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=TjdUODZOSndiQkI2amlRaEdSNEo5dz09
- 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


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 Gaterra
      - Donation will support NSBE chapter activities in Connecticut
  - Hydrogen Fuel Panel Discussion (Albert & Allison)
  - ~50 attendees; Bruce Holmes and Zoltan Spakovskky 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:
  o Might the rocket team be willing to present to Cerdic’s student group? Osa has an action to connect Kristen with Cedric.
  o 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
  o Others

● STEM / K12 Outreach
  o Aero-Robotics Competition (Allison) - no update
  o 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.
  o $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:
  o 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
  o 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.
  o Space / Commercial Space (TBD) - no update
  o Hypersonic (TBD) - no update
  o Other (TBD) - no update
● Zoom Webinars (Hiro)
  o Planning a talk with Raytheon in Oct (Phoenix/Hiro)
    ▪ Talk scheduled with Dr. Winters Tuesday October 26, 7-8pm
  o 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
  o Posting for Hydrogen Panel recording & possibility of producing a booklet (Albert)
  o Other potential speakers in Sept, Nov, Dec? (Zoom Planner - Click here)

● In-person event for 2021/2022:
  o 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.
  o 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.
  o Agenda:
    ▪ Confirm the event dates & launch promo campaigns (cross-promote to DEI/STEM/Colleges).

● Honors & Awards
  o Proposed Awards from AIAA-NE
    ▪ A „Thank you“ token/gift for Zoom volunteer speakers (or event hosts)
      ● Paper weights
      ● Token gift card to Boarders 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.