

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee  
**Joint Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery**

Wednesday, April 28, 1999  
New Orleans Hilton Riverside  
Ascot Room

Attendance: Marion L. Walker, M.D., Chairman; Thomas G. Luerssen, M.D., Secretary/  
Treasurer; Arthur Marlin, M.D., John P. Laurent, M.D., Frederick A. Boop, M.D., Joseph Piatt,  
M.D., Ann-Christine Duhaime, M.D., Alan Cohen, M.D., Andrew Parent, M.D., and R. Michael  
Scott, M.D., Bruce Kaufman, MD.

Guests: Robert Cowen, Controller, AANS; Jackie Lloyd, Director of Marketing, AANS.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:56 p.m. by Marion L. Walker, Chairman  
of the Joint Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** The minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting,  
December 1, 1998, had been circulated to the members previously. There were no corrections  
and the minutes of that meeting were approved by acclamation.

**Financial Report:** Dr. Luerssen and Mr. Cowen gave the financial report for the Section. The  
Section showed an increase in their total net assets of roughly \$18,000 compared to 1997.  
Current total net assets including that invested in the long term accounts totals \$278,524 as of  
12/31/98. Mr. Cowan reviewed the changes in accounting and the new statements of account  
with the AANS. Effectively, no changes have occurred in how the Pediatric Section does  
business within the AANS organizational structure. Mr. Cowan took this opportunity to  
introduce Ms. Lloyd as a resource for the Section. He also indicated that Mr. David Fellers,  
former Executive Director of the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons,  
would be the new Executive Director the AANS.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

Membership Committee:

Ann-Christine Duhaime reported for the Membership Committee. The following  
physicians were proposed as new active members of the Joint Section on Pediatric  
Neurosurgery: John Myseros, M.D., Thomas Moriarity, M.D., Richard Day, M.D., Mark  
Lee, M.D., Tenoch Herrada-Pineda, M.D., Michael Vassilyadi, M.D., John Waldman,  
M.D., Gregory Hornig, M.D., Bermans Iskandar, M.D., Cheryl Muszynski, M.D.,  
Cornelius Lam, M.D., Joseph Petronio, M.D., Samuel Ciricillo, M.D., Wilson Asfora,  
M.D., Daniel Won, M.D., John Ragheb, M.D., and Mark Proctor, M.D.

Dr. Duhaime then proposed the following members as international associate members: Guy Sava (Saudi Arabia), Nejat Akalan (Turkey).

Dr. Duhaime again has noticed some discrepancies involving the application process for international associate members. These applicants require two letters of recommendation. It was recommended that the bylaws be changed to reflect that these letters should accompany the application.

Dr. Luerssen inquired about the number of international associate members and what Dr. Duhaime projected would be the number of new applicants. This was unknown at the time. Should the number of international associate members increase substantially, then some mechanism for paying for the administrative costs of this additional membership will need to be considered. Meanwhile, Dr. Cohen was asked to make the necessary proposals for a bylaws change to simplify the process for international associate members to apply to the Joint Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery and try to keep the process consistent with the general policies of the AANS

#### Rules and Regulations Committee

Dr. Cohen reported for the Rules and Regulations Committee. The three proposed changes to the bylaws have been circulated in the newsletter. Dr. Cohen requested permission to present these changes at the business meeting for a vote by the membership and this was approved.

#### Program and CME Committee

Dr. Luerssen reported for the Program and CME Committee. Dr. Petronio was expected to attend this meeting but was caught in an airport and could not make it. Dr. Petronio had contacted Dr. Luerssen by phone earlier in the day, and his report was relayed to the committee.

Dr. Luerssen reported the results of the winter meeting. The winter meeting resulted in a net profit of \$26,490. This was \$16,000 over the expected and planned budget. There were 229 attendees of the meeting. 96 of these were active members of the Section, 63 were non-members, 34 were residents, 19 were nurses, 11 spouses, 3 complimentary and 3 physician assistants. The meeting had been budgeted to expect 201 members.

There were 37 exhibitors, two of which were complimentary. The net revenues from the exhibitors totaled \$38,325. This compared favorably to the 1997 exhibitors where only 16 exhibitors were present and the net revenue was \$14,320.

Dr. Petronio had indicated that the meeting plans for the 1999 meeting were progressing well. The meeting is scheduled to take place Wednesday, December 1 through Saturday, December 4, 1999, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Buckhead. The banquet is planned for

Thursday evening. Dr. Petronio requested the name of the Raimondi Lecturer and this was dealt with in the new business Section below.

### **Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

#### Traveling Fellowship

Dr. R. Michael Scott reported for the Traveling Fellowship Committee. Advertisements have appeared in the journals. The deadline for responding for the year 2000 fellowships is October 31, 1999.

#### Distinguished Service Award

No report.

#### Neurosurgery On Call

The status of the website and Neurosurgery On-Call was reported by mail by Dr. Dias and this is attached to the minutes. (Attachment 1)

#### Publications Committee

Dr. Arthur Marlin reported for the Publications Committee. The *Chiari Malformation* publication is completed but has not been submitted to Neurosurgery On-Call. Dr. Marlin inquired as to the status of the *Tethered Cord* and *Dandy-Walker* malformation publications which were submitted for placement on the website a year ago. Dr. Luerssen will contact Dr. Dias to request the status of these two publications.

#### American Academy of Pediatrics

Dr. Joseph Piatt reported as the liaison to the American Academy of Pediatrics. The Neurosurgical Section of the American Academy of Pediatrics is now in place and has provisional status. It will be necessary for the Section to have a program on the AAP agenda for the October 2000 meeting. Dr. Piatt, Dr. Hector James, and the Steering Committee for the Section are working with the Joint Section on Neurology to come up with a program title. As soon as one is available, Dr. Piatt will forward it to Dr. Luerssen for inclusion in the newsletter.

#### Joint Council on State Neurosurgical Societies

Dr. Frederick Boop reported for the Joint Council on State Neurosurgical Societies. Three major issues were discussed. First, there is some concern about the possibility of separating the administrative activities of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons from the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. The JCSNS opposes the idea of two completely separate organizations.

The second issue involves CME credits available through neurosurgery and the JCSNS is working to try to obtain lecturers and courses on the Internet to count for CME credits.

Fellowship issues were again discussed, apparently spearheaded by the pain specialists. Dr. Boop reported that the Senior Society will be discussing fellowship issues at its upcoming meeting.

#### Outcomes Committee

Dr. Bruce Kaufman reported for the Outcomes Committee. Dr. Kaufman has been in contact with Megan Morgan-Sims regarding the establishment of an outcomes project related to shunt placement and malfunctions. The current cost estimate for the institution of this project is approximately \$10,000. It was unclear whether or not a more extensive project would be undertaken for a minimal amount of additional money. Dr. Kaufman will finalize the proposal with Dr. Kestle and obtain a formal cost proposal from Ms. Sims. Dr. Kaufman's understanding was that the maintenance of the site once it is established will be the responsibility of the Outcomes Committee.

#### **New Business:**

##### The Raimondi Lecture 1999

It was proposed and seconded that Dr. David Shurtleff be contacted to see if he would be willing to be the 1999 Raimondi Lecturer. Dr. Luerssen will communicate this to Dr. Petronio and help with the contact.

##### Committee Assignments

Dr. Walker again reviewed the request for a specific representative to the Washington Committee. Dr. Laurent indicated that his preference would be that the past chairman serve in this role. It was therefore proposed and seconded that Marion L. Walker be the initial representative to the Washington Committee. Dr. Luerssen will communicate with Ms. Orrico regarding Dr. Walker's appointment as the official representative to the Washington Committee. Representatives to the Quality Assurance Committee had again been requested. Dr. Walker re-emphasized that this has been communicated previously and this committee, already established, includes Paul Grabb as the chairman, along with James Drake and Sarah Gaskill.

The appointment and re-appointment of the following committee posts was undertaken:

1. Rules and Regulations Committee - Dr. Alan Cohen was re-appointed to chair this committee.

2. Membership Committee - Dr. Duhaime was appointed as the new membership chairman.
3. Program and CME Committee - Dr. Jeffrey Wisoff was appointed to the vice chairmanship of the Program and CME Committee, and would be in line to become the chairman of the Program and CME Committee in the year 2001.

**Adjournment:**

No further business was proposed.

Dr. Walker thanked all of the committee members for their hard work over the past two years. A certificate of appreciation will be presented to Dr. Walker on behalf of the Joint Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery at the Section meeting. Dr. Laurent was welcomed as the new chairman of the Section.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Luerssen, M.D.  
Secretary/ Treasurer

Attachment 1

Report to the Executive Committee

Neurosurgery On Call  
4.28.99  
Mark Dias M.D

The Pediatric pages of the NOC have undergone a renovation, with a number of new additions and a new format. The Public Pages have had a number of items of interest to general neurosurgeons, primary care providers and the lay public, including educational information about hydrocephalus for primary care providers, occipital plagiocephaly for parents, physicians and the public, and pediatric spinal trauma for general neurosurgeons. A full and current listing of pediatric neurosurgery fellowship training programs and the program director and addresses have been added. Electronic abstract submission is well underway. A number of recent book reviews from Pediatric Neurosurgery; links to information about pediatric neurosurgical diseases on other sites; links to other organizations such as the ASPN, ISPN, ABPNS, AAP, Karger, etc; and future meeting dates and times for a variety of pediatric meetings have been greatly expanded. The Pediatric Neurosurgery Listserve was set up to replace the bulletin boards on the web site, and there have been numerous (and sometimes heated) discussions about a variety of pediatric neurosurgical topics over the past year. We are working on adding an imaging database, and creating an outcomes database for hydrocephalus, and hope to have these added in the near future, as soon as the details are worked out with the NOC staff.

Mark S. Dias, M.D., F.A.C.S.  
Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery  
Children's Hospital of Buffalo  
219 Bryant Street  
Buffalo, NY 14222  
(716) 878-7386  
Fax (716) 888-3843  
E-Mail: mdias@chob.edu