

**Minutes of the Annual Members Meeting of
Engineering Society of Systems Scholars (ESSyS)**

- 1) Time and Place. The Engineering Society of Systems Scholars held the annual members meeting on April 6, 2026 at 5:00pm EDT via Zoom and at 716 Van Metre Hall, George Mason University, Mason Square, Arlington, Virginia.
- 2) Attendance. The following members were present: (In Person): Paul Grogan, Bryan Mesmer, Bryan Watson, David Flanigan, Peter Beling, Alkim Avsar, John Shortle, Emily Liu, Payuna Uday, Eric Brubaker, Taylan Topcu, Casey Eaton, Erica Gralla, Zoe Szajnfarder, Thomas Bradley, Nil Ergin, Susan Ferreira, Valerie Sitterle, Tom McDermott, Paul Wach, David Broniatowski, Shams Bhada, Ekundayo Shittu; (Online): Young-Jun Son, Ambrosio Valencia-Romero, John Little, Yinshuang Xiao; Student Member (Online): Suparna Mukherjee.
- 3) Presiding Officers and Quorum. Grogan called the meeting to order at 5:03pm EDT and acted as Chair thereof, and Liu served as Secretary of the meeting. The Chair announced that a quorum of the members was present and that the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.
- 4) Background and Motivation. Grogan discussed the background and motivation for the transition from CESUN to ESSyS.
- 5) Incorporation Status. Grogan shared the incorporation status including filing of articles of incorporation, approval of bylaws and governance policies, successful application for nonprofit status, and the membership status. As of April 3, 2026, ESSyS had 43 members including 40 full members and 3 student members.
- 6) Financial Status. Grogan presented on the financial status as of April 3 including \$2075 in revenue, \$169 in expenses against a \$500 planned budget (omitting professional accounting and/or tax services), and \$1906 in current net earnings.
- 7) Community Service. Grogan shared this year's efforts focused on CSER 2026 programming and CSER 2027 planning.
- 8) Membership Initiatives. Grogan shared future membership initiatives including the Systems Engineering Community of Practice and other possible efforts such as a speaker series. Coordination with related groups, including CAS, CIEADH, IEEE Systems Council, IISE, INCOSE, INFORMS, and ISTE, was also encouraged. Additional ideas discussed included lightweight mentoring, podcast style media, and novel publication models. Members contributed additional suggestions including: a forum to discuss student publication strategy, a recognition or award for

the best student paper, (potentially across journals), and a venue to advance theoretical research.

- 9) Director Elections. Grogan shared the process for director elections which will take place next month.
- 10) New Business. Grogan welcomed new business items (none raised). The meeting concluded with an open floor discussion, including comments on the ESSyS logo.
- 11) Adjournment. Having no additional business to conduct, Grogan adjourned the meeting at 5:53pm EDT.

Minutes by Emily Liu