



**The Rensselaer Society  
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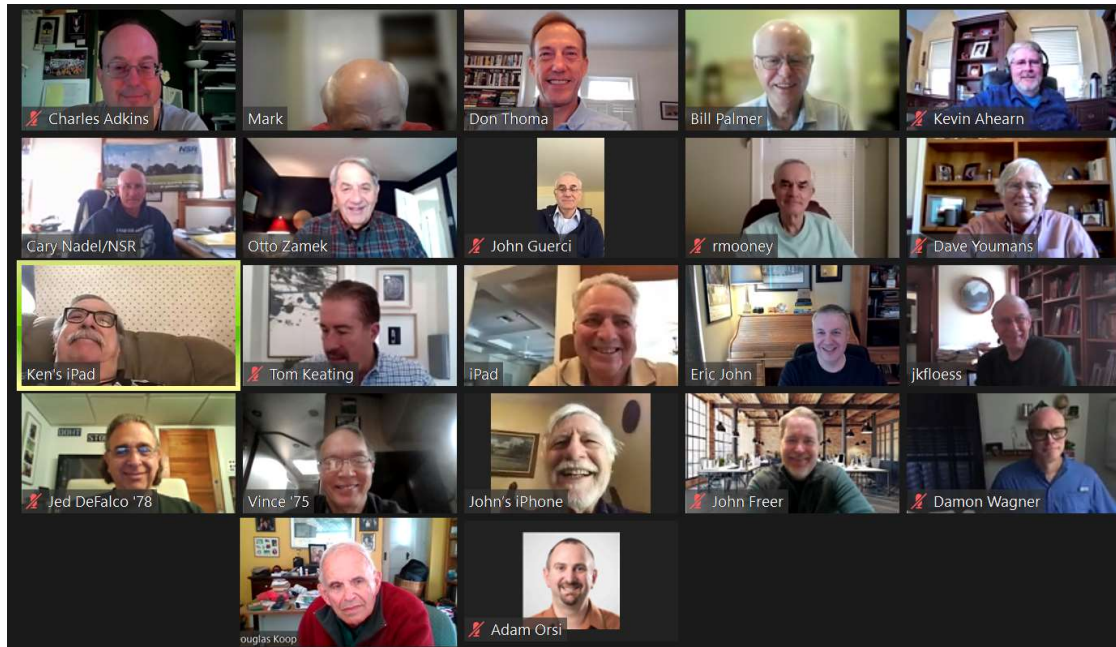
# RSE Alumni Advisory Committee Update on Campus Relaunch

October 22, 2022

# Attenees



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# Agenda



1. Introduction – Don Thoma
2. RSE Fall 2022 Campus Relaunch – Don Thoma
3. Plans for Spring / Fall 2023
4. Clubhouse Renovation Update – Charlie Adkins
5. Foundation Update – Eric John
6. Conclusion – Don Thoma



# RSE Fall 2022 Campus Relaunch

Don Thoma

# Spring / Summer 2022 Student Activities



- Student Organizing Committee has been formed to lead the establishment of the new RSE on campus organization
- Weekly call supported by RSE Alumni Advisors
- Objective to design and build the structure of the RSE student member organization
- Held initial campus outreach and informational meetings
- Student leaders: Greta Perez-Haiek '24, Bren Paul '24, and Kazuki Neo '23

# Student Organization Concept



An alternative to traditional Greek-life organization, RSE is a student-run, living-learning society that advances leadership skills, cultivates innovation, and promotes social responsibility by engaging the Rensselaer community and its resources through projects, events, and mentorship

# Student Organization Mission



- Provide Rensselaer students with experiences and knowledge so they can explore their potential outside of their core coursework
- Prepare Rensselaer students to be future leaders through innovation, collaboration, and networking
- Connect the students and alumni of Rensselaer to build life-long relationships and networks at Rensselaer and throughout their careers



# Organization Focus

- Academic success of student members
- Innovation and entrepreneurship
- Professional, career and personal development
- Leadership and life skill development
- Social responsibility through sustainability and philanthropy
- Adding new areas of interest to students over time



# RSEi Name



- Rensselaer Society of Engineering Innovation (RSEi)
- Why modify the name of the student organization?
- No, we are not Changing the name of the Alumni corporation
- We are still The Rensselaer Society of Engineers



# Administration Status

- Ethan Stubbs, Associate Dean for the Fraternity and Sorority Commons
- RSE is now part of Professional Fraternity Association (PFA)
- Includes Alpha Omega Epsilon, Alpha Delta Phi, Alpha Phi Omega, Order of Omega, and RSE
- Not restricted by IFC recruiting limitations
- Allowed to have residential capability
- Bursar billing
- Eligible for student activity funding

# RSE Clubhouse Concepts

- Students have provided input on potential uses of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors and basement to support the new RSEi mission



**Chill-Out  
Lounge**



**Collaboration  
Spaces**



**Project  
spaces**

**Residential  
rooms**



# Fall 2022 Campus Activities



- Focus on introducing RSEi to campus
- Objective: Recruit 10-12 members for Spring 2023



**RPI Activities Fair &  
Fraternity/Sorority Round Up**



**Campus Informational  
Session on Oct 1<sup>st</sup>**



**Volleyball Social on Oct 16th**



# MBA Practicum

- Prof Clint Ballinger has sponsored another MBA practicum class
- Team of 7 students are working with the alumni and student team
- Objective to create a robust financial plan for the new student organizations
- Define revenue sources
- Understand operating costs
- Sensitivities of residential vs non-residential members
- Deliverable - five-year pro forma business model



# Plans for Spring / Fall 2023

Don Thoma

# RSEi Relaunch Timeline



Fall 2022

**Official On Campus Launch  
Initial Student Activities and Recruitment**

Spring 2023

**Recruitment and Induction of Initial Student Members  
Organize for Fall 2023**

Fall 2023

**Initial Residential Operations  
Expand On Campus Program and Recruitment**

Spring 2024

**Expand Residential Operations  
Full On-Campus Student Activities**

# Spring 2023



- Induction of 10-12 new student members
- Update to the student organization by-laws
- Prepare for Fall 2024 residential activities (target 5-6 live-in students)
- Recruit live-in advisor
- Host initial student activities at the House (Alumni lectures, co-host events with other professional organizations, initial project activities)
- Recruit new members for the Fall
- Expand room renovations





# Fall 2023 and beyond

- Begin residential operations with live-in students
- Full-scale recruiting objective:
  - 20-30 full members
  - At least 10-15 who would want to live-in by the Fall of 2024
- Finalize plans for facility renovations to support the new RSEi mission
- Full-scale on campus student events



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# Clubhouse Renovation Update

Charlie Adkins



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# Foundation Update

Eric John / Mark Vince

# Foundation Updates



## Project Funding

- Initial grant of \$120k to cover 100% of the cost to refresh five rooms on the second floor
- Follow-on grant of \$25k to re-establish a private bathroom in the Guest Room
- Grants funds are 100% alumni donations

## Scholarships

- Becker and Bergfield scholarships have not been awarded since 2019
- Funds are active and available payouts have been accumulating
- RPI-RSE scholarship still exists but has not had funds available for award since 2018

# Fundraising Status



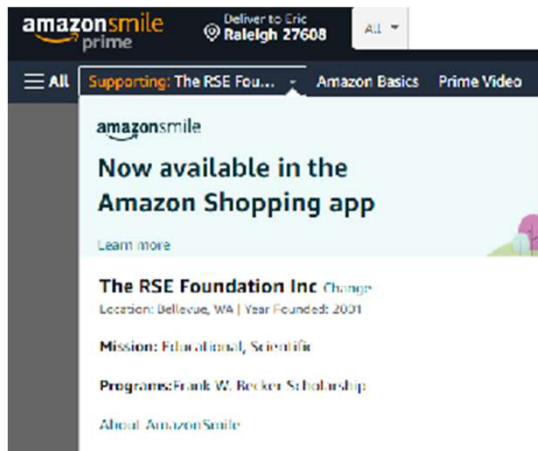
- Annual fund appeal letters will be going out in the next few weeks for both the Society and Foundation
- Annual fund donations directly support the re-start of RSE and provide funding until we have students living in the house
- Donations to Trustees have the most flexibility; if you itemize deductions or work for a company with a matching program, Foundation has advantages.
- We are in the early the phases of a capital fundraising campaign – Details to follow after January 1.

# RSE Foundation Donations



- Qualifies (501 C3 charity) as a federal income tax deduction if you itemize
- Consider a Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from an IRA or 401k (70 ½ and older)
- Eligible for smile.amazon.com donations

- Company matching
- Foundation receives \$5000-\$10,000 in corporate foundation matches annually





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# Alumni Involvement

Don Thoma / Eric John

# Alumni Support of RSE Students



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- Alumni professional presentations at RSEi events
  - Assist with professional networking events with students
  - Student – Alumni professional mentorship
  - Trustee – Student leadership position advising
- 
- Alumni interested in supporting RSE reintroduction requested to contact Don at [d.thoma@verizon.net](mailto:d.thoma@verizon.net)





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# Questions / Comments

Don Thoma