

Pediatric Executive Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2013, Toronto, Canada
12:00pm – 4:25pm

Attendees

Executive Committee Members: Bruce Kaufman, Al Cohen, Sarah Gaskill, Mark Proctor, Mark Krieger, Dave Harter, Liliana Goumnerova, Jay Wellons, Gerry Grant (via phone)

Liaison Members: Ed Smith, David Gruber, Jeff Leonard, Jim Drake, Ann Ritter, Robin Bowman, Bennie Iskandar, Cathy Mazzola, Mark Dias, Michael Partington, Cormac Maher, David Limbrick, Phil Aldona, Rick Abbott, Ann Flannery, Tina Duhaime, Richard Anderson, Matt Smyth (by phone)

Meeting was called to order by Bruce Kaufman at 12:05PM

Minutes from September, 2013 teleconference were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Mark Krieger. We have had a substantial increase in net assets, primarily due to rising investment. The current meeting appears to be doing financially well, and will likely have a profit in the \$30K range, higher than budgeted.

We had a long discussion on the registration fee for the meeting, and on exhibitor fees and company support for the meetings. Overall, it was decided to not change dues or meeting registration fees.

This led to a discussion of the One Ask campaign being explored by the AANS, a proposal to ask companies for an overall contribution to neurosurgery on an every 3 year basis, to then be divided by the sections and parent organizations. The CNS has not agreed to participate in this, and we don't have enough information to know if this would benefit the sections.

Action item:

Bruce Kaufman will attempt to speak with corporate sponsors to see if we are meeting their needs, if they are satisfied, and if we can come up with any creativity in our funding models that would be a win-win for section and companies.

Standing Committee Reports

Nominating committee: Al Cohen reported the committee was offering Jeff Leonard and Richard Anderson to succeed Lilly Goumnerova and Gerry Grant, whose terms expire in 2014. This was unanimously approved.

Rules and Regulations committee: Jeff Leonard reported that the bylaws changes, previously approved by our EC, was approved by the AANS and CNS, and are now official.

Membership Committee: the slate put forth by Robin Bowman was approved, with the exception of Dr Yasser Jeelani, whose status with the AANS was unclear, and did not fit any of our membership categories. Robin will investigate this candidate further.

The new members are:

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

Education Committee

Gerry Grant reported via telephone on the PORTAL project, which is a gateway for pediatric content to the Matrix. It will parallel Rick Abbott's online guide, and be updated regularly.

Gerry needs volunteers for this large project.
Dave Limbrick and Dave Harter offered to volunteer.

Annual Meeting Subcommittee

Jim Drake reported on the Toronto Meeting. There is excellent attendance with 372 medical registrants, and 505 total registrants, and it is well ahead of budget. Discussion about best format to include more talks ensued, with discussion of shorter talks and/or simultaneous sessions, as well as possibly a longer meeting.

Phil Aldona reported on the Florida Meeting, whose theme is collaboration. He will review options for including more papers and discuss with EC.

Bruce Kaufman revealed that Seattle is the site of the 2015 meeting, with local chairs of Sam Browd and Amy Lee.

Houston, Memphis and Palo Alto have all submitted proposals and will pass to Sarah Gaskill for consideration as future meeting sites.

Ad Hoc Committees

Education committee

National meetings subcommittee

AANS meeting: Chris Giza will be Matson lecturer, an internationally renowned concussion expert.

CNS meeting: We have had little involvement in the development of the peds program for the CNS. Bennie and Cathy, our national meeting reps, will reach out to them to try and increase our involvement.

Communications subcomm (web): Rich Anderson reported that all is well with the website. It has 3 tiers of security, one for anyone who logs on, one password protected for members, and a third which is password protected for members of EC only. We will work to create a repository of all EC agendas and minutes in the EC protected area, and an archive of public information in the member area.

Training subcomm (traveling); Matt Smyth gave comprehensive report on effectiveness of the fellowships in directing fellows to a career in pediatrics.

We voted to increase the domestic awards to “up to 4” per year at discretion of committee, and 3 were awarded this year.

The international will stay at 2, but the stipend will increase to \$7500.

A more formal exit survey will be created.

International Educ subcom: We will continue to support FLANC at \$10K/year. This year our participation was done remotely via video interface.

Examinations committee: Cormac Maher leading a group with the goal of creating 60 test questions per year to be vetted for use by ABPNS and ABNS.

Lifetime Achievement award: No recommendations at this time – but send suggestions to Al Cohen

Research Committee

Section Research awards: Ed Smith gave presentation on this topic. Applications are down, possibly due to low funding level.

A motion was passed maintaining funding at \$10K/year, but allowing the committee to give awards up to \$5K each if they showed merit.

The committee also will try and increase visibility, perhaps via research sessions at our meetings.

NREF – Dr Kaufman reported that the NREF would like more of our money. We decided to pursue discussions, but not commit any more money until we are sure we have more control over the process.

We will continue our commitment of \$20K/year, which is half of a \$40K pediatric focused grant.

Representatives – Liaisons

Liaison to AANS Board of Directors:

see NREF above.

We also agreed to formally support Rick Boop for President- elect.

Liaison to CNS Executive Comm: no discussion beyond report in agenda

Liaison to Washington Comm: see agenda report

Representative to Joint Guidelines Comm: Ann Flannery reported on the Hydrocephalus project, which now rests with the JGC and we are awaiting their approval. She stressed the importance of face to face meetings for these projects. She is looking for ideas for next project, and it was discussed that \$13K is allotted towards this.

Liaison from ABPNS: Bennie Iskandar has been nominated to and selected by the ABPNS to replace Andy Parent.

Liaison from ACPNF: Our section remains formally opposed to NCAST taking control of the fellowship process in pediatrics. We currently have 26 programs which are reviewed on a simultaneous 5 year cycle. We voted to support our stance that the pediatric fellowship is a post-graduate experience.

Liaison from ISPN: no report

Liaison from ASPN: Rick Abbott discussed upcoming meeting in Costa Rica.

Liaison from AAP (SONS): Two clinical reports coming out, one on dysraphism and the other on incidental findings. SONS would like to sponsor an award at the meeting, and will submit a proposal to do so, and would like to have an update in ShortCuts, which we welcomed them to submit.

Liaison to CSNS: Cathy Mazzola reported on 2 resolutions that affect us, including decreasing radiation exposure in radiology studies, and the dangers of personal electronic devices containing sensitive patient information.

Liaison to Coding and Reimbursement committee: no report. Prepare for ICD-10

Liaison to Devices and Technology Committee: see agenda report

Liaison to Young Neurosurgeons: no representative nor report.

Liaison to Neuro-Critical Care Society: no representative nor report.

Liaison to Outcomes/Quality:

Lilly Goumnerova reported on NSQIP wanting to do pilot projects on shunts and on 'extensive craniectomy for multiple suture synostosis'.

In addition, fellowships are available via NSQIP to fund fellowships in quality improvement.

Old Business

Fetal MMC: Bruce Kaufman gave informational report. See report in agenda for full details.

New Business

MR Spectroscopy Position Statement: David Gruber will explore the concern that this study is not routinely covered via the Coding and Reimbursement committee.

Sub-society participation in our Section meeting

PCS (pediatric craniocervical society) was supported at this meeting by supplying room and funds for AV (approximately \$800).

We discussed mechanism for continuing this in the future for groups that have interest in aligning with our meeting.

- For an initial consideration – they should submit a proposal of why they want to be part of our meeting, what value they add to our members, and the budget; the first meeting costs can be approved by the Chair of the Section if the costs are less than \$1000 total, and then a subsequent review can be done by the full Executive Committee.
- Subsequent participation will require full review by the Executive Committee before any facilities or funding would be contributed by the section.
- All such groups would have to avoid conflicting with the meeting priorities/times.

Optimal Resources for Childrens Surgical Care: We discussed this effort (by organized Pediatric Surgery) to create criteria to certify pediatric centers to perform surgical care. It is being lead by a group of prominent pediatric surgeons, and it will go further with or without our involvement.

We voted (with two opposed) to approve the document and to send it to our parent organizations to see if they were willing to have us support this.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25PM

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Proctor