

General Meeting

02/13/08

Began at 6:30pm, ended at 7:40pm

51 people in attendance

1. Pre-meeting
 - Free soda and Gumby's pizza served
 - Sign up sheets for events available
2. President Announcements – Nina
 - Recap of events from the past 2 weeks: game night and ice skating, casino night fundraiser was fun and easy!
3. Polygon/Expo Chair Announcements – Eric S.
 - E-week (competition between engineering student orgs) coming up Feb. 18th – 22nd – sign up to attend events such as spoons tournament, Kool-Aid Pong, and Stuck on You.
 - Need event captains for E-week
 - If you don't sign up for events you can still show up and compete at any of them
 - Tuesday and Wednesday morning eat a scrambler at Mickey's Dairy Bar to earn BMES points
4. Outreach Announcements – Cali
 - Next Science Olympiad session is Wednesday, Feb 20th from 2:30 – 4:00pm at Edgewood Middle School.
 - Following the meeting stick around to make Valentine's for patients at Meriter – BMES wants to give out 90 Valentines
 - Girl Scout Badge Day on Feb 23rd. Help girl scouts complete science projects to earn their badge.
5. Social Chair Announcements – Ben
 - Milwaukee Bucks vs. Nuggets basketball game on Feb 23rd at 7:00pm. \$10 tickets.
 - Ice skating at the Shell on Feb 28th
 - Ski Trip on Feb 29th or March 7th
6. President Announcements – Nina
 - Kaplan offers test preparation courses and is holding a free testing session at 9am on Sat, Feb 23rd. Donate food and the student organization with the most donations wins another free test.
 - Attendance Point winners announced
7. Speaker: Professor Dave Beebe on “Translational Biomedical Engineering”
 - Professor Beebe has started 3 different companies – all seek to apply research findings in useful ways
 - Areas of research include using physics to manipulate things at the micro level (ex. Passive pumping, cell migration)

- 1st company: Vitae LLC; product is able to get rid of cumulus from embryonic cells. Scientists working with human cells do a comparable job removing cumulus, but the product offers an improved vacuum process for removal of cumulus from animal cells.
- 2nd company: Ratio; product for transdermal delivery of large molecule drugs. Most new drugs are large molecule, so they cannot be taken orally. This product is a cross between a patch and a pump, using an expanding hydrogel to push drug out through microarray of needles. Ultimate goal involves the use of hydrogels as “smart valves” to allow for a closed loop drug delivery system – would be ideal for maintenance of glucose levels in diabetic patients.
- 3rd company: Salus Discovery LLC; has been acquired by Bellbrook Labs and product will be sold to pharmaceutical companies soon. No human testing was required, so the last company founded by Dr. Beebe will actually be the first to send a product to market. Product allows for truly low volume use of microfluidic devices. Currently, when a small amount of fluid is required for an experiment there is still a large volume of fluid in the tubes required for filling. Minimizing the amount of fluid required will also reduce the number of necessary test subjects.
- Entrepreneurial advice: don't start a company based on one successful experiment, consider the market you're looking to enter, and only time will tell how successful a company will really be