ACNP Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 6, 2016
6:00pm – 11:00pm
The Diplomat, Hollywood, Florida
Room 319-320

Alan Frazer, Presiding

Anissa Abi-Dargham
Antonello Bonci
Joseph Coyle
Barry Everitt
Raquel Gur
Steven Hyman
Peter Kalivas
David Kupfer
James Meador-Woodruff
Maria Oquendo
Rita Valentino
Marina Wolf

Executive Director: Ronnie Wilkins
Staff: Sarah Timm
       Erin Shaw

Council-Elect: Bita Moghaddam (Council-Elect have voice but no vote)
              Kerry Ressler

Conflict of Interest Forms must be reviewed prior to start of the meeting by Alan Frazer, President, Joseph Coyle, Secretary, and Ronnie Wilkins, Executive Director per the Conflict of Interest Policy for Council.

1. Women’s Task Force Report – Linda Brady and Suzanne Haber reported on the progress of the Women’s Task Force. Council agreed that the luncheon and speaker were superb. The chairs agreed that it needs to be made clear that men are invited to participate. The group agreed that the lunch should no longer be titled the “Women’s Lunch,” but rather a networking lunch sponsored by the Women’s Task Force. The percent of women in the College is 24%. The percent of women serving on committees has risen to 46%. The acceptance rate for women in full member is 77%. The acceptance rate for Associate Members is 61%. 58% of travel award applicants were women, and the acceptance rate is also 58% for women. The luncheon has grown over the past three years from 350 attendees to approximately 500 attendees. L. Brady also updated Council that the Committee Efficiencies completed their work by looking at ways to combine efforts. A mentorship guideline was developed by the Education and Training Committee, Membership Advisory Task Force, URM Task Force and Women’s Task Force. The task force members would like to continue the
task force for the coming year, but recommended that its continuation should be evaluated yearly. Council agreed to maintain the current initiatives for the coming year. They also agreed there is a need to seek out and listen to the next generation of scientists.

2. **Publications Committee Report** – Harriet de Wit and Ellen Leibenluft came to the meeting to discuss the Publications Committee work for the year. The journal is in great shape. The website has also been a great success.

H. de Wit advised the committee that Springer has offered two possible formats for the proposed ACNP Handbook, one is an eBook, and the other is a Major Reference Work (MRW). The committee agreed the MRW suits our needs the best, mainly because it allows us to update chapters on an ongoing basis. The project would likely take 18 months from start to print edition. Springer is offering approximately $12K to $18K for editorial stipends. The piece would not be publicly accessible. Council indicated that there is a need to have royalties from the sale of the publication. The Publications Committee believes this publication should be targeted to scientists and clinicians, not the public. Coyle pointed out that the original argument for the publication was the continuing high number of online “hits” to the last Generation of Progress, suggesting that there was an unmet need for psychiatric information by the public. R. Wilkins pointed out that the vast majority of the hits lasted less than thirty seconds. Thus, Council was unsure if there is a need for this in the field. This topic will need further discussion by Council so that proper direction can be given to the Publication Committee.

Dave Sibley’s contract as Website Editor will end this summer. He has been paid an editorial stipend of $12K and works approximately 6 hours a week on the site. The Publications Committee would like to have a website update in the coming year. Due to this time-intensive project, the committee is suggesting that a higher stipend may be needed. The Publications Committee would like to see a search committee established. This item will be discussed further at the Thursday Council meeting.

3. **Liaison Committee Report** – Natalie Rasgon and Charles Nemeroff came to report to Council. The committee has participated with Research!America and with the SfN in their Hill Day. The College sponsored two briefings on the hill; one brain circuitry and the other on the Opioid addiction crisis. The committee also sponsored several op-ed pieces, one that was published in the Philadelphia Enquirer on addiction. C. Nemeroff reported on his relationship with the senior healthcare advisor of Hillary Clinton’s campaign. The committee will now need to focus on outreach to Republicans. The committee continues to connect with Nancy Ator, our AAALAC representative, on ethical treatment of animals in research. The committee continues to work with the American Brain Coalition on initiatives. The chairs would like Council to reduce the number of members on the committee. Council agreed there needs to be more strategic appointment of members. The committee chairs will also send a list of members of the committee who have been inactive.
Council would like the committee to work closely with ABC on advocacy outreach. Everyone agreed we should continue our efforts with ABC and the SfN.

J. Coyle raised the concern that members of the Liaison Committee should complete a conflict of interest disclosure because it interacts with government agencies and Pharma. Council agreed this should be a new requirement.

4. **URM Task Force Report** – Carlos Bolanos-Guzman and Carolyn Rodriguez updated Council on the activities of the task force. The mentorship guidelines developed by the committee were adopted by all other committees and task forces. The luncheon for URM attendees was well-received this year. The task force plans to do a survey of those who attended the meeting that are URMs. A Google Hangout site was developed for URMs. It has seen little activity, but the task force plans to further develop the platform. The URM Task Force would like to play a more active role in the promotion of the ACNP travel awards. Council agreed this is needed. The task force is excited about launching the new URM mentorship award in 2017.

5. **Education & Training Committee Report** – Kathleen Merikangas and Steven Siegel reported on the progress of the Education and Training Committee. The primary focus of the committee is to review the travel award applications. The committee reviewed 345 travel awards. There were some serious challenges because some members did not complete their reviews. Council agreed that after one year of not completing reviews such members will be dismissed. The committee will provide this report to Council.

The group agreed that there needs to be some restructuring of the tier levels of travel awards. The committee’s recommendation is: **Junior Level** (Below Assistant Professor or equivalent level in non-academic institutions, i.e., trainees including psychiatric residents, interns, and post-doctoral fellows. These applicants may be no more than 5 years past their final training (Post doc or Residency). **Senior Level** (Assistant Professor, but not R01 awardee): individuals who are at the level of Assistant Professor or equivalent. Applicants may be no more than 5 years past their final training (Post doc or Residency). The group agreed that if the applicant is an Associate Professor or already has an R01, they are too senior for a travel award. Council accepted this recommendation.

Council discussed the need to increase the number of applications for travel awardees, who are URMs. Council would like each committee member to reach out to their institution and encourage for URMs to apply for travel awards. The committee explained that reviewers of the awards are not aware if the applicant is a URM. The chairs are aware of minority status of each applicant and looks at that when selecting the ultimate awardees. A. Abi-Dargham will work with the Education and Training Committee and URM Task Force to increase minorities in the field. The two groups will also try to meet to address this issue. The committee would also like to investigate how the committee can assist URM applicants in presenting their applications.
6. **Membership Committee Report** - Victoria Arango and Richard Keefe joined the Council to report on Member, Associate Member and Fellow nominations. The committee received 62 new Member nominations, 47 new Associate Member nominations, and 12 promotion applications for review. The committee received 18 nominations from female applicants for full membership and 25 nominations for associate membership. There were 3 applications from underrepresented minorities for full membership and 5 applications for associate membership. Below are the statistics for full member:

- **Member Acceptance Rate** - 73% (45/62)
- **New Membership Acceptances** – 45 of 62 (73%) of applicants were accepted for full membership
- **Females Applied** - 18 (29%)
- **Females Accepted into Membership** - 12 (67%) (12/18)
- **Females Rejected** - 6 (33%) (6/18)
- **Males Applied** - 44 (71%)
- **Males Accepted into Membership** - 33 (75%) (33/44)
- **Males Rejected** - 11 (25%) (11/33)
- **URM Applied** - 3 (5%)
- **URM Accepted** - 3 (100%) (3/3)
- **URM Rejected** - 0 (0%) (0/3)

Below are the statistics for Associate Members:

- **Associate Member Acceptance Rate** - 64%
- **Associate Membership Acceptances** – 30 of 47 (64%) of applicants were accepted for associate membership
- **Females Applied** - 25 (53%)
- **Females Accepted** - 17 (68%) (17/25)
- **Females Rejected** - 8 (32%) (8/25)
- **Males Applied** - 22 (47%)
- **Males Accepted into Membership** - 13 (59%) (13/22)
- **Males Rejected** - 9 (41%) (9/22)
- **URM Applied** - 5 (11%)
- **URM Accepted** - 3 (60%) (3/5)
- **URM Rejected** - 2 (40%) (2/5)

The average age for accepted members was 51 and for accepted Associate Members was 40.

The committee reviewed the members who have not fulfilled their membership duties.

- Emmanuel Mignot became a member in 2000. He has missed the past 3 meetings (2013, 2014, 2015). He received a 2-year absence letter in 2015 and a 3-year absence letter in 2016 with no response to the emails. He has also not paid his dues for 2016. The committee voted to terminate membership. Council agreed with this termination.
- Dennis Choi became a member in 2003. He has missed the past 3 meetings (2013, 2014, 2015). He received a 2-year absence letter in 2015 and a 3-year absence letter in 2016. He has paid his dues for 2016. Dr. Choi has stated he was unable to attend due to his usual press of commitments, and was named the Director of a Neurosciences Institute in Korea. The committee voted to terminate membership. Council agreed with this termination.

The accepted Associate Members are:
Rebecca Ashare
Isabelle Boileau
Stephanie Borgland
Heather Brenhouse
Joshua Cisler
Gregory Collins
Kathryn Cullen
Thomas Fernandez
Carrie Ferrando
Ragy Girgis
Mei-Hua Hall
Georgia Hodes
Guillermo Horga
Dawn Ionescu
Andrew Jaffe

The accepted Full Members are:
Katherine Aitchison
Olusola Ajilore
Tanya Alim
Jean Beaulieu
Alessandro Bertolino
Staci Bilbo
Doo-Sup Choi
Cheryl Corcoran
Alan Cross
Joao de Quevedo
Brian Dean
Mark Demitrack
Daniel Dickstein
Kim Q. Do
Stephen Haggarty
James Herman
Atsushi Kamiya
Lorenzo Leggio
C.-S. Ray Li
Falk Lohoff

Fernanda Laezza
Jun-Xu Li
Brady Maher
Scott Moeller
Jonathan Morrow
Mark Niciu
Minae Niwa
Vinay Parikh
Carmela Reichel
Douglas Ruderfer
Julia Sacher
Hanna Stevens
M. Elizabeth Sublette
Margaret Wardle
Natalie Zahr

Xin-Yun Lu
Angus MacDonald
Rodrgio Machado-Vieira
Atul Mahabelshwarkar
Keri Martinovich
Tsuyoshi Miyakawa
Daniel Mueller
Jo Neill
Subhash Pandey
Peter Penzes
Sheldon Preskorn
Eugenii Rabiner
Donald Rainnie
Panos Roussos
Christian Schmahl
Mark Schmidt
Melanie Schwandt
Vikaas Sohal
Iris Sommer
Garret Stuber
Armin Szegedi  
Christopher Winrow  
Johannes Tauscher  
Venetia Zachariou  
Debby Tsuang  

The accepted Promotions from Member to Fellow are:  
Carrie Bearden  
Pradeep Nathan  
Carlos Bolanos-Guzman  
M. Foster Olive  
Charles Bradberry  
Dost Ongur  
Margit Burmeister  
K. Luan Phan  
Christoph Correll  
Linda Porrino  
Lynette Daws  
Rosalinda Roberts  
Michael Detke  
Sanjaya Saxena  
Yogesh Dwivedi  
Naomi Simon  
Michael Egan  
Helen Simpson  
Amit Etkin  
Rajita Sinha  
Anne Evins  
Kevin Spencer  
Christian Felder  
Karen Szumlinski  
Margaret Haney  
Pierre Tariot  
Gregory Light  
Marquis Vawter  
Francis McMahon  
Claes Wahlestedt  
David Michelson  

Council would like the committee to focus in the coming year with recruiting good minority applicants. They would also like to bring in more industry applicants for consideration.

7. Photographs and Videos of Slides – Council agreed that the College needs a strict policy against photography of slides in symposia and posters. They would like the Executive Office to send reminders prior to the meeting about the policy. This should also be included in daily emails to attendees and on walk-in slides in each session room. The Executive Office will also send an email tomorrow morning on this policy to all attendees.

8. APA/SOBP/ACNP Research Colloquium Update – APA is asking ACNP and SOBP to continue supporting the colloquium. They would like a contribution from each society at $20K to $25K with APA contributing $50K. The group also discussed adding booster sessions at the ACNP and SOBP Annual Meetings. Each society could choose the participants that they think would be best suited for introduction to their organization. There will be additional expenses if there is a booster session. Cost sharing on the entire program will need to be discussed further with APA and SOBP. This year the APA is also bringing individuals from countries where there is less neuropsychiatric research.

9. APA/SOBP/ACNP Collaborative Initiative – The meeting was held to discuss a possible public relations campaign on the stigma of psychiatry. Council agreed this is not within the mission of the College.
10. **Latin American Initiative** – The meeting with the individuals went very well. Within Latin America, there is no convening association or meeting for academic research. The individuals would like to continue having researchers come to our meeting and have us possibly assist them in organizing a group. An email distribution list will be established and communication will continue.

11. **NIH Directors Meeting** – The meeting held this morning was successful. They would like to discuss further on addiction training with the APA for the Hill. There is also a desire to continue to look for ways to bring more URMs into the field.

12. **Submitted Committee Reports** – A. Frazer encouraged Council to review these reports.

13. **A. Frazer thanked the Council Members Rotating Off** – Peter Kalivas, Barry Everitt, and Marina Wolf

*The meeting concluded at 9:33 p.m. Eastern.*