

Executive Meeting
American Association of Neurological Surgeons-Congress of
Neurological Surgeons Joint Section on
Pediatric Neurological Surgery

December 2, 2003

Embassy Room
Grand America Hotel
Salt Lake City, Utah

Attendance

Andrew Parent, M.D., Chairman, Rick Abbott, M.D. Chair Elect, Jeffrey Wisoff, M.D., Secretary, Frederick A. Boop, III, M.D., Thomas Luersson, M.D., Bruce Kaufman, M.D. , Ann Marie Flannery, M.D. (non-voting), Sarah Gaskill, MD (non-voting), Michael Heafner, M.D. (non-voting), John Kestle, M.D. (non-voting), Michael Scott, M.D. (non-voting), Jerry Oakes, M.D. (non-voting), Jack Walker, M.D. (non-voting), Mark Proctor, M.D. (non-voting), Jenifer Wolfe (non-voting), Nathan Selden, M.D. (non-voting), Joseph Piatt, M.D. (non-voting), Michael Medlock, M.D. (non-voting), Kenneth Winston, M.D. (non-voting)

Call to Order

Dr. Andrew Parent, Chairman of the Joint Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous Executive Committee Meeting held on April 9, 2003 had been distributed previously. These had been reviewed by the Executive Committee members and were approved by acclamation.

Financial Report

Dr Jeffrey Wisoff gave the financial report for Dr Duhaime who was delayed by weather. Fiscal year 2003 ended with a surplus of approximately \$27,000 . The budget for FY 2004 was projected to have a \$17,000 deficit however Dr Duhaime is predicting that the deficit will be less secondary to increased long term investment pool and improved investment earnings. The other major impact on the final surplus/deficit will be the outcome of revenue for the Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City. This number is still in flux at the time of this report and will largely depend on the revenue from corporate sponsorships and registration. Approximately 20-25% of registration will occur on site.

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee

Dr Sarah Gaskill gave the Membership Committee Report. The following applicants were proposed:

For Active Membership:

Susan Durham, M.D. (Portland, Oregon)
Jeffrey E. Catrambone, M.D.(Newark, NJ)
Matthew D. Smyth, M.D.(St. Louis, MO)
Curtis Rozzelle, M.D. (St. Petersburg, FL)
Martin M. Henegar, M.D. (Charlotte, NC)
David Donahue, M.D. (Forth Worth, TX)
Robert Dauser, M.D. (Houston, TX)

For Active International Membership

David McAuley, M.D. (Oxford, England)

It was moved, seconded and passed to recommend to our membership at the upcoming business meeting that all candidates be admitted for membership. The following individuals have submitted an application but do not at this time meet the membership criteria.

Not Eligible

Nathan Avery, M.D. (Flagstaff, AZ)

Robert T. Geertman, M.D. (Chicago, IL)

Christopher Gegg M.D. (Orlando, FL)

E. Christopher Troup, M.D.(Macon, GA)

Rules and Regulations Committee

No Report

Program and CME Committee

Ann-Marie Flannery, M.D, reported that a seminar on effective communication in medicine was offered by the Section at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons at their annual meeting in Denver last month. Drs Joseph Madsen and Alan Cohen were the faculty. Their presentation has generated tremendous positive reviews and the possibility of repeating their presentation to a larger audience, perhaps at a future Annual Meeting of the section will be considered.

Dr Flannery also commented that there were a dearth of papers that were submitted for consideration for the Shulman Award (4 papers) and Hydrocephalus Association Award (none). Dr Michael Scott commented that he was concerned that the recent limitation of resident work hours may be impacting on the residents ability and interest in preparing papers for presentation. Since another possible explanation may be simple ignorance of the awards and criteria, the Annual Meeting Chairmen was directed to announce at the start of the meeting that any residents or fellows who wish to have their papers considered for the appropriate awards should contact Dr Flannery prior to presentation.

Nominating Committee

Dr. Luerksen gave the Report for the Committee. The following nominations were offered:

Member At Large

Sarah Gaskill, M.D.

Michael Partington, M.D.

Representative to ABPNS

Rick Abbott, M.D.

Christina Duhaime, M.D.

Alan Cohen, M.D.

It was moved, seconded, and a motion was passed to accept the nominations. The nominees for Member at Large will be sent to the Business Meeting of the Section on December 3, 2003 for confirmation. The Chair of the Section will forward the nominees to the ABPNS to the Secretary of the ABPNS.

Annual Meeting Program Chairman:

Dr. John Kestle reported on the Annual Meeting. As of 12PM, December 2, there were 225 Medical Registrants (including 109 Section Members, 41 Residents, 4 PA, and 41 RN), 26 guests, and 115 Exhibitors. Revenue is currently \$105,000 from registrations,

\$59,000 from exhibitors, and \$40,000 in corporate sponsorships. A post meeting ski vacation will not be offered secondary to lack of interest.

Dr. Jack Walker reported that there was a last minute change in the Raimondi Lecturer. Due to unrecognized prior commitments Mr. John Huntsman would not be able to deliver the lecture. In his place, the lecture will be delivered by Mrs. Karen Huntsman and Dr Steve Prescott, Director of the Huntsman Cancer Center.

Dr. Nalin Gupta reported on the preparations for the 2004 Section meeting in San Francisco. The meeting will be at the Hyatt Regency, Embarcadero from December 8 through December 12, 2004. Dr Gupta will coordinate with Dr Flannery and the CME committee as to program details.

Ad Hoc Committee and Liaison Reports:

Traveling Fellowship -- R. Michael Scott, M.D.

Dr Scott reported that ads have been placed in journals announcing the fellowships sponsored by the Section. For 2004 there were 2 International and 1 US Traveling Fellowships awarded:

- Dr. Shahram Hadidchi (Tabriz University, Iran) to Montefiore Medical Center, NY
- Dr. Andri Anugerah (Padjadjaran University, Indonesia) to Vancouver Children's Hospital
- Dr Edward Ahn (University of Maryland) to Boston Children's Hospital

Lifetime Achievement Award- Dr. Robin Humphreys

No report

Dr. Humphreys submitted an elegant letter requesting that he be relieved from chairing this committee. The Executive Committee by acclamation thanked Dr. Humphreys for his outstanding contributions to this committee and the Section. By executive action and with the unanimous consent of the Executive Committee established that this committee will be chaired by the immediate past Chairman of the Pediatric Section. Dr. Parent appointed Dr. Luerssen to chair the committee for the next 2 years.

A discussion was held among the attendees as to who would be an appropriate candidate for this award in the near future. Dr. Parent suggested Dr. Fred Epstein. In addition, the Executive recommended placing a notice in ShortCuts soliciting nominations to be forwarded to Dr. Luerssen.

There was confusion as to the year that Drs. Hendricks, Shillito, and Schut each received this award. The Secretary was directed to establish the correct dates and report to the Executive Committee as well as the AANS administration

Neurosurgery On Call – Doug Brockmeyer, M.D.

Dr. Walker presented for Dr Brockmeyer. At the present time there is a major reorganization taking place. A new requirement is that all material must be approved by the AANS. Dr. Brockmeyer will provide details at the next meeting.

Publications -- Sarah J. Gaskill, M.D.

A monograph on myelomeningoceles will scheduled for February 2003 will be published in February 2004. All contributions were solicited.

American Academy of Pediatrics --Joseph H. Piatt, M.D.

See Appendix 1.

Joint Council of State Neurosurgical Societies – Michael Heafner, M.D.
See Appendix 2

Dr. Heafner commented that a major topic of discussion was the issue of Physician Assistants placing ICP monitors for Trauma Surgeons without neurosurgical supervision.

Quality Assurance Committee – John Kestle, M.D.
No report

Outcomes Committee-
No report

Washington Committee – Tom Luerssen, MD
Dr Luerssen reported that the most recent meeting of this organization was again dominated by the malpractice crisis. Each Section has been solicited for a contribution for the PR/Advertising campaign. At the current time, the effort remains significantly underfunded. Overall approximately 14% of AANS neurosurgeons have contributed/pledged \$1000/yr for the next three years to the Neurosurgeons to Preserve Health Care Access. The Spine Section has contributed \$100,000.

There was a lengthy discussion among the attendees about the appropriateness and effectiveness of individual versus Section contributions to Neurosurgeons to Preserve Health Care Access and/or the Washington Committee. Ultimately, the Executive Committee voted by a majority to authorize a \$10,000 contribution to the Washington committee

International Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery – Cheryl Muszynski, MD
No Report

There was confusion as to the process of being recognized by the ISPN. Dr. Muszynski was directed by the Executive Committee to contact Dr Hugo Pomato to be designated as the North American representative to the ISPN.

American Board of Pediatric Neurological Surgery – Marion L. Walker, M.D.
Dr. Walker reported that there are currently 170 Diplomats of the ABPNS. Current efforts are being directed towards the recertification process. The first group of Diplomats will need to be recertified by 2006. The process will include a measure of professional standing (e.g. licensure, hospital privileges), CME credits in Pediatric Neurosurgery, case log, and a written examination (most likely a combination of multiple choice and true/false questions). There will be a \$250 application fee and \$500 examination fee.

Accreditation Council for Pediatric Neurosurgical Fellowships – Kenneth Winston, M.D.
No report

ANSPAC – Michael Medlock, MD
There has been increased participation.

AANS/CNS Executive Committee Meeting– Dr. Andrew Parent
A brief update of these meeting was reported. There were no significant developments relevant to Pediatric Neurosurgery

Old Business:

Fellowship accreditation by the Society of Neurological Surgeons (SNS) – Tom Luerssen, MD
10 programs submitted an application and were approved by the SNS's Committee for Accreditation of Surgical Training (CAST).

Brain Tumor Guidelines project- Dr Karin Muraszko

Liaison to the American Association of Family Practitioners (AAFP)
No Report

Pediatric Neurosurgical Research Forum
No Report

Nomination of representative to AANS Education and Practice Management Committee – Dr David Gruber
No Report however it is uncertain if Dr. Gruber was aware of the Executive Committee meeting. The Secretary was directed to invite Dr. Gruber to the next meeting.

New Business:

Raimondi Lectureship Funding

The expenses for the Raimondi Lectureship has been assigned to the budget for the Annual Meeting. There was a discussion about transferring it to the Administrative budget for the section. By consensus, the Executive Committee decided not to change the source of funding at this time.

CPT Coding

Dr. Boop reported the following developments:

1. There will be a new CPT code for Laminoplasty that would apply to pediatric as well as adult cases but will be limited to the cervical spine.
2. There has been significant progress on reworking the CPT codes for epilepsy surgery and decompressive procedure for trauma
3. There is no plan to modify the codes for shunt surgeries

Future Sites Committee

Dr. Parent has created an Ad Hoc Future Sites Committee to be chaired by the Chair Elect of the Pediatric Section. Dr. Abbott will serve as first chair.

Future meetings that have already been scheduled are:

2005 – Point Clear, Alabama 12/7-12/10/05. The venue is a resort setting in a historic site. Attendees will arrive via Pensacola, FL or Mobile, AL

2006 – Denver, Colorado – Marriott Hotel 11/29-12/1/06

Miami, Jacksonville, and St. Louis have submitted requests to host the 2007 Section meeting. Dr. Abbott and his committee will report to the Executive Committee their recommendation at the Spring 2004 meeting.

AANS 2004 Meeting

Dr. Parent reported that Dr. Leland Albright will be the 2004 Matson Lecturer

Dr Eric Trumble offered to host a reception for a limited number of Section members. The Executive Committee declined to offer Section sponsorship since it was not inclusive of all Section members.

At this point, a motion was offered, seconded, and passed by acclamation to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey H. Wisoff, M.D.
Secretary

