

2017 Committee Updates

Audit Committee

CHARGE: Review and approve of annual audited financial statements.

UPDATE: The committee reviewed the FY17 audited financial statements and approved them via teleconference on August 3, 2017.

Animal Research Committee

CHARGE: Work with the AAALAC and support their initiatives.

UPDATE: Nancy Ator is a member of the AAALAC Board of Trustees representing ACNP. She reports information back to the ACNP Liaison Committee, and moving forward will include the Animal Research Committee. N. Ator will continue to keep members up to date or answer any questions about their own university. An article with this information was posted in the ACNP February Bulletin to engage membership. The committee has been informed to submit ideas to N. Ator who can then bring them to AAALAC.

CHARGE: Review and edit the content on the ACNP website as it relates to resources available to promote the positive aspects of the ethical use of animals in research.

UPDATE: The committee edited the ACNP Statement on the Ethical use of Animals on the ACNP website, and Council approved in their summer meeting. This has been updated on the ACNP website, and placed in the August Bulletin. The November Bulletin piece informed the membership of the study group during the Annual Meeting, *Animal Research Committee, Advocating for Animal-Based Neuropsychopharmacology Research*, to increase awareness and attendance. The committee will promote BRAD through the ACNP website, and the BRAD Fellow once selected will help provide content for the site. The committee will use the ACNP website to promote our coalition partners.

CHARGE: Support organizations such as NABR, FBR, AMP, and other animal committees in other societies (SfN, SOBP, etc).

UPDATE: Mar Sanchez is the chair of the Animal Research Committee with SfN, and will be a liaison to ACNP. Nancy Ator is also a member of the Speaking Truth about Research Coalition representing ACNP that has calls to discuss the latest in animal research in general. Supporting Truth about Animal Research (STAR) requested \$5,000 to be allocated to their initiative of a strategic long-term plan to advocate in support of animal research on Capitol Hill as well as to provide expert views on policies affecting animal research. Council approved this proposal during their summer meeting. Council approved a proposal from BRAD and AMP to support a Fellow for \$10,000 for two or three years on the October 10th Executive Committee call. Council will evaluate the Fellow program after two or three years before signing on for a longer term. The BRAD Fellow flyer is being distributed at the annual meeting, promoted online, and will be emailed to membership and past Travel Awardees to distribute for potential candidates. Deadline is January 31, 2018.

CHARGE: Continue to monitor *Neuropsychopharmacology* and suggest commentaries when appropriate that are related to the use of animal models in research.

UPDATE: Sari Izenwasser has been in contact with Bill Carlezon regarding the committee writing a commentary in the journal. The committee has also been reminded to monitor *Neuropsychopharmacology* and suggest commentaries when appropriate that are related to the use of animal models in research. The committee discussed the importance of continuing to

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review the journal in their December meeting, and see if they can write a commentary on animal models.

Constitution & Rules Committee

CHARGE: Address items as presented to committee.

UPDATE: No updates to report.

Education and Training Committee

CHARGE: Choose the 2017 recipient for an annual Harry June and Athina Markou Memorial Travel Award.

UPDATE: The Education and Training Committee completed the scoring process with 3 independent reviews of each application. Additionally, Dr. Yasmin Hurd, Co-Chair of the Minority Task Force also provided a secondary review of all the applicants who self-identified as an underrepresented minority.

The College had an exceptional year for travel award applications. This year we received 400 applications as compared to 345 in 2016 which is an increase of 16%. We also had another leap forward for the future diversity of the College with 55% of the applicants being women and 18% of the applicants self-identified as an underrepresented minority which is an increase of 8% from 2016. The committee awarded 60 travel awards, of which 20% were awarded to underrepresented minority applicants. We identified the recipient of the *Harry June Award* as Florence Varodayan, Ph.D., a Research Associate serving on the Committee on the Neurobiology of Addictive Disorders, The Scripps Research Institute. Her research goal is to understand how the brain's neuroadaptation to binge drinking drives the development of alcohol use disorders, with the aim of advancing prevention and treatment. We identified the recipient of the *Athina Markou Award* as Katharina Kircanski, Ph.D., a post-doctoral fellow from Stanford University and currently a Research Fellow in Dr. Ellen Leibenluft's laboratory in the NIMH Emotion and Development Branch. Dr. Kircanski's goal is to pursue an independent program of research devoted to the neural mechanisms and treatment of childhood psychiatric disease integrating sophisticated analytic methods. Her research focuses on irritability and anxiety, which are among the most common symptoms in youth and confer risk for adult psychopathology and impairment.

CHARGE: Continue to allow minority awardees to receive travel funding to attend the Annual Meeting for up to two years following their initial award year.

UPDATE: Past Travel Awardee URM additional funding information and guidelines to submit academic review was sent to all 2015 and 2016 URM PTA's. The submission deadline was July 14th. After an academic progress review, committee volunteers awarded (9) URM PTA's with additional funding for the 56th Annual Meeting.

CHARGE: Work with their committee members' affiliations on outreach efforts to increase URM professionals to apply for a travel award.

UPDATE: Of the 400 travel award applications received this year, 65 of the applicants 16.25% self-identified as an underrepresented minority as compared to 11.01% of the applicants who self-identified as an underrepresented minority in 2016. The outreach efforts performed by the task force in conjunction with those from the Education and Training Committee have resulted in a year over year increase of 5.24%.

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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: The committee has awarded 5 pre-doctoral travel awards this year. NIMH committee members (Dost Unger/Steve Grant) educated the committee on a call regarding funding opportunities through NIMH for individuals in the predoctoral stage of training.

CHARGE: Review the results from the 2016 TA Survey and make improvements to the program based on feedback.

UPDATE: Survey results showed overall experience rating increased from 4.98 out of 5 as compared to 4.93 in 2015. Feedback from 2016 awardees continue to show the program is highly regarded.

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

UPDATE: The committee invited three travel awardees to serve as ad hoc members on the committee. Two travel awardees have accepted the invitation to serve as an ad hoc member. They are Noah Philip and Dawn Ionescu.

CHARGE: Coordinate the 2017 Travel Award program, which includes:

1. Selecting speakers for the Travel Awardee events at the Annual Meeting.
2. Solicit applications for the awards.
3. Current and past travel awardee roundtable breakfast.

UPDATE: The speaker for the travel awardee luncheon will be Dr. Josh Gordon. Travel awards applications were solicited. The application pool in 2017 increased 55 applications, 16% as compared to the application pool in 2016.

Ethics Committee

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

UPDATE: No updates to report.

Honorific Awards Committee

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

UPDATE: Honorific Awards nominations closed on June 28, 2017. The committee stated this was an outstanding group of candidates. Each award category was reviewed, and close average scores were discussed. Consideration was given to gender and affiliation of nominees with close average scores. The committee agreed on the following 2017 recipients: Axelrod Mentorship Award – Rene Hen and Alan Schatzberg; Efron Research Award – Garret Stuber; Elkes Research Award – Diego Pizzagalli and Carrie Bearden; Killam Research Award – Lara Ray and Carolyn Rodriguez; Media Award – David Sheff; and Shockley Minority Mentorship Award – Margarita Dubocovich. Council decided to select Eric Nestler for the Hoch Award. There were nine women nominated for awards total and four were selected. There were five URM's nominated for awards total and three were selected. There were 33 nominations total.

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Liaison Committee

CHARGE: Continue membership in Research! America.

UPDATE: ACNP continues to be a member of Research!America. We also supported the Advocacy Awards Gala in March.

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

UPDATE: This year's briefings, in recognition of World Mental Health Day, were held on October 10th. ACNP hosted a breakfast briefing with the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus on the "Impacts of Suicide and Depression." Dr. Charles Nemeroff, Chair, provided an overview on neurobiology of depression and suicide. Dr. Robert Hirschfeld, Professor of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College, provided an overview of the economic impact of depression and suicide. Karen Taylor, a patient, provided a personal perspective on how depression affected her life and journey on leading others to treatment and eliminating the negative stigma of depression. ACNP also hosted a luncheon briefing on, "Healthy Aging: The Connection... Diabetes, Obesity, and Dementia." Dr. Natalie Rasgon, Chair, provided an update on the social, mental and fiscal impacts of diabetes, obesity, and dementia. Dr. Sam Gandy, Associate Director of the Mount Sinai Medical Center Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, provided an overview on the latest science discoveries in the mechanisms of Alzheimer's disease and its impact on developing precision based interventions. Dan Gasby, husband and caregiver of former model and lifestyle guru, B. Smith, gave brief remarks and a personal account on how dementia has affected his life as the caregiver to his wife. The attendance at these briefings were small but feedback was positive.

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.

UPDATE: N. Ator continues to keep the committee updated.

CHARGE: Continue their advocacy efforts on the Hill. This could be by strategic visits to the Hill, visits with other organizations like ABC and SfN, and by conducting Congressional Neuroscience Caucus briefings.

UPDATE: March 15th and March 16th, Liaison Committee Co-Chairs Drs. Rasgon and Nemeroff, along with Sarah Timm, attended the 2017 Research! America Advocacy Awards dinner as well as met with key legislators and legislative staff on Capitol Hill. Key legislators and legislative staff included:

Portia Boone, Legislative Correspondent to Senator Tim Kaine (VA). Senator Kaine is on the Senate Budget Committee, Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee along with the Senate Foreign Relations and Senate Armed Services Committees.

Kristen Shatynski, (House of Representatives), lead legislative staff for the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee, Health Subcommittee and the Subcommittee Chairman Representative Michael Burgess (Texas).

Elizabeth Warren who serves on the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, Senate Special Committee on Aging, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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Brian Kaski who is the American Political Science Association (APSA) Congressional Fellow assigned to the Senate Special Committee on Aging of which Senator Susan Collins (S-Maine) currently serves as Chair.

Julia Frederick who is the Legislative Correspondent to Senator Warren. Julia expressed an interest in partnering with Brian (Sen. Collins) in co-hosting briefing on dementia/Alzheimer's.

Elisabeth Fox, Legislative Aide to Senator Dianne Feinstein of California. Senator Feinstein is a member of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Senate Appropriations Committee, and Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL) U.S. Representative- Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen who serves on the Foreign Affairs and Intelligence (Permanent) Committees in the House of Representatives

Chris Jennings of Jennings Policy Strategies to discuss how the ACNP can be better connected with policy makers. Mr. Jennings is a past healthcare advisor of Hillary Clinton and Barak Obama.

Andy Vogt, who serves as Health Professional Staff at U.S. Senate HELP Committee and liaison to Senator Alexander (TN) who is chair of the HELP Committee expressed an interest in a congressional briefing that discusses mental health as a global issue and the economic benefits to funding research.

Desiree Mowry who is the Health Care Advisor to U.S. Senator Roy Blunt (MO). Senator Blunt is a member of the Senator Appropriations Committee where he serves as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies. Senator Blunt also serves on the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Committee on Rules and Administration, and the Select Committee on Intelligence.

On March 23rd, committee members, K. Bigos, C. Cowan and R. Knickmeyer-Santelli joined forces with SfN to attend the Hill Day event. They spent the day in teams advocating for continued support for brain and behavior research. The metrics for the Advocacy teams included: 41 attendees, 54 total meetings with Congressional offices and committee staff, which included 7 meetings with Members of Congress.

On October 10th, in conjunction with the briefings on depression and suicide and Alzheimer's Disease, Drs. Nemeroff and Rasgon and Sarah Timm met with the offices of Senator Bill Cassidy of Louisiana and Senator Chris Murphy of Connecticut to discuss the College and the need for continued research funding.

CHARGE: Work with the American Brain Coalition on their project with the IOM in working to bring industry back to CNS drug development.

UPDATE: A workgroup has been established. Bitu Moghaddam is representing ACNP on this workgroup. No additional funding for the Innovation Initiative has been requested. B. Moghaddam reported on their last meeting in D.C. The initiative is working to bring CNS drug discovery back in large pharmaceutical companies. The focus has moved away from focusing on large companies and moved to smaller biotech companies.

Membership Committee

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

UPDATE: The Executive Office received 68 applications for Associate Member, 64 applications for Member, and 41 applications for Member to Fellow promotion. There were 27 applicants for

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Member to Fellow that qualified for automatic promotion. The Membership Committee has reviewed the 132 applications for new Associate Member and Member, and 14 applications for Member to Fellow promotion.

CHARGE: Continue to increase the number of women, under-represented minority, and industry Associate and Regular Members in the coming years.

UPDATE: Richard Keefe contacted the two URM applicants that were not accepted into Associate Membership at the 2016 December Membership Committee meeting. Membership Committee members were asked to reach out to women, URM, and industry applicants asking them to apply for membership with the understanding that this is not a guarantee of acceptance.

CHARGE: Decide how to move forward with having the h-index as a factor during Membership Committee reviews.

UPDATE: The Membership Committee members have requested to have the h-indices for applicants when they receive their reviews this year. The Executive Office has worked with Web of Science to receive the h-indices for the new Associate Member and Member applicants. Due to issues with applicants associating their publications with their ResearcherID and the accuracy of the h-indices received from Web of Science, the chairs decided to only state the h-index for the candidate the committee was discussing in the December committee meeting. The chairs stated if the candidate had expressed concern of their h-index score being correct with the Executive Office. Discussion is needed on how to use these h-indices in a fair and productive way in the future. The Membership Committee proposed creating a task force for 2018 to establish a more efficient and accurate way of collecting the h-indices.

CHARGE: Determine if a new set of metrics can be used to simplify the review and scoring process.

UPDATE: In 2016, each applicant had 10 reviewers. Robert Bilder ran a regression analysis on how many reviewers were needed, and how much each reviewer added. These results were helpful as they showed that by the time we included the fifth reviewer's score, they had already explained 95% of the variance. The goal for 2017 is to reduce the number of reviewers per applicant to six which will reduce around 40% of reviews than last year. Each committee member received approximately 33 nominations and promotions to review, which includes the 14 Member to Fellow applications that were not automatically accepted. Each new Associate Member and Member application will receive six reviews. All committee members review the Member to Fellow promotions. Dr. Bilder's analyses of this year's data suggest that after 4 of the 6 reviews, 95% of the variance in the applicant's rank is predicted. Surprisingly, the h-index adds little to the model, even though the ratings were done this year without the h-index (unless committee members calculated it themselves).

Program Committee

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

UPDATE: Romina Mizrahi and Guillermo Horga have been added to the committee as ad-hoc members.

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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, and minority speakers.

UPDATE: This was highlighted in the 2017 call for submissions.

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 sub-committee consisting of 9 members was identified to review 74 poster submissions to consider for the Hot Topics and Data Blitz sessions.

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

UPDATE: There have been 7 substitution requests thus far for the 2017 program, most coming in the week leading up to the conference. All were approved by the Program Chair.

CHARGE: Evaluate the success and attendance of all sessions based on eight concurrent day sessions and no evening sessions. Report to Council by April 1.

UPDATE: Feedback from the evaluation has been positive. There were no complaints about 8 concurrent sessions or the lack of evening sessions in 2016.

CHARGE: Continue to 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: This rule was implemented and communicated via the call for proposals and submission site again this year.

Public Information Committee

CHARGE: Consider 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 service.

UPDATE: Council was informed that the Public Information Committee will hold off on writing additional press releases on papers that have been turned-down by the NPG press office. Editor-in-Chief, B. Carlezon informed the committee that the contract with NPG has been re-negotiated, and NPG has committed to approving 4 press releases during the year. It was agreed that additional press releases are probably not necessary. The committee would like to engage with the Publications Committee to determine potential avenues within the NPP work flow that would allow for additional press releases to be written on mediable topics in during 2018.

CHARGE: Develop a press release on the ACNP Honorific Awardees for 2017 which outlines their award and contributions to the field.

UPDATE: The 2017 honorific award press releases assigned to public information committee members for review are complete.

CHARGE: Appoint a subcommittee to identify 2017 Media Award nomination.

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UPDATE: The subcommittee has selected David Sheff, American author of the New York Times best-selling books “Clean: Overcoming Addiction and Ending America’s Greatest Tragedy” and the memoir, “Beautiful Boy: A Father’s Journey Through His Son’s Addiction,” as the 2017 Media Award nominee. David Sheff was approved by the Awards Committee as the 2017 Media Award recipient. He will be attending the 2017 Annual Meeting to receive his award.

CHARGE: Review accepted abstracts and hot topics for the 2017 Annual Meeting from the Program Committee for release to the media. Press releases in 2017 will be written by our new contractor – the Palabra Group.

UPDATE: The accepted abstracts for the Annual Meeting press releases are:

- Stacey Sigmon: Initial Efficacy of Interim Buprenorphine Dosing for Reducing Illicit Drug Use and Associated Risks Among Waitlisted Opioid-Dependent Adults
- Finale Doshi Velez: From Electronic Health Records to Treatment Recommendations for Depression
- Laura Bohn: Biased Opioid Agonists as Safe Analgesics
- Lars Tanum/John Rotrosen (Combined Release) Lars Tanum: Effectiveness of Extended Release Naltrexone Versus Daily Buprenorphine- Naloxone for Opioid Dependence-Norway Trial and John Rotrosen: Comparative Effectiveness of Extended-Release Naltrexone vs. Buprenorphine for Opioid Dependence Treatment NIDA CTS-0051

The committee agreed the topic of opioids was most relevant this year which the recent public health emergency declaration on the battle against the opioid problem. The committee agreed that the tenor of working with the Palabra group was a successful endeavor and suggested their contact is renewed in 2018. The committee was impressed with the quality of the press releases, the framework and insight they were able to provide from the academic research. The committee suggested the adding a quote along with a photograph of the scientist would be nice enhancements for future releases.

CHARGE: Determine a format for writing press releases.

UPDATE: The committee has contracted services with the Palabra Group who has years of experience working with top institutions to turn academic papers into non-technical language for press releases, websites and donor communications. The staff are former journalists and understand how to explain complex research in a way that gets media attention. The staff also understands how to work with researchers to ensure their work is conveyed accurately. The Executive Office has worked with the Palabra Group to determine the most effective format for writing press releases. The committee along with feedback from The Palabra Group have selected (5) academic papers for press release for release during the Annual Meeting, and are in the process of finalizing writing of these press releases.

CHARGE: Develop a process for press releases for the journal.

UPDATE: Editor-in-Chief, B. Carlezon, sends press release worthy papers to the Chairs of the Public Information Committee for review. The Chairs of the Public Information Committee provides a yes/no response. If yes, B. Carlezon sends the papers to Nature. Nature makes the determination if they want to create a press release. B. Carlezon also advised the committee the new contact states Nature must create at least (4) press releases for ACNP in 2017.

The first release titled “Maternal Stress During Pregnancy Could Influence the Biological Clock for Ageing” was released on April 11th. <http://www.springer.com/gp/about->

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springer/media/research-news/maternal-stress-during-pregnancy-could-influence-the-biological-clock-for-ageing/12214810?sf69675815=1

The committee will continue to inter-face with the Editor-in-Chief, B. Carlezon to review press release worthy papers as well as provide committee engage to determine in the current process-work flow if there is a way to increase the number of press releases.

Publications Committee

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

UPDATE: The committee continues to receive updates on the reviews issue and is supportive to editors.

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: Editor-in-Chief B. Carlezon sends press release worthy papers to the Chairs of the Public Information Committee for review. The Chairs of the Public Information Committee provides a yes/no response. If yes, B. Carlezon sends the papers to Nature. Nature makes the determination if they want to create a press release. B. Carlezon also advised the committee the new contact gives the EIC the right to have (4) press releases per year at his discretion.

The first release titled “Maternal Stress During Pregnancy Could Influence the Biological Clock for Ageing” was released on April 11th.

CHARGE: With the Editor-in-Chief, consider the best uses for the NPP/R development fund.

UPDATE: Editor in Chief, B. Carlezon advised the committee that part of the development fund will be used to cover the cost of our new Social Media Editor. Gretchen Neigh was selected to fulfill this role.

CHARGE: Assist the Editor in Chief to explore outreach efforts to attract more clinical research content, upcoming circumspective topics, commentaries, editorials and NPPR issues.

UPDATE: Committee chairs along with Editor-in-Chief, B. Carlezon sent an email to membership to encourage them to submit their clinical papers to NPP. The message stated the College is looking for research that describes different elements of scientific investigation. This includes clinical trials as well as research in epidemiology, physiology and pathophysiology, health services, education, outcomes and mental health. E. Leibenluft forwarded the email to membership to all NIMH clinical staff along with a cover note encouraging them to submit their clinical papers. A. Abi-Dargham posted a Presidents message in the May bulletin encouraging clinical investigators to submit to NPP, and clarifying that the journal is interested in all brain based research, not just psychopharmacology studies. The Publications Committee is also in the process of polling the membership to get a better understanding of what members think of the journal and what its primary goal should be in the future. The committee agreed more effort in outreach needs to be dedicated to attracting more clinical research content. The committee suggested the idea of appointing an editorial board member whose job would be to increase clinical submissions to the journal. Further discussion on this topic is needed. A journal survey to membership was conducted. The results determined that a 90-95% rejection rate is tolerable, authors chase impact factor, the journal efforts to promote papers is not currently a priority, members do not change the name of the journal, members consider impact factor a primary

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metric of success, and the College needs to connect with the younger respondents > 50 years old. It is important that we solicit more engagement from early career scientists.

CHARGE: Solicit applications and make a recommendation for the new ACNP Website Editor to replace Dave Sibley.

UPDATE: Council approved the Publications Committee's recommendation to select Todd Lencz as the new Website Editor. Council discussed the scope of the website rebuild, and agreed we do not want to overbuild the site. According to our Google Analytics reports, the traffic on the website is primarily for administrative purposes such as registering for the annual meeting, members paying dues, getting information about travel awards, and applying for membership. The Executive Office sent an RFP to three web design companies in Nashville with T. Lencz's approval. Snapshot has been selected as the supplier to design the new website. The kickoff meeting included representatives from Snapshot, T. Lencz, and the staff in the Executive Office met on June 13th to discuss the vision and goals of the new site. The new build is well underway. The goal is to launch the new site by February. A preview of the site will be presented at the Business Meeting.

Membership Advisory Task Force

CHARGE: Continue the Associate Member reception for the 2017 class of Associate Members at the 2017 Annual Meeting.

UPDATE: The task force will continue hosting the Associate Member reception. There will be no changes to the current format as the current time does not conflict with other receptions offered during the meeting.

CHARGE: Present a poster at the 2017 Annual Meeting describing the progress the task force has made in the current year as well as to provide information to those who hope to become associate or full members.

UPDATE: The poster describing the progress the task force has made in the current year has been completed. The poster also includes 2017 membership statistics. In a new attempt to provide greater detail about the membership process, this year, representatives from the Membership Advisory Task Force will be joined by representatives of the Membership Committee during the poster sessions.

CHARGE: Develop a Career Development session for the Annual Meeting.

UPDATE: The task force session proposal is titled: *Establishing and Maintaining Scientific Collaborations*. The task force agreed that scientific collaborations have become increasingly essential to promote novel discoveries both within and across fields. In-depth interrogation of research hypotheses often requires multiple technical approaches to ensure that strong conclusions may be derived. Further, collaborations can be an important factor to achieve success in obtaining extramural funding at any career stage. Indeed, if basic scientists seek to realize the translational impact of their findings in the clinical setting, collaborations may also need to extend beyond the academic realm and into industry settings. This Career Development Session will focus on strategies and considerations for early-career scientists to develop and maintain successful collaborations. The topics to be addressed include those identified by the Task Force as well as those stated in response to a survey of associate members. The proposed panelists include scientists in both academia and industry and were identified based on their

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involvement in a range of highly successful collaborative efforts. Panelists include: Shelli Avenevoli, Ph.D. (Deputy Director, NIMH), Ned Kalin, M.D. (University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health), Kay Tye, Ph.D. (Associate Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Daniel Umbricht, M.D. (Translational Medicine Leader Neuroscience, F. Hoffman-La Roche, Ltd.), and Colleen McClung, Ph.D. (Associate Professor, Psychiatry, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine).

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: Liaisons from the task force to the committee were appointed and participated in teleconferences of these groups.

CHARGE: Evaluate the Speed Networking session at the annual meeting, and, if appropriate, hold it again at the 2017 meeting.

UPDATE: Session survey results indicate that the event overall was successful. For this year's session, the committee will focus on marketing the session earlier and more broadly and will create some directional signage. Volunteers to facilitate and organize the 2017 session have been identified.

CHARGE: Review the Membership Q&A on the ACNP website and determine if there are suggested edits/additions.

UPDATE: The task force reviewed and updated the Membership Q & A and provided edits for the website.

CHARGE: Continue to conduct annual surveys of travel awardees and associate members to examine change in perceptions of ACNP culture, understanding of the membership process, and attitudes toward applying for membership. The goal of the surveys, in part, is to evaluate the effectiveness and progress of the MATF.

UPDATE: The Past Travel Awardee and Associate Member surveys were conducted. The past travel awardee survey was sent to 215 Past Travel Awardees from the past five years who are not current Associate Members. 45% of Past Travel Awardees responded to the survey request. Approximately equal numbers of male and female Past Travel Awardees responded with most of the respondents having Ph.D. only degrees and being between 36-45 years of age. 47% of the respondents have children. 22% self-identified as a member of an underrepresented minority. These findings are similar to those observed in previous surveys (2013-2016).

The 2017 Associate Member survey was sent to 151 Associate Members who were not Past Travel Awardees. 48% of Associate Members responded to the survey request. Approximately equal numbers of male and female Associate Members responded, with the majority of respondents having Ph.D. only degrees and being between 36 and 45 years of age. 69% of the respondents have children. 13% self-identified as a member of an underrepresented minority. These findings are similar to those observed in previous surveys (2013-2016), except that in 2013 and 2014 the proportion of female respondents was significantly lower. In general, those who responded expressed at least moderate interest in becoming members, understood that membership could require several application attempts, and considered membership valuable for

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their career and scientific progress. To view a summary of the findings, please visit: <https://www.acnp.org/membership/associatemembership.aspx>

Minority Task Force

CHARGE: Continue to provide information to College members on importance of including underrepresented minorities in the College including: panel, mini-panel and study group presentations; nominations for membership; and nominations to leadership positions.

UPDATE: The task force developed a workgroup initiative on targeted URM recruitment for submission of membership. The workgroup reached out to URM Past Travel Awardees who are no longer eligible to receive an invitation to the Annual Meeting nor apply for URM Past Travel Award additional funding. The work group members were assigned to review the PTA's current h-Index and current qualifications to determine if they met membership criteria. For those individuals who met qualifications, the work group sent membership consideration letters which included an annual meeting invitation from the Chair of the Minority Task Force. A. Abi-Dargham individually contacted the URM applicants that did not receive a travel award in 2016 and encourage them to apply again in 2017. The task force also sent an email to membership of the importance of including underrepresented minorities panel, mini-panel study group presentations, nominations for membership and leadership positions. During 2018, the work group determined they would create sub work groups to focus on membership as well as encourage URM's to submit panels, mini-panels and study groups.

CHARGE: Survey mentees and mentors about their 2016 experience and plans for continued interactions throughout 2017.

UPDATE: The mentee response rate was 50%. Overall, positive experience with mentor was rated at 100%. Of the respondents, 100% agreed their mentor was helpful and 100% plan to attend the 2017 Annual Meeting. The mentor response rate was 66.66%. Overall, positive experience with mentee was rated 100%. Of the respondents, 100% plan to attend the 2017 Annual Meeting and 87.5% agreed they were helpful to their mentee.

CHARGE: Evaluate success of 2016 annual meeting task force events and make a recommendation on what future events should be held for URM attendees.

UPDATE: The task force agreed all the events were well received. Senior members were engaged at the events and provided powerful information about their professional experiences. The task force agreed events should will be evaluated by attendees by including questions in the Annual Meeting survey.

CHARGE: Appoint two young URM professional's ad hoc members of the URM task force to attract young URM professionals to the College.

UPDATE: Dr. Jerome Taylor and Dr. Millie Rincon-Cortes have been appointed as ad hoc members for 2017. The focus for the ad hoc members will be to help orient the task force on social media formats and high yield venues that would be a way to reach under-represented minorities and encourage them to apply for travel awards and membership to the College. The task force agreed that appointing youthful under-represented minorities to serve as an ad-hoc member provided useful information for the task force on social media formats and high yield venues to attract under-represented minorities to the College.

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CHARGE: Work with their task force members' affiliations on outreach efforts to increase URM professionals to apply for Travel Awards.

UPDATE: The task force agreed that each task force member should reach out to 1-3 individuals that would be qualified to apply for a travel award. The Chairs and Executive Office created an email communication template and letter for the task force members and provided the 2017 travel award flyer to send to applicable organizations and qualified applicants. The task force made a concerted effort to increase applicant submissions by 1.) creating a form letter to encourage URM applicant in collaboration with the URM task force; 2.) request that each committee member identifies and invites at least one URM applicant from their own institution and aid that person in applying.

CHARGE: Work with the Education and Training committee to review process for how URM applications are reviewed as well as how to educate URM applicants on how to create a stronger application package.

UPDATE: The liaison to the Education and Training committee, Y. Hurd, provided a secondary review of all URM applications after the Education and Training committee members completed their application reviews. The total number travel award applications for 2017 was 400. The total number of URM applications was 65. The percentage of URM applications was 16.25% which is a 5.24% increase over the number of 2016 URM travel award applications.

CHARGE: Continue to host an annual Meeting Networking event for ACNP underrepresented minority (URM) women which focuses on the unique challenges and opportunities in navigating a career in academic medicine.

UPDATE: The task force agreed the first annual event was a success. The task force will continue engagement with the attendees with phone calls, membership application reminders and additional communications throughout the year. C. Rodriguez is planning the 2nd annual URM Women's Networking Event Tuesday, December 5th from 7:30 am – 8:30 am during the annual meeting. This event will be open to all URM women registered for the annual meeting.

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:

- 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)
- Number of individuals in the College with information on diversity and how members progress throughout the ranks of the college.
- Number of individuals in the College with information on diversity submitting Panel, Mini-Panel and Study groups, acceptance and rejection rates.

UPDATE: The task force has provided periodic updates and will continue to provide annual reports on this topic.

2017 Committee Updates

Women's Task Force

CHARGE: Review the feedback from the Women's Luncheon survey and make a plan for the 2017 luncheon. Rename Women's Luncheon to "Networking Lunch, sponsored by the Women's Task Force".

UPDATE: The feedback from the 2016 Women's Luncheon was overwhelmingly positive and specifically the response to the speaker. As in previous years, the response to the informal discussion was mixed. Suggestions included smaller tables and shorter presentation time to allow more informal discussion. The task force originally agreed that an excellent choice would be to focus on implicit bias as the luncheon topic for 2017. The task force is also hoping more men will attend the luncheon with the name changing to "Networking Lunch, sponsored by the Women's Task Force". The task force invited Dr. Jennifer Sheridan, Women in Science & Engineering Leadership Institute (WISELI), to be the speaker for the Networking Lunch on Tuesday, December 5th at 11:00am. After recent discussions with the speaker and chairs, the task force has decided to not move forward with the topic of implicit bias. The task force has decided to invite Dr. Marina Picciotto, ACNP Member, to speak generally on career development. Dr. Marina Picciotto accepted, and will speak on, "Scientific Publishing, what do I need to know?"

CHARGE: Reevaluate the need for the Women's Reception.

UPDATE: It was suggested to replace the Women's Reception with a plenary session on Monday night on implicit bias with the discussion continuing into the Women's Luncheon on Tuesday. This was approved by Council. Jennifer Sheridan was also going to be the speaker of the Plenary session on Monday, December 4th at 7:30 p.m. After recent discussions with the speaker and chairs, the task force has decided to not move forward with a plenary session on implicit bias. The task force will host the Women's Reception this year, and plans to host a plenary session in 2018.

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

UPDATE: The Executive Office emailed 81 letters to the non-member women presenting on accepted panels, mini-panels, and study groups encouraging them to apply for membership. Out of the 81 letters, 10 applied for either Associate Member or Member. The task force decided to continue this initiative in 2018. In 2017, there are 36 women who applied for Associate Member, and 24 women who applied for Member.