

2015 Committee Updates

Audit Committee

CHARGE: Review and approval of annual audited financial statements.

UPDATE: The committee reviewed the FY15 audited financial statements and approved them via a conference call on August 14, 2015.

Constitution & Rules Committee

CHARGE: Evaluate a proposal from Council to add Associate Members to Council by June, 2015. Consider having one male and female member to serve a 2 to 3 year term. Should this Associate Member become a full Member during their term they could serve out their term. Determine if these positions should be ad-hoc or full voting.

UPDATE: The committee has proposed a new Associate Member Representative Delegate position along with the mechanics of the position to suggest criteria for eligibility, nomination and elections procedure, term lengths and rotation. Council reviewed the committee's proposal at the summer meeting and decided that additional data, thought and discussion was needed. Council will review the data collected by the Membership Advisory Task Force on the Associate Member survey and will discuss again at the December meeting.

Education and Training Committee

CHARGE: Allow minority awardees to receive travel funding to attend the Annual Meeting for up to two years after their first award year. Include qualified postdoctoral and resident minorities when considering awards. Conduct an administrative review of each awardee for the following 2 funded years to make sure the past awardee is progressing in the field.

UPDATE: There were 19 URM past travel awardees that were eligible to apply for funding. Of the 19, 15 applied. After the academic review by the URM sub-committee, all 15 were granted funding and will be attending the meeting. The 4 that did not apply indicated they are not able to attend the meeting this year due to reasons other than funding.

CHARGE: Evaluate the 2014 mentorship program that gave mentors to travel award applicants who did not receive the award, but still attended the meeting.

UPDATE: The committee agreed to continue the mentor program. The committee is considering developing a specific survey for the 2014 travel award applicants who did not receive an award but did request a mentor, to get a better idea of the success of the program. The Executive Office is currently soliciting mentor volunteers from the College.

CHARGE: Continue to facilitate the pre-doctoral travel award. The committee should liaise with other groups such as NIH who are developing their own pre-doctoral programs.

UPDATE: Five students (degree candidates) were chosen as travel awardees for the 2015 year. The committee will continue with the roundtable breakfast at the Annual Meeting for these awardees. This roundtable event is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9th from 7-8 AM and a sub-committee of E&T members have been selected to attend.

CHARGE: Review the results from the 2014 TA Survey and make improvements to the program based on feedback.

UPDATE: The primary concern from the 2014 survey was the awardees' hotel accommodations at an overflow property that was not within walking distance. Although there were shuttles, the service was not convenient for all situations. Since the overflow property in Hollywood is within one block of the Diplomat, the committee is confident that, with the close proximity, there is no need for further action when the meeting is in Hollywood.

CHARGE: Coordinate the 2015 Travel Award program, which includes:

1. Selecting speakers for the Travel Awardee events at the Annual Meeting.
2. Solicit applications for the awards.
3. Work to secure grants for support for the Travel award program.
4. Continue with the Travel Awardee Poster Session.

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UPDATE: This year we had a record number of applications. We received 338 applications total, 44 of which were URM. Janssen provided a \$20K educational grant. The Travel Awardee Poster Session is scheduled for Saturday, December 5th at the Annual Meeting.

CHARGE: Invite 2-3 travel awardees to serve as ad hoc committee members for a 1-year term.

UPDATE: Three past travel awardees have been elected and are currently serving on the committee.

CHARGE: Discuss the format of the travel award luncheon, including going with the same structure of a single speaker or developing a panel or round table based program.

UPDATE: The luncheon will continue with the single speaker format. Also, the seating chart will be arranged by awardees areas of research. The committee agreed to again invite the recipient of the Julius Axelrod Award to speak at the Travel Award Luncheon on Wednesday, December 9th.

CHARGE: Engage outgoing committee members to serve as ad hoc reviewers to assist with the travel award applications.

UPDATE: Committee members who rotated off the committee in 2014 served as ad hoc reviewers. This greatly alleviated the number of applications that each reviewer had to complete. For 2016, Dr. Frazer greatly increased the number of new member appointments to this committee to assist with review of the increasing number of applications.

CHARGE: Research and explore a plan for possible additional funding for non-URM travel awardees to support their return to ACNP during years 2-3. Based on concrete/objective criteria, such could enable support to non-URMs with demonstrable financial need paralleling recently established support to all URM travel awardees in good standing.

UPDATE: No updates at this time.

CHARGE: Create an event at the Annual Meeting for both current and past travel awardees with educational topics such as how to write a grant, how to give a talk, or how to interview for a job.

UPDATE: The committee will hold an informal breakfast during the December meeting for both current and past travel awardees (2011-2014). The informal format will allow the attendees to network and develop connections. The committee would like to display the Membership Advisory Task Force poster at the event and possibly have representatives from the task force in attendance to answer membership questions if necessary.

CHARGE: Consider encouraging members to use their invitation for an early career researcher that has the funding, but not an invitation.

UPDATE: No updates at this time.

ADDITIONAL UPDATE: The committee selected 58 Travel Award recipients this year. 54 were selected based on their rank in the top tier (derived from average scores and standard deviation) within their applicant category. The chairs identified 4 additional awardees with very competitive scores who self-identified as underrepresented minorities and the additional award were granted.

Ethics Committee

CHARGE: Deal with any Ethics issues that may be brought before the committee.

UPDATE: No issues have been raised to date.

CHARGE: Consider submitting a study group or panel session on an ethics-related issue to the 2015 call for submissions.

UPDATE: The committee submitted a panel session for the 2015 Annual Meeting. The proposal titled, *The Vanishing Nonhuman Primate Model: Ethics Committee Assessments of the Utility and Ethics of Nonhuman Primate Research*, is currently under review by the Program Committee. The proposed speakers are: Christina Barr, Karen Bale, Judy Cameron and D. Higley. The proposal was not accepted by the Program Committee.

Honorific Awards Committee

CHARGE: In light of the data regarding women members who have received honorific awards, Council would like the Awards Committee to strive to increase the number of women awardees in the coming years.

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UPDATE: The committee reviewed the calls for nominations to ensure no modifications were necessary to further highlight the importance of nominations of women.

CHARGE: Consider developing an Honorific Award for an under-represented minority.

UPDATE: Following consultation with both groups, the Awards Committee concluded that no new award should be created. Representatives of both the Women’s and Minority Task Force agree that they prefer to compete openly without a special category as a special award category could diminish the honor. The recipient age limits were changed for Eva King Killam Award and the translational research award is now only open to individuals who no more than twelve (12) years beyond their terminal degree.

2015	# of nominees	# of male nominees	# of female nominees	% of male nominees	% of female nominees	gender of recipient(s)
Axelrod	7	5	2	71%	29%	Male
Efron	6	5	1	83%	17%	female
Elkes	3	3	0	100%	-	male
Hoch	1	1	0	100%	-	male
Killam	5	2	3	40%	60%	2 awards given 1 male & 1 female
Media Award	11	5	6	45%	55%	female

Liaison Committee

CHARGE: Develop a subcommittee to determine if there are additional ways to engage our advocacy affiliates.

UPDATE: A subcommittee was developed. The group discussed engagement of advocacy affiliates and agreed that the most important aspect of supporting each other’s mission and supporting attendance their meetings where there is a need for an expert to speak on a topic. The group agreed to invite Advocacy Affiliates to again join the ACNP Liaison Committee meeting in December and get their perspective on how the ACNP can assist with their initiatives.

CHARGE: Actively participate on the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus by sponsoring one to two briefings annually. Note that these times could also be used for a small delegation to visit congressional offices.

UPDATE: On the last call, M. Rasenick asked members for briefing ideas to present to Caucus. PTSD and Mental Health Parity were discussed as potential topics. Mark Rasenick and Frank Yocca attended the SfN Hill Day in March and visited with a number of their representatives to advocate for mental health research funding. Additionally, the ACNP conducted two visits to Congressmen. In September, C. Nemeroff, N. Rasgon and R. Wilkins visited Senator Burr in his NC office to discuss the 21st Century Cures and Innovation legislation. In September, M. Rasenick, N. Rasgon, and R. Wilkins visited the offices of Elizabeth Warren (S-MA), Michael Bennet (S-CO), Lamar Alexander (S-TN), Diane DeGette (R-CO), and Anna Eshoo (R-CA). In October, N. Rasgon, C. Nemeroff and R. Wilkins visited the office of Representative Tim Murphy of PA. The also visited with members of Senator Burr’s staff on the HELP Committee to discuss the Innovation legislation.

CHARGE: Develop a brief introduction to ACNP that explains 1) Who we are; and 2) what we can offer to Congress. This should be included on the website as well.

UPDATE: This is complete, posted on the website and recently distributed on the SfN Hill visits and ACNP visit in September and October.

CHARGE: Continue membership in Research!America.

UPDATE: ACNP has renewed their membership in Research!America. Additionally, the College sent Mark Rasenick, Natalie Rasgon and Sarah Timm to the Advocacy Awards gala in March. SfN was honored at the gala. Natalie Rasgon and Ronnie Wilkins were also able to attend a Research America update on the innovation initiative legislation currently being developed by the Senate HELP committee in conjunction with the visit to Representative Murphy.

CHARGE: Stay in contact with Nancy Ator, the ACNP representative for AAALAC. Obtain a yearly update. Continue to monitor the revisions of the Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

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UPDATE: Dr. Ator updated the committee in September that the APA Committee on Animal Research and Ethics (CARE) recently held a briefing on the Hill titled, “Animal Research: What’s at Stake?” This briefing was part of the AAALAC STAR (Speaking the Truth about Animal Research). STAR has now organized two congressional briefings on Capitol Hill with ACNP listed as a sponsor.

Membership Committee

CHARGE: Evaluate nominations and make recommendations for Associate Members, Members and Fellows.

UPDATE: There are 86 open new membership slots for 2016. The committee received and is currently reviewing:

- 50 associate membership nominations
- 59 full membership nominations
- 81 applications for promotion to Fellow - 57 meet the criteria for automatic promotion, 24 are under review.

CHARGE: Council would like the Membership Committee to continue to increase the number of women and under-represented minority Associate and Regular Members in the coming years.

UPDATE:

2015	# of nominations	# of male nominees	# of female nominees	# of male URM nominees	# of female URM nominees
Associate Member	50	30	20	5	1
Full Member	59	40	19	3	2
Promotion	81	45	29	2	0

Program Committee

CHARGE: Consult with the President to select ad-hoc members for the committee should there be a need for more expertise.

UPDATE: No ad hoc reviewers were needed.

CHARGE: Continue to pay special attention and continue to increase the number of women and under-represented minorities on the program at the Annual Meeting in the coming years. Review the wording in the call for proposals to be more affirmative on the value of having younger, female, minority speakers.

UPDATE: Emphasis has been added to our call for proposals and to the submission system.

CHARGE: Appoint a sub-committee to work with Chairs to select Hot Topics and Data Blitz presenters. These committee members will not be expected to complete reviews.

UPDATE: A subcommittee was formed and selected 12 Hot Topics and 12 Data Blitz presentations after the initial poster reviews were completed. 783 posters were selected for presentation by the Program Committee.

CHARGE: Continue to monitor speaker substitutions and collect data on the reason for the substitutions.

UPDATE: To date there have been very few requests for speaker substitutions.

CHARGE: Reevaluate night sessions based on the 2014 experiment of moving mini panels to the night session. Mini panels in 2014 had low attendance similar to that of the Study Group sessions in 2013. Adding an 8th concurrent session is possible at the Westin Diplomat. Make a recommendation to Council by April 1.

UPDATE: An 8th concurrent day session has been scheduled. There will be no evening sessions in 2015.

CHARGE: Continue to develop and evaluate the annual meeting mobile application with the goal of discontinuing the printed program book in the coming years.

UPDATE: The mobile application has been developed by the developers of the ACNP submission system.

CHARGE: Emphasize the rule that a presenter can only present during one panel or mini panel at the meeting. Include a statement for chairs and presenters to sign during the submission process. Chairs of submissions should also reiterate this to presenters in their own communication.

UPDATE: A statement was added to the submission system to clarify presenter role limits. Presenters were asked to attest that they read and understand the policy. This was a mandatory response required of all

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presenters at the time of submissions. Additionally, the submission system prevented presenters being listed on proposals in excess of the role limits.

Public Information Committee

CHARGE: Develop guidelines that constitute a good press release to facilitate the identification of the most promising panels at the annual meeting.

UPDATE: Completed in 2014

CHARGE: Appoint a subcommittee to identify 2015 Media Award nominations.

UPDATE: A 5 person subcommittee was selected. They identified 8 possible nominees and reviewed an additional 3 nominees submitted by membership for consideration. Lisa Genova, nominated by Joseph Coyle, was recommended and approved as the 2015 Media Award recipient.

CHARGE: Review accepted abstracts and hot topics for the 2015 Annual Meeting from the Program Committee for release to the media. Releases in 2015 will need to be written by committee members.

UPDATE: in process

CHARGE: Work with Nature Publishing regarding a letter the committee can use to assure presenting authors that a press release for a presentation given at the ACNP meeting will not negatively affect their publication opportunities.

UPDATE: Editor-in-Chief Bill Carlezon contacted Elizabeth Yopez at Nature Publishing Group for clarification regarding issue. NPG encourages scientists to present at conferences and be part of the scientific community. However, prior to publication, they recommend that authors not speak to the media (either via interviews or press releases) as these types of communication are not for the purpose of scientific discourse, but media outreach (at which point the NPG embargo policy is applicable). The committee will draft a notice stating that press releases could possibly affect an author's ability to achieve journal publication. The final approved notice will be provided to presenting authors selected for annual meeting press releases

Publications Committee

CHARGE: Continue to support and monitor the progress of *Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews*.

UPDATE: On-going

CHARGE: Continue to support the Public Information Committee by alerting them to *Neuropsychopharmacology* papers accepted and screened for potential media release by Editor-in-Chief, Bill Carlezon.

UPDATE: On-going. Given the reduced number of press releases approved by the NPG Press Office, in 2016, the Public Information Committee is considering writing releases for papers that the committee and the EIC feel strongly would be highly mediable but have been turned-down by the NPG Press Office. The releases would be written by the Public Information Committee and sent through EurekAlerts online science news. The goal for yearly releases remains at 3-4 per year.

CHARGE: Continue to monitor the progress of the ACNP website and support Dave Sibley, the ACNP Website Editor, to ensure that the website provides the information and functionality desired by members and provides appropriate and helpful information to the general public, and to facilitate uploading on the website of posters for the annual meeting.

UPDATE: On-going. D. Sibley is currently reworking several webpages and adding educational content such as Ted Talks.

CHARGE: Continue the NEATOR and Reviewer Appreciation Award processes

UPDATE: On-going. The NEATOR and top reviewer recipients will be announced at the December meeting.

CHARGE: Name a subcommittee to research the risks and/or benefits associated with launching an Open Access (OA) NPP Spinoff journal with the assistance of Nature Publishing Group. Report to Council by June.

UPDATE: The subcommittee consisted of Publications Committee chair Harriet de Wit, Publications Committee co-chair Ellen Leibenluft, and committee members Arthur Brody and Athina Markou. The subcommittee met and reviewed the pros and cons summarized by Nature staff at the December 2014 ACNP meeting, as well as the confidential comments provided by Publications Committee members after the December meeting. In addition, Dr. de Wit discussed the proposed online journal with Bill Carlezon, Bob Freedman and Jim Meador-Woodruff

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to obtain their perspectives and opinions. The subcommittee concluded that the online spinoff journal is not advantageous for the College at this time, and unanimously agreed to recommend that the College not move forward with an open access spin-off journal. Council reviewed and approved the subcommittee's recommendation in July.

TASK FORCES

Member Advisory Task Force

CHARGE: Continue the Associate Member reception for the 2014 class of Associate Members at the 2015 Annual Meeting.

UPDATE: The task force is planning on conducting the reception again, but at a time that does not conflict with the mentor/mentee reception.

CHARGE: Present a poster at the 2015 Annual Meeting describing the progress the task force has made in the current year.

UPDATE: The task force will present a poster at the 2015 Annual Meeting

CHARGE: Develop an information session for Associate Members on how to apply for members.

UPDATE: The session will be presented on Tuesday, December 8th from 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. The session is titled, *The Nuts and Bolts of ACNP Membership*. Topics that will be covered in the session include how to 'break the ice' with the College – in other words, how can someone who has never been to the meeting get in? Related to this issue, the group will discuss how an applicant for membership/travel award can show commitment to the College (important criterion for membership) in ways other than attending the meeting (since this requires an invitation and therefore can be a catch-22). Additional topics will include how to judge when one is ready to apply for various levels of membership. Panelists will be Karen Szumlinski, Greg Light, Victoria Arango, David Goldman, Patricio O'Donnell. Moderators will be the Chair and co-Chair of the Membership Advisory Task Force, Christina Barr and Vaishali Bakshi as well as Daniel Mueller.

CHARGE: Work with the Women's Task Force and the Education and Training Committee to discuss overlap of the groups and how to avoid duplicative efforts.

UPDATE: Karen Szumlinski was appointed by the task force as their liaison to the Education and Training Committee.

CHARGE: Draft a list of the task force's accomplishments by June so that Council may decide if there is a need for the task force to continue.

UPDATE: The report was submitted in July. Council reviewed the report and agreed the task force has made great progress and implemented a number of great ideas. Council decided that the task force should continue one additional year. They will discuss on a future call the areas of focus for the Advisory Task Force.

Women's Task Force

CHARGE: Review the Women's Mentoring Program and determine if it should continue.

UPDATE: The overall response to the mentoring program was very positive and it should continue. Based on survey feedback, the following suggestions have been made:

- i. Match mentees and mentors based on several different dimensions. In addition to asking for areas of interest, ask if the mentee has a preference for a male/female mentor, if they would like to be matched with someone that is basic, clinical, or translational, and if they would like someone that can provide mentorship on work life balance along with the scientific balance. Mentee/mentor volunteering in currently in progress.
- ii. Schedule the Women's Task Force Mentoring Reception so that it does not conflict with the Associate Member reception. The reception will be held on Wednesday, December 9th from 7:30pm-8:30pm and does not conflict with other planned receptions.
- iii. Use a larger room for the mentoring reception. The reception has been scheduled in a room appropriately sized for the number of attendees.

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CHARGE: Review the feedback from the Women's Luncheon survey and make a plan for the 2015 luncheon.

UPDATE: The task force partnered with the Membership Advisory Task Force to make a decision regarding the format of the Women's Luncheon for the 2015 Annual Meeting. Based on survey feedback, the following suggestions were made:

- i. Table interactions will be enhanced and communication issues eased by using smaller tables with no more than 8 attendees seated per table.
- ii. Self-serve box lunches will be provided to minimize noise and service distractions. The first 30 minutes of the luncheon will be informal for lunch and open table discussions, followed by a formal 40 minute presentation speaker/panel, with the final 50 minutes dedicated to topical table discussions.
- iii. Each table will be assigned two table leaders, one junior and one senior, representing clinical and basic researchers. Table leaders will be briefed on expectations. Attendees will be provided a list of table leaders prior to the meeting to allow them to choose which table they will join.
- iv. Luncheon speaker/panel topics were selected by sending a short survey to ACNP members and registered meeting attendees who have indicated a desire to attend the luncheon. The topic of negotiations (job, promotion, salary) was of the greatest interest to attendees. Roundtable discussion topics will be: Inherent Biases, Funding & Getting Funded, and Publications (how to advocate for your papers with editors), Balance (work/family).

CHARGE: Continue to define ways to incorporate and advance young women in the College.

UPDATE: In 2016, the Women's Task Force would like to work with the Program Committee to encourage proposal submissions for presentation at the 2016 Women's Luncheon.

Minority Task Force

CHARGE: Inform College members on a regular basis of the importance of including underrepresented minorities in the College. Information on important topics of diversity and efforts underway by the College to increase diversity can be disseminated by:

- o The ACNP website
- o ACNP Journal
- o Contracting via email/main NIH Institute Directors, Training Directors, Chairs of Psychiatry and Neuroscience Departments

The task force should make recommendations to Council of how to do this.

UPDATE: The URM Task Force posted their poster from the annual meeting online along with the manuscript from Richard De la Garza. The manuscript was also included in the May 2015 ACNP Bulletin. URM travel award recruitment letters were sent to the Chairs of Psychiatry, NIH directors, and chairs of pharmacology.

CHARGE: Promote more about the Travel Award program to chairs of psychiatry, pharmacology, etc. in the US.

UPDATE: URM travel award recruitment, letters were sent to the Chairs of Psychiatry, NIH directors, and chairs of pharmacology. 44 applications from URMs were received by the Education & Training Committee.

CHARGE: Create and maintain a database that monitors diversity and tracks progress of underrepresented minorities throughout the different levels of the College over the years. Suggested data to collect on diversity would include:

- o Number of individuals in the College with information on diversity at all levels within the college (Travel awardees, Associate Members, Full Members, Nominating Committee, Council and President)
- o Number of individuals in the College with information on diversity and how members progress throughout the ranks of the college.
- o Number of individuals in the College with information on diversity submitting Panel, Mini-Panel and Study groups, acceptance and rejection rates.

UPDATE: on-going

CHARGE: Work with the Strategic Planning Task Force to determine a realistic goal for a percent of URMs in the college by 2025.

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UPDATE: Working with the task force, 5%-6% has been identified as that target increase for URM's over the next 5 years.

CHARGE: Determine if the breakfast meeting at the 2015 ACNP Annual Meeting for those interested in discussing and promoting diversity should continue and/or be enhanced.

UPDATE: The 2014 breakfast was a great success. The task force has planned a more structured breakfast to include a presentation by Julio Licinio on how to get published in high-impact journals. The task force is also planning an informal, casual evening get-together on Monday, December 7th from 7:30pm-8:30pm.

CHARGE: Encourage minority associate members to apply for full membership and full minority members to apply for fellow promotions.

UPDATE: Minority Associate Members were contacted. The task force discussed ways to evaluate an Associate Member's readiness to apply, i.e. do they meet the criteria, so that we are not encouraging applications from Associate Members who will likely not be successful in achieving full membership.

CHARGE: Identify Minorities now and offer them mentorship throughout the year.

UPDATE: The task force surveyed both the mentees and mentors to gauge their interest continued mentoring and will assist with matching the 2015 minority attendees with mentors. Additionally, based on responses from the 2014 URM mentee and mentor surveys that highlighted the difficulties in gauging what mentees want and/or need from a mentor, the task force has developed a guide that lists basic principles to enhance interactions. The task force believes the guidance will be helpful in achieving more successful mentor-mentee relationships and as shared the completed guidelines document with the chairs of the Education and Training Committee.