

Business Meeting Minutes  
December 5, 2013  
Westin Hotel, Toronto, CA

A **moment of silence** was observed for Alex Sanford, a long-term section member who passed away this year after a long battle with cancer.

**Treasurers report** was presented. The Pediatric Section remains in good financial health. Total net assets are \$745,466, as compared to \$610,016 one year ago.

**Bylaws changes** were reviewed. Main changes are to allow for rolling membership approval, as opposed to approval only at biannual business meetings. New members will now be vetted by Membership Chair, and voted upon by the Executive Committee on a monthly basis.

**The approved new members were announced.**

ACTIVE

Toba N. Niazi  
Kelly Suzanne Schmidt  
Matthew M. Pearson  
James Geraldo Torres-Corzo  
James M. Johnson, Jr.  
Robert Naftel  
Sheila Kumari Singh

RESIDENT

Dhruve Satish Jeevan  
Rafael A. Vega

INTERNATIONAL

Esam Abdulaziz al Shail  
Sima Sayyahmelli

ASSOCIATE

Tamara D. Simon  
Alexandra Beier

**Nominating Committee** announced newly nominated at-large members Richard Anderson and Jeff Leonard. These nominations was approved by a vote of the members, and there were no nominations from the floor.

**Future meeting** sites were discussed, including Amelia Island in 2014 and Seattle in 2015.

**Recipients of Travelling fellowship awards were announced.**

The committee evaluated a total of 17 completed applications (8 Domestic and 9 International). This is an increase from 12 total applications last year. The fellowship winners are:

Domestic (\$2500)

Brandon Miller (Emory) at St. Louis Children's Hospital (David Limbrick)  
William (Lee) Titsworth (U of FL) at Boston Children's Hospital (Ed Smith)  
Eisha Christian (USC) in Toronto (Jim Drake)

International (\$6000)

Rajendra Srestha (Nepali – West China Hospital) at Boston Children's Hospital (Al Cohen)  
Anna LoPresti (Spain) in Miami (John Ragheb)

**Research Awards were announced.**

- Section Small Research Awards- \$2,500
  - Samer Elbabaa (Saint Louis University) - Retrospective comparison of endoscopically-assisted versus navigationally-guided shunt placements for pediatric patients with hydrocephalus: Risk factors for failure
  - Erin Kiehna (Childrens Hospital Los Angeles/USC)- Characterizing the Pathophysiology underlying Posterior Fossa Syndrome through Tractography: A Dynamic Prospective Study
- The sections supports 50% of a Pediatric-focused \$40,000 NREF award.
  - Luis Enrique Kolb, MD (Yale Univ): Project Title: Whole Genome Analysis of Malformations of Cortical Development

**New Business:**

Mike Scott brought up the topic of whether the section should support projects such as international philanthropy. Bruce Kaufman said the section would be open to these proposals, and that he or others should submit a formal proposal.

The question of NCAST taking over the fellowship certification process was discussed. The general opinion was that pediatric neurosurgery has a well-developed and time-tested process for fellowship training and certification. The section stance remains that the pediatric fellowship remains a post-graduate experience, and that at the current time we are not willing to turn the process over to NCAST.

Respectfully submitted

Mark R Proctor