

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Joint Section of Pediatric Neurological Surgery
April 9, 2014, 12:30-1:30, San Francisco Marriott Marquis

Attendees:

In person: Bruce Kaufman, Sarah Gaskill, Mark Proctor, Mark Krieger, Jeff Leonard, David Harter, Sam Browd, David Sandberg, Jogi Pattisapu, Cormac Maher, Nalin Gupta, Michael Scott, Lissa Baird
Via Telephone: Robin Bowman

Meeting Opened: 12:30PM

Minutes of December, 2013 Executive Committee meeting approved unanimously.

Chairman's report given by Bruce Kaufman

Representatives named to the American College of Radiology Appropriateness Criteria Panel. Pediatric topics include headache, vomiting, suspected child abuse and seizures. The names submitted were Ab Kulkarni, Jeff Blount, Doug Cochrane and John Myseros.

Dr Kaufman has established criteria for access to the Pediatric Listserve. These are:

- 1) Any member of the Pediatric Section,
- 2) Any neurosurgeon who is a member of the AANS or CNS – but they are encouraged to join the Pediatric Section and
- 3) A neurosurgeon from outside the US/Canada, identified as being involved in Pediatric Neurosurgery – after inquiry from the Chair to determine this

Request for nominations – AANS officer elections 2015 were solicited. The following names will be submitted: Rick Boop be nominated for President, Tim Mapstone for VP and/or BOD, Cathy Mazzola for BOD. There was agreement to this slate. An additional name was suggested for nomination - Mark Proctor and will also be submitted.

Treasurer's report was given by Mark Krieger

The financial state of the Section remains strong.

As of February 28, 2014, our total liabilities and net assets are \$703,423, increased from \$624,981 from one year ago. The annual meeting appears to have been relatively budget neutral, although due to a staffing change the AANS has not yet separated out 2014 fiscal year meeting expenses (which are inclusive of prepaid expenses for the Amelia Island meeting) from the Toronto meeting, so we don't have complete figures on the Toronto meeting.

There is concern that there were below budget revenues for exhibitor fees (\$23k actual vs \$66k budgeted), and sponsorship (\$40k vs \$50k) and we will investigate if this is a trend. It might be due to the International nature of the meeting which could have been problematic for some exhibitors, but might be a concerning trend.

Action item: Dr Aldana will be asked to look at exhibitor/advertising income for the upcoming meeting.

Membership Report was given via telephone by Robin Bowman

Recommended and approved for membership by vote of EC

<u>Active:</u>	Kevin Z J Chao, MD, Patrick J McDonald, MD, FRCSC
<u>Associate</u>	Allison M. Rathmann, DO
<u>Resident</u>	Jason Elliott Blatt, MD

There was discussion around the international resident application - there is no current option for

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international residents, and we will not amend bylaws in this regard.

Mohamed Reda Abdelghany Mohamed, MD from Egypt is applying as a member from Developing Country, which is an AANS category that we do not have. We will consider him eligible for International Category.

Action item: Robin Bowman to further assess the AANS membership category for Dr Mohamed.

Annual Meetings

Phil Aldana's agenda report was reviewed. Meeting planning on track for Amelia Island. We will need to carefully watch exhibitor/advertising revenues, as they were down for the Toronto meeting.

Sam Browd discussed planning for 2015 meeting, including a general theme (of innovation) and a specific topic for the sessions (involving concussion).

Sarah Gaskill discussed future meeting locations being considered, which include Miami, Memphis, LA, Pasadena and Houston.

Neurosurgery Portal was briefly discussed based on the report from Gerry Grant. This is a cooperative effort between AANS/CNS/SNS/ASPN, and will include link to the Pediatric Neurosurgery online text. It is expected to be a source of educational content for neurosurgery residents, and, in the future, for practitioners participating in Maintenance of Certification.

The Section is working in concert with the ASPN, but will be sensitive to the parent organizations – pediatric material is likely to be sent to the Portal under the Section name

AANS/CNS Meeting Planning

Catherine Mazzola and Benny Iskandar are working hard to update the section involvement in national meeting planning. They are making good headway.

AANS - Reg Haid is the next meeting chair, and has acknowledged their work and desire for more section involvement. He has been informed of the Pediatric Section education committee structure, and how it can work with him on the meeting planning/abstract review.

CNS planning also going well, and there appear to be major changes to meeting format. It has been communicated to the Pediatric Section that the issues identified at a recent meeting were an 'aberration' rather than a new rule.

Training awards

Report given by David Sandberg. We approved an amended process in the case of a travelling fellow needing to defer.

- Should an awardee request deferral of their fellowship, a deferral will be granted for up to one year, with the approval of their program director and their fellowship sponsor. The newly opened spot can be offered to the runner-up for the current year only. If the runner-up cannot use it in the current year, they can reapply for the following year with the regular pool, and the funding rolls over to the following year to fund an additional fellow.

Research Committee

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Report was given by Nalin Gupta. The committee reviewed a total of 11 applications for the NREF Awards. The applications were pediatric-focused and the overall quality was high. Our rank list to the NREF Scientific Committee and we have heard that one of our choices was accepted.

Dr. Kaufman confirmed with the NREF (education group via Dr. Boop) that they have the previously defined ‘sequence of actions’ for considering the fellowships (and that they were ‘in writing’), and that they felt they were following them.

We discussed the further evolution of the NREF process, and the “One Ask” approach they are trying to take to institutional/industry donors; however, the specifics of this are not yet clear. Dr. Kaufman will be in discussion with NREF in a few months (after their anticipated leadership change) to discuss this and how the Pediatric Section may interact with NREF in the future.

With respect to the Section’s small research grants, we re-iterated that the research committee will have discretion on how to use the \$10K research funds (ie one 10K grant, two 5K grants, four 2.5K grants, etc).

AANS and CNS Board meetings

Pertinent items reviewed by Bruce Kaufman, who attended both board meetings in SF:

- The evolution of the NREF process, for which the pediatric section will arrange a meeting with NREF in near future, after the new NREF chair is in place, to clarify the relationship.
- The Committee on Resident Education (CoRE) process underway by the SNS plans to include members of the various Joint Sections in a permanent way in order to ensure that content is consistent with approved practice guidelines in all of the neurosurgical sub-specialties. Dr. Kaufman has named Rick Abbott as the Pediatric Section representative.
- The document the “Optimal Resources for Children’s Surgical Care in the United States” was approved by both boards. The CNS executive committee suggests contacting the CSNS- Neurotrauma section and Joint Trauma Section to help define issues that they encountered as the ACS Trauma certification efforts rolled out – they may be pertinent to the next planned step of the ‘task force’ – certification of centers and how that could affect the membership.

Guidelines Committee Report was discussed.

The Pediatric Hydrocephalus: Systematic Literature Review and Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines has been accepted by the Journal of Neurosurgery Pediatrics. The final document is 280 pages. The J. Neurosurg has said that we will need to finance the publication if it is to be published, which would be \$80K print or \$40K on line.

We decided we would not spend this much money to publish this, and will explore potential options.

ACPNF report

Given by Michael Scott. Productive discussions with CAST have reinforced the role of the ACPNF and ABPNS as the mechanisms for fellowship training and accreditation in Pediatric Neurosurgery, which will remain a post-graduate experience.

Coding and Reimbursement

No report, but Bruce asked that we seek to develop other coding ‘gurus’ in addition to David Gruber. Lance Governale was suggested by Jeff Leonard.

No Old or New Business was brought up for discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30PM

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Respectfully submitted

Mark Proctor,
Secretary, Joint Pediatric Section