The January 10, 2019 CUAA Council meeting was held at 41 Cooper Square Room LL101. Approximately 25 alumni, students and staff attended in person. 42 people viewed the Livestream video.

Beginning at 6:30 PM, attendees had an opportunity to sample the *Aranci Bros.* unique dumplings prepared in the style of Italian *arancinos,* but smaller, and with a greater variety of fillings. They were prepared by a catering firm that was co-founded by Giulia Della Gatta A’96.

Paul Nikulin opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and introduced Giulia Della Gatta A’96.

Giulia Della Gatta gave an entertaining and uplifting talk explaining how she transitioned from a Creative Director at Tourneau to an entrepreneur. She defines herself as a *Creator* and *Problem Solver.* And she believes those titles apply to all Cooper Union graduates, regardless of discipline. Part of her impetus for creating the Aranci Bros. was a desire to create healthy food. Another is a desire to reduce the quantity of waste that needs to be landfilled. The arancini food product is one that she and her partner invented. It is modeled on the Sicilian food, arancino, which is a whole meal contained within a bread shell, that requires no wrapping. The arancino serves the function of a boxed lunch and was invented in the tenth century. Her initial creative idea was to make it smaller. This allowed it to be marketed as a snack and increased its appeal, since often people don’t want a big meal. It also allows people to sample multiple versions of arancini in the same meal. Making the arancini smaller than the arancino made it a food that is easy to eat with one’s hands, which means there is no need for plastic utensils. Another of her creative ideas, was to use a half-size egg carton as packaging. These cartons made out of pressed recycled paper are environmentally friendly packaging. She then told the story of how the company has grown during the past seven years.

PaulNikulin opened the regular Council meeting at 8:00 pm. The minutes of the September and October CUAA minutes were distributed. The *v*ote for approval of September 2018 Council Meeting Minutes was postponed until the end of the meeting so that council members could have a chance to read them.

Paul mentioned that it is too early to know how the recently completed End-of-Year fundraising campaign performed. He doesn’t have an update on alumni giving yet, but he thanks everyone who contributed.

**Committee Updates**

Laura Spinner A’89 gave an update on the Awards Ceremony planning. She said that the date for the ceremony is set for Thursday May 30th. The location is not selected yet. The four awards committees have completed their work. The Awardees will be announced when the school celebrates Founder’s Day.

Kay Nordstrom ME’77, Chair of Nominating Committee said the committee has chosen the nominees for most of the positions. It is still seeking candidates for the secretary and council member positions. They are in the midst of contacting the potential candidates that they have selected, to determine if they are willing to place their name on the ballot.

Paul Nikulin introduced Beatrice Ponce ME’11 as one of the co-chairs of the Events Committee and asked her to tell us about some of the events that the committee is planning and thinking about planning. The other co-chair of the Events Committee is James Rolling Jr. A’88, a professor at Syracuse U. He spoke via conference call and explained what is planned for a Syracuse Regional event on February 9th, 2019. He is planning to host an event at a Syracuse U. basketball game on Saturday, Feb. 9th. This game was chosen because it occurs on Saturday and is a family friendly event that alumni can bring their kids too. This is the closest game date to Founder’s Day, which is why this date was chosen. A minimum of 15 is required to get the group rate. He asked for help promoting the event and getting contact information for alumni in the Syracuse area. Paul Nikulin announced that Mary Lynch and Ron Vogel would help and would follow-up via email. Beatrice Ponce then described other events that are planned or being discussed. They are:

* Cooper Together event for NYC will be at the school on February 12th. After party will be held at Cooper Craft
* Industry Distillery Tour tentatively planned for early March
* Chabot Lunch with the CU Student Chabot group tentatively planned for March
* Spring Cooper Dog Meet-up at Tompkins Park is in discussion
* Another item that is being discussed is possibly doing something in association with the Whitney Biennial (which will be running May 17 through September 22)

Larry Levine AR’69 announced that he has been in touch with the Alumni Office about the plans for the Golden Legion reunion. He reported that the office is doing a lot on this and they have it under control, but he would like to have the emails of his class mates. Mary Lynch mentioned that the class reps have an on-line tool for emailing their respective classes. It is located on the school’s website for alumni.

You get it on <http://support.cooper.edu> using the ***Alumni*** tab, and then selecting ***Find Alumni***. Groups exist for each class year, so that class representatives can use it to send an email to everyone in their class. There are also groups for each state. Any alum who has registered on the site can use this tool to see what alumni live in each state. All alumni are included in the database including the class of 2018. If you need to reset your password, you will need your alumni i.d. number found on the address label affixed to any piece of snail mail sent by the school. You can also send an email to alumni@cooper.edu asking for help.

**Other Business**

# Paul Nikulin asked if anyone had anything else they would like to bring up. Mary announced that one of our Hall of Fame members appeared on the CBS Evening news during the prior week and then appeared again on the 60 Minutes Broadcast on Sunday. He is Charles Bliss ChE’39. She recommends that everyone watch the video segment on YouTube titled: *101-year-old inventor has plan to help battle climate change.* Charles Bliss received the Gano Dunn award in 2011. He had a career where he designed and started up power plants all around the world.

Paul Nikulin moved to approve the minutes for the September and October council meetings. Laura Spinner seconded the motion. The motion was put to vote and it passed.

Paul Nikulin moved to adjourn the meeting. Laura Spinner seconded the motion. The Meeting Ended at 8:50 pm. The next Council Meeting will be February 19, 2019.

Minutes taken by Mary Lynch, CUAA Secretary