ACNP Summer Council Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, July 21, 2019  
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. CST  
Renaissance Meeting Room, The Gwen Hotel

Participants:  
Marina Wolf, presiding  
David Kupfer  
Joseph Coyle  
Trevor Robbins  
Kerry Ressler  
Helen Mayberg  
Steven Hyman  
Bita Moghaddam  
Judith Ford  
Victoria Arango  
Linda Brady  
Anissa Abi-Dargham, via teleconference  
Mary Phillips, Council-Elect  
Carlos Zarate, Council-Elect  
Sarah Timm, staff  
Erin Shaw, staff

Minutes:

1. **Plan S Update** - Bill Carlezon joined the meeting to provide a brief update to Council with A. Abi-Dargham on Plan S. The Plan S Task Force has held several teleconferences with Elizabeth Yepez of Springer Nature to better understand Plan S and its potential impact on the College. A. Abi-Dargham stated this has been an informative process; however, is still a moving target as information is continuously changing. A. Abi-Dargham provided a one-page summary document to Council and explained that there are multiple options to be considered. A. Abi-Dargham informed Council that a small group from the Plan S Task Force will be reviewing the financial implications in more detail with E. Yepez on a conference call in August. It was stated that if Francis Collins, NIH, announces that if NIH adopts Plan S, the landscape of publishing will change significantly. The College needs a plan to proactively be ready as the current date for open access is January 1, 2021. M. Wolf stated the College could anticipate a loss of $500K each year if Plan S goes into effect. A. Abi-Dargham reviewed the current options for NPP.
   a. Transformative agreements are already being sold by Springer Nature (called compact deals) as they bundle both APCs and subscription content together for institution subscribers.
   b. A transformative journal makes a commitment to eventually flip to open access; however, the defined timeframe for transition is currently under
discussion. This allows the share of open access to increase gradually while subscription costs are offset by income from payments for publishing services.
c. Flipping NPP to a gold open access journal is also an option but would immediately affect royalty income.
d. A mirror journal option is where NPP would become two entities. There would be a spinoff of the journal that would publish open access articles either exclusively or only open access articles that have been funded by a research-funding body that is a signatory of Plan S.
e. Another option would be for the College to launch a spin-off journal where the scope, Editorial Board and EIC would be differentiated.
f. The final options include changing the embargo policy and watchful waiting.

It was stated that SfN launched eNeuro with a lot of skeptics. It had a slow start but appears to be successful now. Council suggested talking with the editors based in Europe for additional knowledge. A. Abi-Dargham suggested if the College chooses to do a spinoff journal that we could incorporate the new College name, if approved by the membership, to promote the new identity and brand. S. Timm stated the option of a spinoff journal would take a minimum of a year to complete. Council requested staff to ask Springer Nature to develop financial projections for both a mirror and new journal. Council would like to know the monetary contribution needed. If the College chooses the spinoff journal, NPP will remain as is. It was stated the biggest financial impact would be if NPP goes to full open access. The Plan S Task Force will continue discussion with E. Yepez on the financial options, timeline and costs, and report back to Council. S. Timm volunteered to contact Marty Sagese with SfN to ask how the society is preparing for the impact of Plan S.

2. Program Committee Report - Susan Amara and Susanne Ahmari joined the meeting to give an overview of the program for the ACNP 58th Annual Meeting. S. Amara reviewed the list of special sessions and plenaries already finalized. She reminded Council that the annual meeting will end a day early on Wednesday instead of Thursday this year; however, that the meeting will not lose any scientific sessions. Council stated it will be important to request feedback from attendees on the shorter meeting format and Orlando as the meeting location in the annual meeting evaluation. Council members are hopeful that attendees will not leave early as the annual meeting ends with the poster session on Wednesday evening. S. Amara communicated that the Program Committee received good responses to the RFPs and that 35 accepted sessions fulfilled RFPs. All slots have been filled based on program balance. The committee and chairs reviewed and accepted 42 of the 123 (34%) panel submissions, 6 of the 26 (23%) mini-panel submissions and 10 of the 13 (77%) study group submissions. Of the 58 sessions accepted, 27 (47%) have female chairs and one has a URM chair. S. Amara reminded Council that the Program Committee updated the primary categories and disease state for this year’s submissions. The chairs pointed out that the categories of neuroimmunology and systems neuroscience need to grow and had a high rejection rate. They suggested having more representation on the Program Committee in neuroimmunology next year. They also stated there were few submissions in pharmacology. Both mood disorders and schizophrenia had low acceptance rates compared to the other submitted proposals. It was difficult to assess
the balance between basic and clinical submissions because most submissions selfclassified as integrative. S. Amara will include the statistics in her August Bulletin article on the annual meeting program, and they will be placed on the ACNP website. While previous chair, L. Brady, had done a great job encouraging chairs and participants to submit more data in their proposals, S. Amara stated many proposals that appeared interesting lacked statistics and key data. This has been a re-occurring problem for the committee. The chairs stated that there were several proposals that were discussed that had limited statistics in some of the panels, but this was weighted differently by the reviewers of the different panels for unclear reasons. They stated that this was a re-occurring discussion throughout the meeting on Saturday. There was a suggestion to add a section to the panel/mini-panel submission form for next year where those proposing the panel would provide: a discussion of N’s, stats, and possible SABV or why this information is not included; and, a section or question where those proposing the panel could indicate if the proposal involves exploratory or early findings. This would let the Program Committee know that the submission may not have complete data or statistics, with the hope of leveling the playing field. Council questioned if any of the automatically accepted sessions did not include the statistics. The chairs stated they will review this issue. It was suggested to include statistics on characteristics of the accepted panels and the nine common reasons why a submission is not accepted in the accept/reject emails. Members of the Program Committee suggested meeting electronically instead of in-person for this meeting in the future. Council was in favor of this. S. Timm informed Council that the College currently has a contract at the Gwen for 2020 and it would be $17K to cancel. S. Timm also stated the Executive Office will need time to review the technology capability for a successful approach. Council agreed and suggested the development of a workgroup of past Program Chairs and Council to examine options for an electronic meeting for the Program Committee and Council for 2021.

3. Treasurer’s Report - D. Kupfer reviewed the Treasurer’s Report with Council. D. Kupfer started by explaining the investment accounts. He shared that we moved the UBS account to Wells Fargo in March/April 2019 as S. Timm, Ronnie Wilkins, and he have been carefully tracking this account for the past three years and were unhappy with how they were handling the investment. The other investment accounts, Olimpio Neu and Vanguard, were receiving more investment returns even in a volatile market. Vanguard is managed by D. Kupfer, S. Timm and R. Wilkins. Olimpio Neu is managed by Brian Neu, who manages this investment account and the Athina Markou Memorial Travel Award funds. UBS also increased their service charges where as Olimpio Neu is .45%, Wells Fargo is .7% and Vanguard is 0%. Council discussed using some of the money from our investment accounts and dividends and interest to invest in a potential new journal. D. Kupfer stated that we could sell any of these investment within 48 hours since they are liquid. D. Kupfer explained the amount of cash we keep is to cover our operating expenses for three years such as the annual meeting. D. Kupfer stated the total net assets are steady and growing around 6-8%. He also explained that the total net assets show the building ACNP owns but does not fully account for its current value in the Nashville real estate market. Council should continue to think about how we can diversify our sources of revenue. PMG represents
50% of the revenue for the College that has been the fastest growing component and has provided the College stability. D. Kupfer explained that PMG is a taxable entity with its own Board of Directors. ACNP is the sole owner. The journal represents 17% of all College revenue. The Participating Corporation fees represent 10%, which is important to keep industry as a partner. D. Kupfer pointed out on the balance sheet comparing June 30, 2019 to June 30, 2018 that the total investments grew 12%, which is very healthy. Lastly, S. Timm explained the current use of funds chart. She explained that this funding comes from the dividends and interest from the previous fiscal year, which gives us $275K to spend this year on special projects. The proposed special projects for the coming year show $286K; however, we do not anticipate using all of these funds. The College has not needed to take any capital from our investments as we have used the dividends and interest to fund these mission driven initiatives.

4. Proposed ACNP Audit/Finance Committee - S. Timm informed Council that according to our bylaws, the Treasurer may serve two consecutive five-year terms at most. S. Timm stated that D. Kupfer’s second term as Treasurer ends in December 2020. As we will elect a new Treasurer, it is requested that D. Kupfer serve as ad hoc member to Council through 2021 to assist during this transition period. Council motioned and seconded to approve this, and all were in favor. His ad hoc term will be reevaluated in 2021. The other proposal was to realign the current Audit Committee to form the Audit/Finance Committee who will not only review the annual audit, but will also have quarterly meetings to review the ACNP investments and financial goals of the College to ensure the objectives and strategies to achieve the goals are being met. D. Kupfer will serve as a member of this committee. Council motioned to approve and second this, and all were in favor.

5. PMG Update - S. Timm reported to Council an update on Parthenon Management Group. PMG currently has 40 employees and will have 44 by the end of the summer. PMG has further solidified its leadership team by promoting Dawn Keglor and Lindsay Snyder into Director roles who will manage other project managers. PMG is working to finalize the contract with the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) as a new client and has also added the American Psychopathological Association as a client. S. Timm also communicated that PMG is diversifying its business services as it will be assisting the University of Nebraska Athletic Program in developing its strategic plan. PMG has successfully assisted five existing clients through this process. M. Oquendo volunteered to research what other organizations are charging facilitators for strategic planning to confirm PMG is competitive. S. Timm reported that financial projections look strong again as PMG is currently projecting $450K pre-tax profit before profit sharing and this could grow. However, S. Timm pointed out that with new clients this means adding on new employees and promoting a leadership team will increase salary costs. S. Timm communicated that steady growth has always been her vision for PMG. She makes sure that the clients we are taking on are the right fit and can be somewhat profitable for PMG. She also stated it is important that we can show value to each client by improving their society and advancing their mission.
6. **Actify Neurotherapies Participating Corporation Application** - Council reviewed the Participating Corporation application from Actify Neurotherapies. Council questioned how Actify relates to the mission of the College. Council discussed how the Liaison Committee has placed a lot of effort in expanding our outreach with pharmaceutical companies and CNS research. In 2018, the additional participating corporation categories were approved which included organizations that may or may not be conducting original research in ACNP areas of interest but are contributing to the growth of the CNS research field. As Actify’s focus is setting up clinics for ketamine infusions, Council is unsure if they fit within our participating corporation program. S. Timm will communicate back to Actify that Council is evaluating their proposal and will discuss it further in October. S. Hyman volunteered to assist S. Timm with her response letter. This application will be voted on again during the October Council call. The current Participating Corporation categories will be reviewed closely with Council to confirm there are clear guidelines.

7. **Navitor Pharmaceuticals Participating Corporation Application** - Council reviewed and approved Navitor Pharmaceuticals as a Participating Corporation.

8. **Strategic Plan Task Force Update** - M. Wolf provided an overview of the new Strategic Plan based on feedback from Saturday’s task force meeting. Council reviewed each goal, the objectives for the goal and strategies/tactics to achieve the objectives.

   a. **Goal #1** – *The College will include the most respected scientists focused on disorders of the brain, and these Members will present their cutting edge basic and clinical research at the Meeting.* M. Wolf stated diversity of members continues to be a primary objective for the College. The Minority Task Force has been charged with developing a new minority percentage goal for the College by researching the NIH and SfN percentages. The task force is going to request input from the Membership Advisory Task Force on how to engage senior members with the development of early career researchers. The group will also develop better ways to classify prospective members and submissions based on human vs. non-human research. M. Wolf informed Council that she is in the process of finalizing a blog to membership on the processes and strategies in place for inclusion of minorities in the College. It was suggested to include “regulators” in objective #3 to state, “Further engage and incorporate industry, venture capitalists, regulators, biotech and technology company scientists in membership and all aspects of the College”. L. Brady volunteered to assist in writing a strategy for objective #3 to include regulators.

   b. **Goal #2** – *The ACNP Annual Meeting will be consistently acknowledged as an exceptionally stimulating forum that provides attendees with opportunities to deepen and broaden their understanding of emerging research advances. It will also enhance the opportunities it provides to young scientists to facilitate their emergence as future leaders of their respective fields of research.* M. Wolf pointed out that most of the objectives are to maintain/increase our
current ratings regarding the science of the meeting from the annual meeting evaluation. M. Wolf is going to remind attendees of the importance of the poster sessions during the President’s Plenary session. She will encourage members to attend and be actively engaged in visiting posters, especially those of trainee attendees. The Executive Office will provide the list of current Travel Awardees to the Fellows of the College and ask that they choose one or two posters to attend. The Strategic Plan Task Force discussed the new poster format and encouraging attendees to use this format this year. M. Wolf stated the Executive Office is going to encourage chairs and presenters to prepare a non-specialists/non-technical summary slide as the take home message for the presentation. One continuing issue is ensuring balance of the program. A workgroup consisting of the Program chairs, Membership chairs and Editor-in-Chief will be formed to discuss the balance of the program, membership and journal content and how to better categorize human vs. non-human research in more detail. This will be discussed on the next Executive Committee call.

c. **Goal #3 - Neuropsychopharmacology, Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews, the ACNP Website and other ACNP Publications will continue to increase in national and international standing among journals and electronic resources in psychiatry, neurology, neuroscience and pharmacology.** There was discussion in the Saturday meeting on how the College is utilizing social media and if we should be tweeting every article from NPP or if that would dilute the impact. It was stated that the College and NPP could do a better job of tagging members in their tweets. Feelings were mixed about whether we should post on topics unrelated to ACNP. Council discussed the rebranding of the journal with less focus being on ‘Neuropsychopharmacology’ and more on the letters NPP and the tag line. The task force discussed ways to market this as it is well displayed on the cover of NPP. The issue is that no one really sees the cover now since we print very few paper copies. The group suggested placing the cover or other graphics on the ACNP website and in the corner of accepted papers. Council suggested the need to add a new objective for goal #3 regarding Plan S and the investigation of a forward-looking new journal.

d. **Goal #4 - The College will be viewed as a valued resource for the dissemination of authoritative knowledge of brain disorders and their treatment and will advance the scientific goals of the College through collaborative relationships with patient advocacy organizations, government, academia and industry.** M. Wolf stated there were conversations with the task force about determining issues that impact our field and if we should be generating position statements or partnering with others to do so. There was a suggestion to develop a vetting committee on position statements to decide if things are beyond our scope or if we want to write statements on these issues letting the public know where we stand. This vetting committee would report back to Council. There was a concern raised that if the College partners with too many organizations and/or writing too many position statements that it could dilute our impact. The task force also discussed developing a program
that funds a select number of past travel awardees to attend the SfN Hill Day as a way to engage future leaders in advocacy efforts. There was a suggestion to include an informational table for NNCI at the annual meeting. SOBP also did a teaching day on NNCI that the College should investigate.

e. **Goal #5 - Earnings from investments and/or the investments themselves will first be used to ensure the stability of the College and then will be used to support programs and initiatives that advance activities important to the mission of the College.** Council discussed the unknown impact of Plan S and the financial implications of the development of a new open access journal could significantly impact our stability and use of reserves. Objective #2, “Continue to increase existing revenue sources from Parthenon Management Group” will include the new strategy on expanding client services to strategic plan facilitation for organizations. Objective #4, “Revenues in excess of those needed to support the College for three years should be examined for possible use to further the mission of the College” will be reviewed by the Audit/Finance Committee.

Overall, M. Wolf and the task force were very pleased with the process. Once the plan is further edited it will be circulated to Council for review/approval.

9. **ACNP Name Change** - M. Wolf had requested for Council to consider the following options or suggest other options for the College name change prior to the summer meeting.

   i. ACNP: American College of Translational Neuroscience
   ii. ACNP: At the Intersection of Translational Neuroscience and Therapeutics
   iii. American College of Neuroscience in Psychiatry
   iv. Keep the current name of American College of Neuropsychopharmacology

M. Wolf suggested presenting two to three options for the name change to membership by vote with one being to keep the original name, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology. It was stated that changing the name of the College has been discussed with leadership for the past decade as the current name does not capture the breadth of the science represented in our membership today. M. Wolf stated that in the first survey to membership on the potential name change, junior and senior members argued both sides. Some argued that no name will fully capture the College’s membership, and to keep the current name to preserve the history and that it is highly recognizable in the field. Others made suggestions for other potential names and stated it was time to move forward with a new name. Council agreed it is important to keep the acronym of ACNP since it already has a reputation in the scientific community. ‘ACNP: American College of Translational Neuroscience and Therapeutics’ was suggested during the meeting. Council agreed that neuroscience is very broad and should capture more research areas. In a vote just by Council, all were in favor of this new name instead of the original name of the College. S. Timm will consult with legal counsel on this new suggestion and report back to Council on an Executive Committee call. After legal counsel has reviewed, the next step will be to send a vote to membership only allowing
them to select the original name or the newly suggested name of ‘ACNP: American College of Translational Neuroscience and Therapeutics.’ In the communication to membership, it will be stated the journal’s name will be considered separately.

10. Committee & Task Force Reports

a. Education and Training Committee - The College received (314) travel award applications. Of the (58) selected awardees, there are 13 (22.41%) underrepresented minorities, compared to 16.12% in 2018.

Results Breakdown by Category:
- Junior Level: 32 Awardees (7 URM’s; 21.87%)
- Senior Level: 20 Awardees (3 URM’s; 15%)
- M.D./Ph.D. Level: 6 M.D./Ph.D. Awardees: (3 URM’s; 50%)
- Total Awardees: 58 (22.41% URM’s)

   i. Travel Award Supporting Letters - Council charged the Education and Training Committee with reevaluating the travel award supporting letter process and make a recommendation to Council with any changes. Overall, the committee agreed the supporting letter nomination process was very successful and recommended to Council that there are no changes required at this time. Council agreed with the committee’s recommendation to continue to allow supporting letters from ACNP members only, and that members will be allowed to nominate only one person for a travel award with the exception to allow an additional nomination for a minority applicant. M. Wolf will highlight the success in a future Presidential blog, and this will be discussed in the Business Meeting.

b. Nominating Committee - S. Timm requested Council’s approval on a new policy change that would require the Nominating Committee to research ballot candidates code of conduct/ethical issues filed through the College before placing the candidate on the ballot. There was a motion and a second to approve, and all Council was in favor.

c. Committee updates - Council reviewed the committee updates.

11. Career Development Institute (CDI) for Psychiatry Session at Annual Meeting - The Career Development Institute (CDI) has hosted their psychiatry session at the ACNP Annual Meeting for many years. Council motioned, seconded and approved to automatically allow this session each year.

12. International College of Obsessive-Compulsive Spectrum Disorder (ICOCS)

a. Carolyn Rodriguez and Naomi Fineberg requested Council’s approval to host the ICOCS meeting again during the ACNP Annual Meeting. In the past, the College has provided C. Rodriguez six annual meeting invitations for ICOCS members to attend the ACNP Annual Meeting as well. There was a motion, a
second and approval for both the ability to hold the ICOCS meeting and provide six annual meeting invitations.

b. The ICOCS network includes several OCD academic and tertiary clinics from across the globe: America (United States, Canada, Mexico), Africa (Libia and South Africa), Europe (Spain, Italy, Turkey, Bulgaria, UK) and the Middle East (Israel). C. Rodriguez requested Council to consider adding ICOCS in addition to the Latin American initiative if the College considers a global initiative in the future. This will be discussed again on a future Executive committee call.

13. 2024 Annual Meeting Location - Council discussed the annual meeting locations for the 2024 annual meeting. Historically, the College has met two years on the East Coast and one year on the West Coast in the annual meeting rotation. However, the next five years will be one-year East Coast and one-year West Coast due to the 2022 meeting moving back to the West Coast. S. Timm explained that with the growing size of the annual meeting attendance and wanting to meet in a hotel instead of a convention center while remaining in a warm location greatly limits our options. It was suggested to go back to Hawaii; however, the College would have to meet in Honolulu, which is less attractive. Council requested the Executive Office present proposals for the 2024 meeting from Phoenix, San Diego and Puerto Rico during their December Council meeting.

Informational Items:

14. URM Past Travel Awardees  
a. The tracking of how many URM Past Travel Awardees have been eligible as an additional funding candidate and how many have applied for the past five years was presented to Council.

15. Women’s Task Force  
a. Psychiatry Chairs in the United States - The list of women psychiatry chairs in the United States was presented to Council. The ACNP members or previous meeting attendees were highlighted.

b. Women Associate Members who were promoted to full Member - The tracking of the past five years of women Associate Members who have promoted to full Member before the end of their seven-year Associate Member term was presented to Council.