mobility? Possible leads?
 - Endri Lesha - POC at MIT in exo-planetary studies
 - Posting for Hydrogen Panel recording & possibility of producing a booklet (Albert)
 - Other potential speakers in Sept, Nov, Dec? (Zoom Planner - [Click here](#))
- In-person event for 2021/2022:
 - Events in planning:
 - Aug/28: Mass Air & Space Museum in Hyannis & BBQ Lunch (Jeff)
 - Remains on-track. Will confirm with Museum and track to get the advertisement out within the next two weeks.
 - Astronomy Night on the Cape proposed (Endri & Jeff)
 - Difficulty in obtaining equipment to host the event on the Cape
 - Recommend removing even from schedule
 - Sept/Oct: Pratt & Whitney Hangar Museum Tour (Hiro)
 - Museum is not yet open; will track status with hope that we can schedule an event that support college student participation.
 - Proposed Events:
 - Collings Foundation – STEM Day with Students (Late summer, Fall 2021, or June 2022)
 - New MIT Museum visit (April/May 2022)
 - Boeing / Aurora Flight Science office visit (Above the MIT Museum) (TBD)
 - Science Day (TBD) - event has been cancelled; significant safety overhead required to coordinate/host event.
 - Agenda:
 - Confirm the event dates & launch promo campaigns (cross-promote to DEI/STEM/Colleges).
- Honors & Awards
 - Proposed Awards from AIAA-NE
 - A „Thank you“ token/gift for Zoom volunteer speakers (or event hosts)
 - Paper weights
 - Token gift card to Borders or Amazon - within our bylaws?
 - Invitation to an event...
 - Award for College Student Branch Leadership
 - Award for STEM Educator Leadership

- Award for DEI Educator Leadership
- Have an award category/idea - send it to Hiro!

3. Other

- Next council meeting on Aug 19, 7:00pm-8:00pm.