

***Council Quarterly Minutes  
Tuesday, October 24, 2023  
2:00pm - 3:00pm Eastern***

***Participants:***

***Kerry Ressler  
Deanna Barch  
Carrie Bearden  
Linda Brady  
Bill Carlezon  
Cynthia Crawford  
Ellen Leibenluft  
Colleen McClung***

***Marina Picciotto  
David Rubinow  
Nina Kraguljac, Associate Member on  
Council  
Angela Ozburn, Associate Member on  
Council  
Sarah Timm, staff  
Erin Shaw, staff***

***Minutes:***

***Conflict of Interest Forms were reviewed prior to the start of the meeting by Kerry Ressler, President, and Sarah Timm, Executive Director, per the Conflict of Interest Policy for Council.***

- 1. Update on ACNP Academia / Industry / Government Planning Meeting*** – K. Ressler provided an overview on the stakeholder initiative to advance mental health treatments meeting organized with Hussein Manji during the ACNP Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. He advised that this is a closed, invite-only meeting. K. Ressler reviewed the draft agenda and attendee list with Council and asked for any additional feedback.

***Problem:*** We are at an inflection point, where decades of exponential progress in neuroscience is being integrated with human genetics, digital phenotyping, and big data, to derive new effective therapeutics based on our understanding of the brain. ACNP will be critical in its leadership through academic, governmental, industry, and regulatory relationships to support these new opportunities. As a premier organization of leaders in Neuroscience & Psychiatry, ACNP is uniquely positioned to help transform our fields through Bridging the Translational Gap, through several initiatives, including inspiring or convening Next-Generation Academic-Industry-Government conversations for translation of Neuroscience Discoveries to Novel Interventions.

***Primary goal:*** Reach some consensus and determine next steps on how the Foundation for the NIH (FNIH)/NIH/FDA/Industry/Academy can work together to more rapidly de-risk, reach consensus, and make progress on translating new pipeline of treatments in Mental Health.

***Secondary goals:*** List of action items for consensus building; list of next steps (DC spring working group meeting?) Identification of biggest pain points / inefficiencies / hurdles for translation of MH treatments.

K. Ressler hopes this meeting will bring some concrete next steps and future meetings.

- 2. Diversity and Inclusion Committee Proposal: Hispanic/Latin American Subcommittee*** – K. Ressler reviewed the proposal request from the Diversity and Inclusion Committee

for formalization of a Hispanic/Latin American Subcommittee similar to the BIPOC and LGBTQIA2S+ Subcommittees under the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The proposal stated that the sub-committee will exemplify the ACNP's core value of commitment to diversity; support the ongoing efforts and current charges of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee; create an affinity group to provide opportunities for mentoring, networking, and support for Hispanic and Latin American trainees and professionals; expand participation and the workload among those who serve on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee; and continue the priorities of current and past presidents to enhance diversity and inclusivity within the College. The proposal also includes a request to host an event at this year's annual meeting.

S. Timm advised that the current subcommittees (BIPOC and LGBTQ+) require staff time and additional staff time will be needed to facilitate another subcommittee and any future subcommittees. It was questioned how this new subcommittee differs from the Global Outreach Task Force. K. Ressler advised that the Global Outreach Task Force includes Latin American outreach; however, focuses on all countries. It was stated that Council needs to consider how broadly the Diversity and Inclusion Committee is expanding. The motion to approve the proposal to create the subcommittee starting in 2024 with restrictions on staff time dedicated to all subcommittees for all committees. The Executive Office will draft guidelines and parameters for this to be reviewed during the December Council meeting. All were in favor of approving the additional subcommittee.

Council also discussed the social event for the Hispanic/Latin American Subcommittee during this year's annual meeting and agreed to combine this event with the already planned BIPOC/LGBTQ+ Subcommittee receptions on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

3. ***Donation to Social Offset the Annual Meeting*** – S. Timm reminded Council that the College partnered with [socialoffset.org](https://socialoffset.org) to provide the opportunity for attendees to donate to local charities in Tampa, Florida and offset their tax spend in Florida. The charities include Current Initiatives, Equality Florida, Feeding Tampa Bay, Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida, and Starting Right, Now. S. Timm advised that the program allows attendees the opportunity to offset their tax spend per day which is calculated as \$35 per day. Attendees are able to donate via link in their registration confirmation email. The College is also including information and the link in the marketing emails, the Safety Know Before You Go Briefing, and on a poster onsite at the annual meeting. As of last Friday, there has only been one donation of \$25. S. Timm questioned if Council wanted to consider a donation or matching up to a certain amount for this year's meeting. Council agreed this aligns with the College's mission and support of diversity and agreed to match up to \$10,000 from the attendee's donations. This will be highlighted to meeting attendees.
4. ***January 2027 Annual Meeting Location*** – S. Timm provided an update to Council on negotiating food and beverage pricing with the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego. She stated that she was able to negotiate \$50K off the \$1.5 M food and beverage pricing. After the last Executive Committee call, Council voted between the Manchester Grand Hyatt and Atlantis, Bahamas for the January 2027 meeting location with the understanding that food and beverage pricing for San Diego is 67% more than food and beverage pricing in Atlantis (\$1.5 M compared to \$934 K). 70% of Council voted for San Diego. S. Timm noted that

Council may want to consider either increasing the registration fee by \$200 during registration that year and/or eliminating some food and beverage events to help offset the food and beverage costs. S. Timm advised Council that the annual meeting every year runs in a deficit, and this will mean an even greater deficit if we stay with the current registration fees and food and beverage events. S. Timm anticipates the contract with the Hyatt will be finalized in the next two weeks. It was questioned the implications of this for future years negotiations. S. Timm advised that the College is really limited in negotiating power in California due to food and beverage and labor costs at the hotels and that hotels will know our total spend and it will be challenging to lower our food and beverage spend in San Diego or Los Angeles. She also advised that based on the recent annual meeting location and priorities survey, members stated that they would like to continue meeting in one hotel in a warm location. There was concern that the College could be restricting future locations based on the noted priorities from members and the proposed guidelines/policies from the Annual Meeting Task Force if approved. There was also concern that we will receive complaints if we reduce food and beverage events. It was also stated that the Bahamas would not qualify as an approved meeting location if the proposed guidelines/policies are approved as they do not currently recognize same sex marriage or allow elective abortions. After discussion, K. Ressler requested for Council to vote one last time between San Diego, California and Atlantis, Bahamas and encourage Council to take the time to read through the annual meeting location and date priorities survey results as well as the proposed policies/procedures from the Annual Meeting Task Force.

5. ***MOSAIC Grant Application*** – S. Timm advised the ACNP grant writing group, consisting of Vaishali Bakshi, Janet Clark, Kathryn Reissner, and Joshua Roffman, are working with CPDD and the Executive Office for the resubmission of the MOSIAC Grant application for ACNP/CPDD. S. Timm advised that she is happy to share additional information in future meetings.
6. ***Annual Meeting Task Force*** – E. Leibenluft provided an overview of the results from the recent survey on annual meeting location and date priorities sent to membership, current travel awardees, past two years of travel awardees, and past two years of non-member annual meeting attendees. There was a total of 1,401 respondents to the survey (55.5% response rate by members). The survey went to 1,316 members and 2,130 non-members. She advised that the Annual Meeting Task Force focused on the summary of the results broken down by members, non-members, and current or past travel awardees. She advised that in all answers there was only a 10-15% difference between members and non-members selections. It was noted that members felt more strongly than the other categories to keep the meeting in one hotel in a warm location and willing to pay more for their registration fee. Location in a warm climate and dates of the meeting were ranked the highest in reasons of importance regarding the annual meeting followed closely for size and cost of the meeting. Schedule conflicts ranked the highest in reasons why a person would not attend the meeting followed by unfavorable location and cost of the meeting. It was questioned what unfavorable locations meant. E. Leibenluft advised that comments included the current social justice issues as well as ease of travel to that location (e.g., direct flights, international airports, etc.). All respondents wanted to continue with hybrid meetings; however, agreed that recorded sessions would be suitable instead of live streaming which will have a cost savings. She advised that approximately 30% of respondents wanted to keep the meeting in December, 30% move the meeting in

a different month, and 30% had no opinion. E. Leibenluft encouraged everyone to review the survey results and comments.

Council agreed to fully discuss the proposed policies/procedures to operationalize Council's decision to no longer contract with properties in states that have discriminatory laws along with what key priorities should be for future meeting locations in an upcoming meeting. E. Leibenluft advised that there have only been minor changes to the documents from Council's initial review of the principles from the Anti-Trans/LGBTQ+ subcommittee and Reproductive Rights subcommittee. She reminded Council that the documents are to provide principles to guide Council in assessing the extent to which different jurisdictions provide a safe environment for the annual meeting specifically in terms of protecting LGBTQ+ and pregnant individuals. She advised that the tiers proposed by the Annual Meeting Task Force show which states are currently safer than others. Council will review the proposed principles by the Annual Meeting Task Force during the next call and discuss the communication plan for the final guidelines.

#### **Information Items:**

7. ***2024 URM Near-Peer Mentorship Program*** – The College received 24 applications for mentees and 13 applications for mentors for the 2024 cohort. As a reminder, Council approved for 12 mentor/mentee pairings. The 2024 cohort will meet on-site in Tampa, Florida for an orientation session on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:00pm – 6:00pm. Council is encouraged to attend the 2022, 2023 and 2024 cohorts' reception from 6:00pm – 7:00pm on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> prior to the Travel Awards Reception.
8. ***2024 Summer Council Meeting SAVE THE DATE*** – The summer Council meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. A calendar invite will be sent after the call.