ACNP Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 7, 2017
9:00am – 12:00pm
Santa Rosa Ballroom
JW Marriott Desert Springs, Palm Springs, California

Steve Hyman, Presiding

Anissa Abi-Dargham
Victoria Arango
Antonello Bonci, via Skype
Joseph Coyle
Judith Ford
Alan Frazer
David Kupfer
Kerry Ressler
Rita Valentino
Marina Wolf

Absent: Bita Moghaddam

Executive Director: Ronnie Wilkins
Staff: Sarah Timm
       Erin Shaw

Conflict of Interest Forms were reviewed prior to start of the meeting by Steve Hyman, President, Joseph Coyle, Secretary, and Ronnie Wilkins, Executive Director, per the Conflict of Interest Policy for Council.

1. 2022 ACNP Annual Meeting Location Discussion – Council approved that proposals for west coast meeting locations for 2022 be reviewed at the summer meeting, even though 2022 would typically be an east coast year. There was concern that holding the meeting in Las Vegas or San Diego would encourage attendees to stay off property and lose the culture of the annual meetings being in one location. Council agreed the attendees really enjoyed the JW Marriott Desert Ridge and approved Phoenix as the 2022 meeting location. Council suggested having a late-night shuttle to overflow hotels for the younger people in attendance, so they have time to network in the bars at night in the conference hotel. The Executive Office will start researching 2023 either next year or the following year. This will give us time to evaluate the infrastructure of Puerto Rico after the hurricane and have a better gage on Orlando as an option. The 2018 annual meeting will be back in Hollywood, Florida at the Diplomat so it will be a great opportunity to see if the Diplomat could also be a future location. Council will have to consider the size of the annual meeting when selecting a warm location in December. Meeting attendance has grown from an average of 1,361 in years 2000-2005 to 1,826 in 2017. This year, there were 722 members, 349 invited guests, 387 travel awardees, past travel awardees and trainees, and 156 non-member participants in attendance. The Executive Office does expect attendance to go down next year to follow past patterns where one year has a
spike in registration. Council agreed that 2,000 is the number to keep in mind as the maximum attendance, which will allow us to continue holding the annual meeting in a single hotel and not in a convention center. The Executive Office has a procedure to implement should our registration projections exceed 2,000. The plan in place will limit the number of invited guest invitations. Council agreed this will need to be re-addressed as we look at updating the strategic plan in 2019 or 2020. A task force may need to be created to research this further.

Council stated they received positive feedback about the Palm Springs location. However, with the growth of our meeting, there is not a good location within the property for the poster sessions. Travel to Palm Springs is not as easy with direct flights as other locations as well.

2. **Nomenclature Update** – D. Kupfer updated Council on the nomenclature project, and stated this project will continue. ECNP has funded around $125,000 a year on this project. The ACNP, to date, has only contributed intellectually and with some organizational support. ACNP has provided space at the annual meeting for the workgroup to meet. This year the ECNP has continued to enhance the product by publishing the second version of the nomenclature (NbN-2) with an enhanced app. There were 22 drugs added to the 2nd edition. The NbN-2 has updated and improved their database following feedback from colleagues, and improved the search engine. The group is now working on an additional child and adolescent nomenclature.

3. **Global Strategic Plan Update** – Steve Strakowski is chairing a workgroup that consists of ACNP, APA and SOBP to re-brand psychiatry. This was an initiative that started at last year’s annual meeting to re-define psychiatry and brain/behavior research as well as bring the three organizations together to better align initiatives. The workgroup had conference calls throughout the year and met during this annual meeting. One product of the group is the collaboration of the organizations on the APA Colloquium and the joint society educational efforts with this group of new investigators. During the group’s meeting this week, other new workgroups were discussed. However, several of these work-groups’ goals fall outside the mission of the College. Council agreed the ACNP, APA, and SOBP should continue to work together on the education work group to collaborate on initiatives affecting societies’ travel award programs. S. Hyman will work with the Executive Office to draft a letter to S. Strakowski outlining ACNP’s involvement in 2018 with the education work group and joint advocacy, while stating that we will not participate in other workgroups. S. Hyman will also speak to Carol Tamminga, SOBP’s new President, to understand SOBP’s involvement in these initiatives.

4. **Annual Meeting Photography Policy** – Council discussed the annual meeting photography policy, and its effectiveness at this year’s annual meeting. There were a number of attendees who took video or photographs, even though the chair had stated ACNP’s no photography policy. This is an issue that happens every year. It was decided to continue our current policy. However, there should be stronger communication from the chairs to verbally enforce this policy in their sessions, and continue to place the policy in their slide deck. The Executive
Office will also inform the speakers to include the policy in their initial slide as well as verbally communicate the policy in their presentation.

5. NIH Director’s Update – ACNP leadership met with the NIH institute directors on Tuesday morning. The institute directors discussed the possibility of an opioid crisis Task Force focused on addressing the need for more research on new medications for pain. Both members of ACNP and individuals from NIDA participate on the Task Force. A possible outcome of the Task Force could be a special session at the annual meeting or a white paper. S. Hyman was given a list of names of potential people to collaborate with NIDA on forming this Task Force. Council agreed that this is a needed focus for the field. R. Valentino agreed to discuss this further with Nora Volkow on ACNP’s role. R. Valentino will follow up with S. Hyman after her conversation with N. Volkow, and plans for a future conversation with N. Volkow, Josh Gordon, and George Koob will be discussed at that time.

6. Final Decisions on Use of Funds – Council discussed the amount of funding to spend on mission driven projects is $200k - $300k. Council reviewed each potential project for the coming fiscal year and determined our expenditures:

   a. APA requested $20k for the 2018 APA Research Colloquium. Council agreed that the colloquium has been a very successful and robust way to bring M.D. researchers into the field. This year, ACNP worked with APA and SOBP to collaborate on the societies’ travel award programs to create longitudinal efforts. The career development booster session attracted seven APA Research Colloquium participants in its first year. The work group will survey attendees to receive additional feedback from the session. Council approved the $20k request to support the colloquium. However, ACNP will request that the APA advertise the support of ACNP better at the meeting. K. Ressler will follow up about sustaining and possibly expanding the program, and will come back with a more substantial request for 2019 and beyond.
   
   b. The American Brain Coalition is not currently asking for any additional funding other than dues payments.
   
   c. Council approved NNCT’s request of $20k for 2018, and agreed that it has been tremendously successful. Council requested updates about how those funds will be used during the summer meeting. K. Ressler will serve as a liaison with Michael Travis and David Ross on the project.
   
   d. The Public Information Committee would like to continue the annual meeting press releases with the Palabra Group (a public relations firm) that will cost $8k. The committee would also like to engage the Palabra Group to write additional press releases from Neuropsychopharmacology in 2018 that Nature Publishing Group chooses not to do a press release. This is an estimated to cost $5k. Council agreed the Palabra Group did a good job, and approved both requests, for a total of $13k.
   
   e. Support for Past Travel Awardees: The cost to continue this offering is estimated at $40k and was approved. In the 2016 December meeting, Council approved a one-time $1,000 stipend to offer travel awardees if they attend an annual meeting within two years of their award. There
were 37 past travel awardees from last year’s travel award class that attended this year’s annual meeting. These past travel awardees are invited to the roundtable breakfast, offered a mentor, and encouraged to attend the Career Development session. Council suggested sending personal invitations to events that are invite only such as the roundtable breakfast, so the attendees are aware they are invited to attend. Another suggestion was to change the Associate Member reception in the pocket guide from “invite only” to “new Associate Members”.

f. Latin American Researcher Funding: A. Frazer updated Council on the meeting with the invited guests from Latin America and ACNP leadership on Sunday, December 3rd. When asked how the ACNP could assist the guests from Latin America, the response was “networking”. The Latin American Advisory Group was recently formed, and provides an opportunity to continue conversations and inform scientists in Latin America about ACNP’s mission and annual meeting. The goal of the advisory group would be to invite more scientists from Latin America to our annual meeting and eventually into membership. ACNP leadership is working with Clarissa Gama and Katia Gysling on this initiative. C. Gama and K. Gysling suggested other researchers from Latin America to be on the advisory group. These researchers from Latin American will inform their colleagues of the ACNP Travel Award program, membership, and the annual meeting. **Council approved up to $15,000 to continue to bring top scientists from Latin American to the 2018 annual meeting.** A. Frazer will report back to Council on the traction and mission related metrics from the advisory group. One suggestion was to offer additional funding for an accepted panel if one of the presenters is from Latin America. This will be communicated in the call for proposals to the membership in the spring. Another suggestion was to place information on this initiative in the February Bulletin.

g. BRAD Fellow – The College has committed $10k for the next fiscal year in support of the program.

h. Presidential Award - $60k has been dedicated to the project. S. Hyman agreed to work with the Executive Office, and establish that universities will accept the award funding as a gift rather than a grant, as some institutions no longer accept gifts.

i. Efforts to Influence Legislation – No specific requests for funding were raised from the Liaison Committee. The College will continue to partner with like-minded organizations to carry out our mission on the hill.

j. URM Pipeline Issue – Council will inform Yasmin Hurd, 2018 Minority Task Force chair, to bring proposals to Council from the Minority Task force. The NIH institutes are also brainstorming about this initiative, and it was suggested for the task force to have a program officer speak at the URM luncheon during the annual meeting. Nancy Desmond and Michelle Jones London are working to extend grants to fund a pipeline that bridges two different stages of education for minorities. This has been a very successful program. The proposed next bridge is two years into post doc. R. Valentino volunteered to introduce the Minority Task Force chairs to both N. Desmond and M. Jones London on this initiative, and have them report back to Council. Council would like to consider inviting all NIH
URM supplement award (grant) recipients to the meeting. Council also suggested to charge the Education and Training Committee with creating a session for the annual meeting with the senior program officers such as a workshop or Q&A session. This could be concurrent with the Data Blitz session.

k. Teaching Day Bootcamp – This meeting, which held in conjunction with the annual meeting, is estimated to cost $5k. Should the meeting be held independent of the Annual Meeting, the cost is estimated to be $45k. However, this estimate does not include stipends/travel awards for attendance of young investigators. Council suggested moving the NPPR Plenary session from Sunday morning to a regular session in the week, and hosting the teaching day during this time. S. Hyman will consider asking the Presidential Plenary speakers, once selected, if they would be willing to present at this training session. S. Hyman will also speak to L. Brady and the Program Committee on this possibility. This would be a trial year to see if the teaching day would be something the College would like to continue in the future. This will be further discussed on a future Executive Committee teleconference.

7. 2018 Women’s Luncheon Speaker Request by Women’s Task Force – Council approved the Women’s Task Force request to invite Mahzarin R. Banaji to be the 2018 Women’s Luncheon speaker on implicit bias. Feedback from Council to the Women’s Task Force for the 2018 Women’s Luncheon indicates that more time needed to be allocated for table discussions. There was also similar feedback from the Travel Award luncheon.


9. Presidential Initiatives for 2018 – S. Hyman recapped his proposed initiatives for 2018 with teaching day and what it means to reach out globally. Council agreed that they are interested in targeting the top scientists in China to attend the annual meeting. It was decided for Council members to discuss this initiative with their colleagues from China and report back at the summer Council meeting. Another goal for 2018 is to discuss the membership trajectory for those in technology and biotech companies. The industry field is evolving from big pharma companies to small biotechs. A task force may be developed to discuss outreach further. The Executive Office will pull a current membership list from industry to send to K. Ressler, J. Coyle, and S. Hyman. Council suggested contacting Chris Fibiger, Rob Zacsek, and Bob Lenox, as members in biotech companies, to assist with extending names of potential candidates to advocate for membership.

10. Number of Fellows and Those Eligible for Fellow Status - The College currently has 245 Members and Fellows that are 65 years of age or older which is 33% of total Members and Fellows. Council discussed changing the name emeritus, as it could have a negative tone, to distinguished fellow. This would require a by-laws change. S. Hyman will seek feedback from L. Monteggia, 2018 Membership Committee chair, before giving the charge to the Constitution and Rules Committee. The Executive Office will send an email to all eligible Members and
Fellows over S. Hyman’s signature explaining the benefits of moving to emeritus status.

**Information Item:**

11. 2018 Summer Council Meeting will be on July 15, 2018 in Chicago, Illinois.

12. Sarah Timm’s contract was approved by the PMG Board for a five-year term.