

***Council Call
Tuesday, June 8, 2021
2:00pm - 3:00pm Eastern***

Participants:

***Linda Brady
David Kupfer
Trevor Robbins
Marina Wolf
Mary Phillips
Kerry Ressler
Rita Valentino***

***Helen Mayberg
Diego Pizzagalli
Carrie Bearden
Ellen Leibenluft
Bill Carlezon
Sarah Timm, staff
Erin Shaw, staff***

Minutes:

- 1. 2021 ACNP Annual Meeting Format*** – S. Timm updated Council on the Annual Meeting Task Force’s proposal to move forward with a hybrid annual meeting. S. Timm advised Council that the San Juan Convention Center is in great shape, has adequate meeting space, and a technology infrastructure to support live streaming for our virtual attendees. The new Distrito T-Mobile is located across from the convention center in walking distance with nine restaurants and outdoor entertainment options. S. Timm advised that the hotels were not in as great of shape that ACNP attendees have come to expect for our annual meetings. She stated the Caribe was rebuilt after the hurricane and is in good shape, the Hyatt House and Hyatt Place are also both newer and in good shape; however, the Sheraton and Condado were both scheduled to have renovations prior to the COVID pandemic and are in need of updating. It was advised that we need to inform attendees that the hotels will not be of the same caliber as a JW Marriott that we have stayed at in the past and will have more of an ‘island feel.’ S. Timm advised there is also concern with staffing at the Convention Center with our event as there are only a few events prior to our meeting. When ACNP staff visited Puerto Rico in mid-May, everyone had to have a negative PCR COVID test within 72 hours of arriving to the airport; however, with the updated restrictions, our attendees will only need to upload their vaccine card into the Puerto Rico portal if traveling from the US. If traveling internationally, a negative PCR COVID test is still required even if you have had the vaccine. The new COVID guidelines have lifted the curfew on the island from 10:00 pm to midnight and now will allow for 75% capacity in restaurants and venues. S. Timm stated that the Annual Meeting Task Force is recommending that Council move forward with a hybrid meeting and requiring all attendees meeting in-person to be vaccinated. In-person attendees would be required upload their vaccination card when they register for the meeting. Anyone not vaccinated or not comfortable with attending in-person can attend the meeting virtually. S. Timm advised that we will livestream all plenary and concurrent sessions for the virtual attendees; however, that we will not be livestreaming the networking opportunities, receptions, and poster sessions. She stated that poster presenters will be asked if they will be presenting a poster virtually only or in-person and virtually. The in-person poster sessions will not be livestreamed; however, the College will host a virtual poster session either prior to or after the annual meeting. All posters will be uploaded into the virtual meeting platform for viewing by all attendees. At this time the Annual Meeting Task Force is also recommending that meeting attendance be capped at 1,000 to comply with social distancing recommendations. This could change

as it gets closer to the time of the meeting and if restrictions change in Puerto Rico. S. Timm advised that all in-person attendees will attest to a COVID release waiver and COVID Code of Conduct along with our normal Annual Meeting Code of Conduct. Virtual attendees will only need to attest to the Annual Meeting Code of Conduct. The COVID Code of Conduct will state that the Executive Office will communicate the safety protocols 6-8 weeks prior to the meeting and that all attendees will adhere to safety protocols on-site. It was questioned how the Executive Office will cap the number of attendees who register for in-person attendance. S. Timm advised that on the proposal, there is a grid that shows the total percentage of registration from previous meetings per registration category (invited guest, members, travel awardees, non-member presenters, etc.) broken down by how many will be capped into each category this year. These in-person registrations will be based on a first come, first serve basis with some government spots on hold as NIH attendees usually don't receive clearance until October. It was questioned how these registration caps compare with the survey to members in the spring regarding the annual meeting format. S. Timm stated that it may not be reliable to compare as the survey was sent prior to the CDC releasing new guidelines with the vaccine. She advised there was a lot of uncertainty at that time; however, that around 55% of members who completed the survey stated they did not have any barriers and planned to attend the meeting in-person. Council did have concern that there will be members who would want to come in person but will have to attend virtually because of the registration caps. S. Timm stated that staff will continue to monitor the registration numbers and once we re-evaluate how things are in San Juan, we could increase the number in-person registration openings. S. Timm also advised that the Executive Office is open to change any current registration cap percentages if Council suggests. It was questioned how many non-member presenters we usually have during the annual meetings, and S. Timm advised around 240 presenters. She stated that the Executive Office did hear from some proposed presenters that they would prefer to present virtually; however, that each session will require two in-person chairs with one chairing the in-person attendees and one chairing the virtual attendees. Council suggested to increase the percentage cap for presenters until we know how many are attending in-person vs. virtually as well as saving spots for the member chairs. S. Timm stated that the Program Committee meets on July 10th and that presenters of accepted sessions will be notified of their time slot to present by the end of July. S. Timm also advised that the Executive Office will open registration in the beginning of July. It was questioned if there would be a waiting list for virtual attendees who would prefer to attend in-person if more in-person slots become available. S. Timm advised that we will have a section in the virtual registration that will let attendees select to be added automatically to the in-person waiting list. S. Timm advised Council that this will require more labor on staff as they will have to manually change registration categories and collect the additional registration fee for in-person vs. virtual registration. It was questioned if NIH has made a decision regarding travel, and it was stated that currently they are not able to travel at this time. S. Timm stated that we will have registration slots and hotel rooms on hold for Council members and some registration slots on hold for government attendees. After much discussion, all Council agreed to move forward with the hybrid meeting and to require all in-person attendees to upload their vaccine card at the time of registration. S. Timm stated that she has an email to our attorney to assure there are no concerns with requiring in-person attendees to be vaccinated. Council agreed that was fair and requested a clear statement regarding this requirement for registration. The point was brought up that vaccination cards from countries outside of the US will look different. S.

Timm questioned if the College should enforce the member meeting attendance requirement according to the bylaws or waive for another year. Given that there are still uncertainties, Council approved waiving the member meeting attendance requirement for another year. S. Timm questioned if the College should offer childcare at this year's annual meeting and stated that the Executive Office recommends against it with the issue of children not being vaccinated. Council agreed with this decision but requested language to be communicated to attendees regarding this decision. The Executive Office will run the statement by the Executive Committee prior to launching registration. Council also requested for the Executive Office to provide clear communication to in-person attendees regarding the Puerto Rico airport process with uploading their vaccination card to receive a QR code to exit baggage claim in the airport. S. Timm advised that all accompanying other registrations will also have to upload their vaccine card to attend the social and food and beverage events at the meeting. It was questioned if the College will have pandemic insurance for the meeting. S. Timm advised that insurance companies no longer offer that; however, the process of shifting to a virtual meeting will be relatively easy if necessary, as a result of a COVID surge or variant emergence.

2. **2021 Annual Meeting Invitations** – During the 2020 virtual meeting, Council agreed to allow members (both full and associate) to request an additional annual meeting invitation for a trainee. For 2021, Council agreed to keep our standard invitation policy of only 1 invitation per full fellow and member. Council agreed that members attending virtually should only be allowed to invite a guest virtually. However, if a member is attending in-person, their invited guest may attend in-person or virtually based on available in-person slots. Council agreed to not offer the additional trainee invitation with this year's hybrid format since we still have the General Invitation Bank and Diversity Invitation Bank.
3. **CURA Program** – L. Brady reviewed the request from the Directors of the Center for Underrepresented Research in Addiction (CURA) to extend ACNP Annual Meeting invitations to their ten Fellows. After reviewing the list of Fellows, it was noted that one is a past ACNP Travel awardee and one is an ACNP Associate Member. Council agreed to extend annual meeting invitations to these Fellows and to internally place their names on the Diversity Invitation Bank to track diversity registrations.
4. **ACNP URM Mini Retreat** – L. Brady reviewed the minutes from the first URM Mini Retreat and stated the second mini retreat will be scheduled this summer. She thanked everyone for participating and contributing to the mini retreat. L. Brady stated that Council can discuss the immediate changes the College can institute and the long-term changes the College can work towards during the summer meeting; however, a discussion is needed prior to the summer URM mini retreat. She recapped the feedback received. The College could work on opportunities to synergize with the NIH, be welcoming at the annual meeting, deal with inclusivity, address the perception of the meeting, identify good mentors for diverse individuals, and to consider the membership requirement perception of having an R01 to be competitive for membership in the College. L. Brady asked Council to consider hosting special events at the meeting to make the URM attendees feel more welcome by having coffee meetups, receptions with leadership, etc. E. Leibenluft stated the Women's Lunch will have Raychelle Burks as the presenter who was featured in *Picture a Scientist* and will present on allyship. It was stated that the retreat was incredibly

well organized and that Council members learned much from our URM invitees; however, that the general impression from the retreat is that the URM invitees felt alienated by the exclusivity of the College and meeting. Council questioned if the identity of the College is the problem and how to address the negative feedback expressed. It was suggested that the next retreat should discuss concrete changes the College can implement and dive deeper into the other issues that were previously raised. L. Brady advised that the URM Mentoring Task Force is also working on a near-peer mentorship program proposal working with the Center for the Improvement of Mentored Experience in Research (CIMER). It was suggested for Council to have a meeting prior to the next URM mini retreat to place together the possible immediate changes the College can implement for a structured discussion during the mini retreat.

5. ***Follow-up Discussion from April Council Call*** – During the April call, Council discussed how to get better URM representation in leadership positions in the College. It was stated that in the past, Council discussed inviting two Associate Members to join Council as non-voting ad members to learn the process. Council discussed considering this idea again and inviting a URM Member or Associate Member to participate as a non-voting ad hoc member. As we ran out of time for a discussion on the call, S. Timm agreed to review the previous discussions by Council during the Summer Council call.

Information Items:

6. ***Research!America*** – Council was provided the thank you letter for our support of Research!America.

Linda Brady, Carlos Zarate, Rita Valentino, and Ellen Leibenluft were recused from the below information item.

7. ***Patent-Eligibility Coalition Letter to the Biden Administration*** – Council was provided the final patent-eligibility coalition letter to the Biden Administration from the American Civil Liberties Union that the College recently signed-on to.