

**2020 Business Meeting Minutes  
ACNP Virtual Annual Meeting  
Wednesday, December 9, 2020  
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Maria A. Oquendo, Presiding

1. Call to order. President Maria Oquendo called the 59th Annual Business Meeting of the ACNP to order. She announced that only ACNP members and Associate Members are permitted to attend the Business Meeting. Corporate representatives, invited guests, and nominees for membership are not allowed to attend.
2. 2019 Minutes. The minutes of last year's Business Meeting in Orlando, Florida were emailed to the members and posted in the Members' Only section of the website. Dr. Oquendo asked if there were any changes to the minutes. No changes or corrections were made and the motion for acceptance was passed.
3. Newly Elected Officers and Council for 2021 – The following were announced:  

Carlos Zarate--President-Elect  
Rita Valentino--Secretary  
David Rubinow--Treasurer  
Carrie Bearden--Council  
Ellen Leibenluft--Council  
Diego Pizzagalli--Council
4. Dr. Oquendo thanked outgoing Council members, Victoria Arango and Judith Ford, Secretary Joseph Coyle, Treasurer David Kupfer, and Past-President Steven Hyman.
5. Thanks to all 2020 Committee Chairs & Co-Chairs. Dr. Oquendo thanked the 2020 committee chairs and co-chairs for their hard work and dedication to the College throughout the year.
6. 2020 Travel Awards. The ACNP Travel Award Program is a fundamental aspect of the College's efforts to foster the professional growth of new scientists.

The multiple ACNP Travel Award and Fellowship Programs have grown from the support of 10 travel awardees in 1980 to 79 travel awardees and fellowships this year. Fifty-four (54) of these awards were sponsored by the ACNP. For these awards, we received 265 applications. These awardees will be able to attend the 2021 ACNP Annual Meeting and will receive all the benefits of the Travel Awards program. The Education & Training Committee has done a superior job with recruiting young talent.

Dr. Oquendo also recognized and thanked the Education and Training Committee members who volunteered to serve as mentors to the selected travel award recipients

during the virtual meeting. Each awardee's virtual meeting experience was enhanced by the opportunity to interact virtually with a mentor.

7. ACNP Staff. Dr. Oquendo introduced the ACNP staff members and thanked each staff member for their hard work and support.
8. Executive Director's Report. Dr. Oquendo called on Sarah Timm to give the Executive Director's Report.

Sarah Timm thanked everyone for participating in the virtual meeting and attending the Business Meeting. She reported that the virtual platform has seen significant traffic, and one of the sessions had 1,000 attendees attending which is more than we see on-site. She advised that even with the move to a virtual meeting, our annual meeting attendance numbers did not significantly decrease. She gave an update on registration numbers with this year's virtual meeting of 1,890 attendees compared to the record high attendance of 1,941 in 2018. She reminded members that each member attending the virtual meeting was offered an additional invitation for trainees and reported that there were 481 trainees attending the meeting. S. Timm encouraged members to submit the conference evaluation on their virtual meeting experience as some virtual aspects could be included in the 2021 annual meeting. With that in mind, she hopes to see everyone in San Juan in 2021.

9. Parthenon Management Group Report. Dr. Oquendo called on Sarah Timm to give the report from Parthenon Management Group.

Sarah Timm updated the College on Parthenon Management Group's (PMG) growth over the last several years. She stated that PMG now has 23 clients with some being full-service association management clients and others being meetings only clients. She also advised that PMG now has 53 employees with 8 being added this year with the addition of a significant client. She reminded the College that PMG is a for-profit entity, wholly owned by the College. S. Timm encouraged members who need assistance with another society or meeting that PMG is always able to give guidance or assistance.

10. Secretary Report. Dr. Oquendo called on Dr. Joseph Coyle to give the Secretary's Report.

Dr. Coyle reminded membership of the College's Code of Conduct Policy and that it applies to virtual meetings. He advised that the College does not tolerate discrimination and any form of harassment. Dr. Coyle stated that this was his last Business Meeting as Secretary and that the College will be in good hands with Rita Valentino as the incoming Secretary. Dr. Coyle reminded membership of the College's new photography policy that states that meeting attendees should not take any photographs or videos of any slides, posters, or other presentation of data that are being presented.

Dr. Oquendo thanked Dr. Coyle for his years of service and dedication as Secretary to the College and to Council.

11. Treasurer's Report. Dr. Oquendo called on Dr. David Kupfer to give the Treasurer's Report.

Dr. Kupfer reported that the ACNP investment portfolio has close to \$12.5M in value. He advised that the total cash and investments includes all cash accounts, and that the College remains flexible with cash on hand. He advised that this amount would decrease in 2021 as money will be moved into investments. He also advised that the total assets include the building that ACNP owns where the Executive Office is located. He stated that the College's total assets continues to grow over the last 10-12 years. He reported that the revenue sources are revenue that ACNP receives through the year on expenditures. He stated that PMG accounts for over half of the income that the College receives. He advised that corporate fees are less than 10%. Publications and royalty are at 17%, annual meeting registration at 14%, membership dues at 3%, educational grants at 1%, and contributions, rental income, and other income less than 1%. Dr. Kupfer thanked everyone for the wonderful opportunity to serve as Treasurer for the last ten years and hopes to continue to serve in the future.

**Question:** Is the corporate contribution declining in the dollar amount over the last several years instead of only the percentage?

**Answer:** Dr. Kupfer reported that the dollar amount has decreased in recent years but not significantly.

**Question:** Did the move to the virtual meeting and any future meetings affect the annual meeting revenue?

**Answer:** S. Timm advised that our annual meeting's main cost is the food and beverage. She advised that all registration fees were reduced by 35% with the virtual meeting and that the College did see a decrease in expenses; however, there were still expenses with building the virtual meeting platform and for audio visual assistance.

**Question:** Is there any interest to use funds for research grants?

**Answer:** Dr. Kupfer advised that this issue has come up with respect to Council over the last several years and will continue to be a discussion point. He advised that the College contributes to special projects and several organizations with missions that align with the mission of the College. He also advised that these funds also support our travel awardees and past travel awardees to attend the annual meetings.

**Question:** As organizations are assessing life beyond COVID-19, how will ACNP proceed?

**Answer:** S. Timm advised that some organizations have not fared as well as ACNP and does not anticipate things changing drastically post COVID. She noted that we have learned due to COVID how to be efficient in sharing science and how to incorporate hybrid aspects to the meeting moving forward. She reported that the 2020 annual meeting contract was moved to our next open year in 2024 to Phoenix so the College did not have any cancellation fees.

Dr. Oquendo thanked Dr. Kupfer for his years of service and dedication as Treasurer to the College and to Council.

12. Editor's Report. Dr. Oquendo called on Dr. William Carlezon, Editor-in-Chief, to give the journal report.

Dr. Carlezon thanked Dr. Kerry Ressler and Dr. Leanne Williams for their work on the 2021 NPPR issue and congratulated them for meeting the deadlines with the unique challenges due to COVID. He reported that the journal accomplished all goals outlined this year except for the Circumspective due to the pandemic; however, that the journal will have them in 2021. He advised that the impact factor has decreased a little. He noted that the next NPPR issue in 2022 will have Dr. Suzanne Haber and Dr. Trevor Robbins as the editors, and that they have already placed together a great list of authors and table of contents. He reported that the Editorial Intern, Dr. Chloe Jordan, authored two reports this year that were published in the journal, *ACNP efforts toward reducing climate change* and *Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on gender representation among corresponding authors of Neuropsychopharmacology (NPP) manuscripts: submissions during January-June, 2020*. He advised that Dr. Jordan has authored six editorial reports over the last two years, and that she has transitioned to a new role of Special Projects Manager. He advised that the journal is currently accepting applications for the Editorial Intern position. He reported that Dr. Gretchen Neigh rotated off as the inaugural Social Media Editor, and the journal welcomes Dr. Keri Martinowich to the team as the new Social Media Editor. He stated that the Editorial Board has 51 members which includes 59% men and 41% women, which fits well with the base rate in the field. He advised that the journal would continue to make advancements to the board keeping in mind the BIPOC diversity. B. Carlezon reported that the NEATOR Award was given to Dr. Samuel Centanni and Dr. Danny Winder, the NEAR Award given to Dr. Jill Becker and Dr. Elena Chartoff, and the NEECA Award given to Dr. Erin Calipari. Dr. Carlezon advised that Dr. Noboru Hiroi continues to be the top reviewer for NPP and thanked everyone who provided time for reviews for the journal this year. Dr. Carlezon showed how the journal has rebranded from *Neuropsychopharmacology* to NPP with a new cover. Lastly, he stated that the goals for 2021 are very similar to last year with the addition of promoting diversity in journal function, completing the Editorial Intern transition, adding trainee-focused article type, and developing a "Reducing Inequities" collection. Dr. Carlezon thanked everyone who was involved in NPP this year and that the journal has received a 26% increase in submissions from last year.

13. Membership Committee Report. Dr. Oquendo called on Dr. Diego Pizzagalli, Membership Committee chair, to announce the 2021 new members and promotions. Dr. Pizzagalli thanked co-chair, Dr. Anne Andrews, and the committee members for their hard work and diligence.

### **A. New Associate Members (34)**

Nii Addy  
Robin Aupperle  
Tim Bigdeli  
Annamaria Cattaneo  
Jeremy Day  
Elizabeth Duval  
Jonathan Fadok  
Gabriel R. Fries  
Dylan Gee  
Tamar Gur  
Danella Hafeman  
Ryan Herringa  
Bashkim Kadriu  
Amanda Kentner  
Anna Konova  
Ellen Lee  
Kristina Legget

Leah Mayo  
Caroline Menard  
Lauren Moran  
Kate Nautiyal  
Erika Nurmi  
Ana Pocivavsek  
Amynah Pradhan  
Millie Rincón-Cortés  
Patricio Riva Posse  
Sudhakar Selvaraj  
Marianne Seney  
Jeffrey Strawn  
Chad Sylvester  
Christiaan Vinkers  
Corinde Wiers  
Joshua Woolley  
Panos Zanos

### **B. New Members (37)**

Randy Auerbach  
Matthew Banks  
Camron Bryant  
Camilo de la Fuente-Sandoval  
Christine Ann Denny  
Pamela DeRosse  
Gabriel Dichter  
Fei Du  
Ayman Fanous  
Kate Fitzgerald  
Christie Fowler  
Olivier George  
Shannon Gourley  
Danielle Graham  
Colleen Hanlon  
Sergio Iniguez  
Amy Janes  
Mazen Kheirbek  
Alex Leow

Mary Kay Lobo  
Sharon Mates  
Nadine Melhem  
Mohammed Milad  
Courtney Miller  
Hirofumi Morishita  
Gretchen Neigh  
Sagar Parikh  
Noah Philip  
Tarek Rajji  
Cynthia Rogers  
Marisa Silveri  
Susan Tapert  
April Thames  
Brian Trainor  
Daniela Tropea  
Hiroyuki Uchida  
Rudolf Uher

### **C. Members to Fellows (29)**

Tracy Bale  
Richard De La Garza  
Yu-Shin Ding  
Colin Dourish  
Erika Forbes  
Jill Goldstein  
Kenji Hashimoto  
Gregor Hasler  
Paul Holtzheimer  
Michael Iadarola  
Kazutaka Ikeda  
Andrea King  
Gitte Knudsen  
Marek Kubicki  
Ruth Lanius  
Sanjay Mathew  
James McCracken  
George Papakostas  
Jonathan Rabinowitz  
Victor Reus  
Dorit Ron  
Matthew State  
James Swain  
Jason Tregellas  
Gustavo Turecki  
Kimberly Vanover  
Jeremy Veenstra-VanderWeele  
Eric Vermetten  
Jared Young

**Question:** How many applications did we receive for membership?

**Answer:** Dr. Pizzagalli reported that the College received 52 applications for Associate Member, 64 applications for Member, and 31 applications for Member to Fellow promotion.

**Question:** How are applications for diversity?

**Answer:** Dr. Pizzagalli reported that the committee starts the committee review meeting by reviewing any applications for URMs and was happy to report that 100% of URM applications for Associate Member and Member were accepted into the College.

14. Old Business / New Business. Dr. Oquendo made a call for old business and new business. There were no old or new business items brought forward for discussion.

15. The President's Year in Retrospective. Dr. Oquendo gave a brief update of the 2020 initiatives. During the past year, she focused on the following initiatives:

- Transitioned the summer Program and Council Meetings to virtual meetings to reduce the College's carbon footprint.
- Transitioned the Annual Meeting to a new Virtual Meeting Platform.
- Developed the Annual Meeting Schedule Task Force, chaired by Judy Ford, to plan the 2020 virtual meeting.
- Developed the 2021 Honorific Awards Task Force, chaired by Ellen Leibenluft, to review all the current awards with the goal of eliminating gender and diversity barriers to ensure equity for all in the College.
  - Council approved modifying the 'time-limited' awards (Efron, Elkes and Killam) to be fifteen years past terminal training position and allowing extensions based on "interruptions from your career".
  - NEW Barbara Fish Memorial Award – This is the new Lifetime Achievement Award for College members only.
  - Expanding the Dolores Shockley Minority Mentoring Award to the Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award which will allow programs and institutions that have fostered diversity and inclusion to also be considered for this award along with individuals.
- Developed the Medical Education Workgroup, chaired by Robert Swift, to discuss how to expand the curriculum to graduate students and medical students on substance use disorders including alcohol.
  - Council is working with this workgroup and the National Neuroscience Curriculum Initiative (NNCI) on solidifying a pathway to success.

16. Passing of the Tiara. Dr. Oquendo expressed the major responsibility of the ACNP President is to articulate the vision of our College, and to speak on behalf of the College. She passed the tiara to 2021 President, Dr. Linda Brady, and wished her well in the coming year.

17. 2021 President. Dr. Linda Brady thanked Dr. Oquendo for her service, leadership, and unwavering commitment and dedication to the College. Dr. Brady stated that even in a challenging year, Dr. Oquendo exhibited poise, positivity, projected reassurance, and adaptability in a pandemic. Dr. Brady briefly presented her goals for the coming year.

**Focus on:**

- Advance the mission of the College: foster cutting-edge basic, translational and clinical science leading to the development of novel treatments for psychiatric and substance use disorders — in the scientific program and journal
- Vitalize the College by embracing diversity and inclusion of minority investigators and their research perspectives in the College’s membership and on its Committees and Taskforces
- Enhance collaboration and communication among all of our key stakeholders — academia, industry, biotech, regulatory agencies (FDA), advocacy groups, and NIH — to bring new interventions to those in need

**Specifically, through existing committees or taskforces or new taskforces if supported by Council:**

- Promote novel technologies developed through the BRAIN initiative to enable dissection of the heterogeneity within brain and behavioral disorders
- Support collection of rigorous, high-quality, openly shared multi-modal biomarker and clinical data to identify circuits and pathways for intervention
- Clinical research: solicit strong clinical research for submission to the ACNP program through outreach to key clinical research societies
- Animal research: work to improve the way animals are used in research and inform the community about the value of animal research

18. Dr. Brady adjourns meeting.