

MIT Engineering Leadership Programs — Industry Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

November 21st, 2024

Executive Summary

Leo provided an update on the GEL Program. Key points:

Enrollment this semester is 131 GEL1 students and 37 GEL2 students, with a growing number earning certificates. Any attrition is due mainly to students overcommitting themselves. We have 1,391 alumni, many actively supporting ELLs and sharing their GEL stories at our annual career fair. Our summer Professional Ed courses – Mastering Innovation and Design Thinking and Engineering Leadership for Emerging Leaders – were well-attended. Jim Magarian and staff earned Best Paper in five divisions at the ASEE conference. The paper highlighted our Ethics ELL in action.** Apple and Northrop Grumman sponsored Impactships this year. We're ensuring companies who participate understand the high level of commitment involved. Impactship students are ideal future GEL2 leaders. Staff updates: Claudia Forero-Sloan hired to assist with GEL/GradEL finances. Mike Finkle hired as GEL/GradEL Marketing and Communications Officer.

ACTION ITEMS:

Leo to send copy of Jim's paper to Art Reidel.

“Navigating the Mystery: An Approach for Integrating Experiential Learning in Ethics into an Engineering Leadership Program” <https://peer.asee.org/47797>

Tony Hu provided an update on the GradEL Program. Key points:

GradEL is on track with its mission of attracting the highest potential grad students and helping them transform into engineering leaders. We are up to 7 of our own courses, plus 19 electives. This year, 42 grad students earned program completion certificates, a 27% increase from last year. Dan Riccio spoke to an overflow crowd of 400 for the TLC Distinguished Speaker Series. Lisa Su, CEO of AMD and namesake of MIT's nano building, will speak at an upcoming event. We're hearing great feedback from the first group of Engineering Residency Program students and have identified candidates for the second group. We're striving to improve matching the skills/interests of candidates with host companies. Fundraising update from Heather Kispert Hagerty: Paul Green and Joel

Schindall have leadership roles in the spring 24-Hour Challenge, which is great for GradEL awareness/support. (Paul Green attended Dan's talk and pledged a generous gift to GradEL.)

ACTION ITEMS:

None

Prior to the meeting, the Board evolution proposal was provided to the IAB. There was agreement from the board members on the overall aim of the proposal (to increase the value of IAB membership both for members and for the programs) and the proposed tactics/initiatives. Reza introduced the proposed subcommittees and led a discussion to gather Board input regarding the framing of two subcommittees. The first Subcommittee would gather insights from companies to strengthen our Impactships and Residency programs. Discussion focused on having a good elevator pitch to get companies excited about the programs, contacting companies that employ our graduates, identifying who to approach (HR, Engineering, etc.), working with co-op organizations at MIT, and asking students what types of companies they are interested in. The second Subcommittee would gather insights from front-line company personnel about what is needed for the latest generation of students to thrive. Board members agreed this was an important topic due to difficulties integrating young employees into the workplace, the retirement bubble draining many companies of talent, and low employment expectations of this new generation causing recruiting challenges. Both subcommittees were enthusiastically supported, and Board members were encouraged to volunteer for their preferred subcommittee.