

**ACNP Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday, December 2, 2023
9:00am – 1:00pm Eastern Time
Hillsborough, JW Marriott**

Kerry Ressler, Presiding

Deanna Barch
Carrie Bearden
Linda Brady
William Carlezon
Cynthia Crawford
Ellen Leibenluft
Helen Mayberg
Colleen McClung
Lisa Monteggia
Marina Picciotto
David Rubinow
Rita Valentino
Carlos Zarate

Executive Director: Sarah Timm
Staff: Erin Shaw

Council-Elect: Yasmin Hurd (Council-Elect have voice but no vote)

Associate Members: Nina Kraguljac (Associate Members have voice but no vote)
Angela Ozburn

Apologies: Neill Epperson

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

K. Ressler advised Council that the Technology in Psychiatry Summit (TIPS) Meeting went great on Friday, December 1st and had around 100 attendees in person and more online.

- 1. NPP Journal Report** – Tony George and Lisa Monteggia presented the NPP Co-Principal Editor's Report. Council thanked T. George and L. Monteggia for their leadership in the journal this year. The Co-Principal Editors thanked B. Carlezon for leaving NPP in excellent condition in his role as Principal Editor. The 2023 goals were to make NPP a desirable venue for publishing the best psychiatric neuroscience research, continue to strengthen NPPR, recruit highly engaged and knowledgeable scientists to Associate Editor and Editorial Board positions, promote Early Career Commentaries (ECC's) focused on topics proposed by early career neuroscientists, develop a new feature "This Week/Month

in NPP” providing online weekly summaries of AOP publications and in monthly print issues, and continue to recruit clinical research articles building on our Clinical Trials Project. The new Senior Editors in 2023 include Patricia Conrod, Matt Hill, Ziva Cooper, and Leah Mayo (Social Media Editor). The Impact Factor this year was 7.6 which is a small decrease from the 2022 Impact Factor of 8.304. NPP is ranked #20 of 155 psychiatry journals. The 2024 NPPR issue is titled, *Rapid Treatments in Psychiatry*, with Carolyn Rodriguez and Charles Zorumski as Volume Co-Editors. John Neumaier, NPPR Deputy Editor, is rotating off at the end of 2023 and both C. Rodriguez and C. Zorumski agreed to be the new Co-Deputy Editors for NPPR starting in 2024. The 2025 NPPR issue will be focused on neuroimaging with Deanna Barch and Conor Liston as the Volume Co-Editors. T. George and L. Monteggia sent letters to the Senior Editors and Editorial Board Members when they started as Co-Principal Editors to survey whether they wanted to stay on or rotate off in their current role. With a few members rotating off, the editors had the opportunity to recruit a few new people to the team trying with a focus on women and diversity. The editors presented the top reviewers as of November 30th with six of the top reviewers on the Editorial Board. Briana Chen, 2023 NPP Intern, will rotate to NPP Special Projects Manager starting in 2024. Hayley Thorpe and Lucas Trambaiolli will be the 2024 NPP Interns. The open access publication has had a small negative effect on citations in recent years and L. Trambaiolli will review those statistics. The 2023 NPP Award winners include Friederike Holze and Matthias Lietchi (NEATOR), Diego Pizzagalli and Angela Roberts (NEAR), and Anna Konova (NEECA). This was the first year that the journal had two Co-Principal Editors, one male and one female. It was noted that most authors contact T. George over L. Monteggia regardless of whether the topic is basic or clinical or whether the investigator is early career/senior.

2. **DPN Journal Report** – B. Carlezon presented the DPN Principal Editor’s Report to Council. Council congratulated B. Carlezon on the launch of the new open access-only journal. B. Carlezon advised that it was more challenging than he envisioned as they had to build the new journal from scratch instead of mirroring NPP. He advised that it has also been challenging working with Springer Nature as the replacement for Elizabeth Yopez at Springer Nature has not been as responsive or knowledgeable. DPN currently has one paper accepted which is the Editorial, three under review, and two awaiting revisions. He advised that three papers have been commissioned which include Didactics by Sam Golden, Carbon Footprint by Chloe Jordan, and Early-Career Voices by the Verily team. S. Haber brought a new concept to DPN which would be a non-human primate brain atlas. This atlas would include links to a data base that could be maintained even after S. Haber retires. DPN was a bronze sponsor at the recent TIPS meeting and B. Carlezon was able to present on the new journal during a session. The journals have partnered together to have co-branded giveaways for attendees at this year’s ACNP Annual Meeting. B. Carlezon also marketed DPN at the Society for Neuroscience meeting. The ideas for moving forward include new ideas for innovative content (didactics, protocols, and atlas/catalogue), ideas for attracting submissions by formalizing manuscript transfers to other journals, promoting journal visibility, and encouraging the Senior Editors to submit their work, advocate for the journal and encourage submissions. Other ideas in development include a monthly podcast that will start in 2024.

3. ***Treasurer's Report*** – D. Rubinow presented the Treasurer's Report to Council. He advised that the College is in very good shape and reminded Council of our fiscal year that runs April 1st – March 31st. D. Rubinow advised that the numbers in the Treasurer's Report reflect October 31st. Parthenon Management Group (PMG) continues to be a successful business and represents a large portion of the College's revenue and expenses with the value of PMG continuing to increase. The College invested around \$2M in bonds this year which will present an opportunity for growth when the bonds go up. Our current investments are with Olimpio Neu, Wells Fargo, and Vanguard. D. Rubinow advised that the cash accounts are currently at \$4 Million. He reminded Council that we will have significant expenses in December after the annual meeting and our cash holdings will decrease. The increase on the total assets slide is the evaluation for PMG and the growth over the years. It was questioned if there is anything the College should consider in changing investments to prepare for the election. It was advised that D. Rubinow and S. Timm have a quarterly call with Wells Fargo and Olimpio Neu. D. Rubinow advised that this year the College worked with a new auditor, BBD. D. Rubinow and S. Timm advised that they have worked with BBD to present the Audit Report next year a little differently to show the separation between ACNP and PMG. Council reviewed the FY23 Audit Report and there was a motion, second, and all of Council approved.

S. Timm requested for Council to review the current Investment Policy and consider altering our investment in fixed income max from 5% to 10%. There was a motion, a second, and all of Council approved to increase the fixed income max to 10%.

Council thanked D. Rubinow for all his work as Treasurer.

4. ***Use of Funds Report*** – D. Rubinow presented the use of funds report to Council. The use of funds spreadsheet lists the special projects Council has approved for funding for the current fiscal year. Of the \$15,000 allocated to journal initiatives, only approximately \$11,000 has currently been spent or obligated for journal items for the annual meeting and Development Day. The dividends and interest income on this report reflect the actual income YTD through October and projected through December as we plan for 2024. We have strived to use income from dividends and interest to fund our special projects without the need from general operating funds. D. Rubinow advised that the use of funds report is broken down into three major categories which consist of education, DEI, and animal rights initiatives.

In reviewing the use of funds report, S. Timm noted that around 50% of funds are spent on additional funding for past travel awardees to continue attending the meeting. It was questioned how many past travel awardees that receive additional funding or the past travel award scholarship continue to come to the meeting and/or apply for membership. The Executive Office will provide this information during the Tuesday or Wednesday Council meeting.

- ***ACNP Support for American Brain Coalition*** – S. Timm reviewed the proposal from the American Brain Coalition (ABC) on educational support in 2024. The ABC is requesting \$30,000 in support in FY24 where they have only requested \$20,000 in

the past. The ABC is a nonprofit organization comprised of the leading professional neurological, psychological, and psychiatric associations and patient organizations. They hope to advance the understanding of the functions of the brain and reduce the burden of brain disorders through public education and advocacy. It was advised that Mark Rasenick is the new Chair to the Board and Marina Wolf is on the board representing ACNP. S. Timm also advised that she is in constant communication with Katie Sale, ABC's Executive Director. There was a motion, second, and all of Council approved to fund ABC \$30,000 in FY24 with the request to keep receiving feedback on the ABC programs and money spent.

- ***ACNP Support for the National Neuroscience Curriculum Initiative*** – The National Neuroscience Curriculum Initiative (NNCI) is a collaboration between educators and neuroscientists with the overarching aim to create, pilot, and disseminate a comprehensive set of shared resources that will help train psychiatrists and other mental health providers to integrate a modern neuroscience perspective into every facet of their clinical work. S. Timm advised that NNCI is requesting another three-year proposal for \$35,000 per year. It was advised that the NNCI is regularly updating and adding new content. There was a motion, a second, and all of Council approved the request to fund NNCI for three years for \$35,000 per year.
- ***ALBA/ACNP Partnership Proposal*** – Council reviewed the proposal from the ALBA Network for support in 2024. The ALBA Network was launched in 2019 by an international group of leading brain scientists involved in research, education, communication, and advocacy. S. Timm advised that last year was the first year of the partnership with the College providing \$32,500 for special projects focused on DEI. It was noted that ALBA had requested for the ACNP staff to do some of the work on these initiatives; however, S. Timm pushed back as the money donated was for the ALBA Network to complete the work on the projects. The ABLA Network's proposal requested \$35,000 per year for three years; however, it was suggested to only support for one more year and re-evaluate the outcome measures in a report to Council. There was a motion, a second, and all of Council were in favor of only supporting for one year at \$35,000.
- ***ACNP/AMP BRAD Fellowship Program Proposal*** – Council reviewed the proposal from the Americans for Medical Progress for the ACNP/AMP BRAD Fellowship Program. The ACNP/AMP BRAD Fellow work closely with the College's Animal Research Committee and helps plan the Biomedical Research Awareness Day. The proposal requests for funding support for \$10,000 per year for three years. Council agreed this was a good use of funds to support animal research. There was a motion, second, and all of Council were in favor of supporting for \$10,000 per year for three years.
- ***American Psychiatric Association Proposal*** – Council reviewed the proposal from the American Psychiatric Association (APA) for the request for one time stop gap funding for program management of the research colloquium. As a reminder, Council approved to provide \$20,000 to the APA for their research colloquium each

year from 2022-2024. S. Timm advised the new proposal asks for funding to cover the program management of the research colloquium as unforeseen budget cuts at the APA eliminated the position of Program Manager. D. Rubinow advised that the APA also plans to request additional funding support from the Society of Biological Psychiatry (SOBP). Council agreed the research colloquium is a great program and would like to support; however, supporting the salary of the Program Manager means that the program should fall under ACNP. It was advised that the other proposals and initiatives on the use of funds align more with the mission of the College. There was a motion to not approve the \$100,000 administration request and a recommendation that the College discontinue funding in 2024 if the research colloquium does not continue next year. Another motion was to request further information on ACNP's role in the research colloquium program if the College were to provide additional money and request a new proposal from the APA next year. S. Timm volunteered to discuss with Diana Clarke.

5. URM Near-Peer Mentorship Program – As a reminder, the College has completed its second year of the URM Near-Peer Mentorship Program. The 2024 program cohort will continue with 12 mentor/mentee pairs. Council approved earlier this year to provide a \$1,000 travel scholarship stipend to this year's annual meeting to the 2022 URM Near-Peer cohort of Mentees. The URM Mentoring Task Force is requesting for Council to provide registration invitations at the trainee rate to the cohort mentees for four years following their mentorship program year, similar to the travel award program. The task force is also proposing to Council to provide the mentees a \$1,000 travel scholarship stipend for the year following their mentorship program to encourage the mentees to continue attending the ACNP Annual Meeting and eventually apply for travel awards and membership. Please see below for current cohort funding. The 2022 cohort received the following during last year's annual meeting.

a. 2023 Cohort – The 2023 cohort mentees will receive the following funding to attend the 2023 Annual Meeting in-person:

- i. Waived registration
 - ii. Hotel accommodations for up to 5 nights
 - iii. Roundtrip coach airfare
 - iv. Up to \$100 ground transportation
 - v. A daily stipend of \$50 for meals for up to six days
 - vi. A childcare stipend of up to \$80 per day, per child for onsite childcare
- TOTAL ESTIMATED COST: \$32,800

b. 2024 Cohort – The 2024 cohort mentees will receive the following funding to attend the 2023 Annual Meeting in-person:

- i. Waived registration
- ii. Hotel accommodations for up to 5 nights
- iii. Roundtrip coach airfare
- iv. Up to \$100 ground transportation
- v. A daily stipend of \$50 for meals for up to six days
- vi. A childcare stipend of up to \$80 per day, per child for onsite childcare

TOTAL ESTIMATED COST: \$32,800

There was a motion, second, and all of Council approved to provide the mentees a \$1,000 travel scholarship stipend for the year following their mentorship program and extending meeting invitations at the trainee rate for four years. S. Timm suggested for Council to re-evaluate the program next year as the College will have completed three years. She reminded Council that ACNP applied for the NIH MOSAIC grant with the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) and if approved there could be some overlap with the programs.

6. ***Participating Corporation Program*** – Council discussed the ACNP Participating Corporation Program. It was advised that 7% of the College's revenue comes from this program. It was questioned how many attendees at this year's meeting are corporate sponsors and how many are presenting posters. The Executive Office staff will provide this information in a future meeting. It was advised that the level of support determines the number of scientists that can attend the meeting and submit posters. Council agreed this is a valuable program and an opportunity for our members to meet and interact with industry at the meeting. It was questioned if Council re-evaluates the programs on an annual or biannual basis. S. Timm advised that participating corporations do not have to reapply unless they do not continue providing support for the program for two years. It was suggested to build an evaluation of the program to revisit Participating Corporations in the future. It was noted that Council continues to review any new participating corporation applications. Another suggestion was for the full participating corporations to submit proposals for panels, mini-panels, and study groups instead of only posters to the Program Committee for consideration in the program to provide more bi-directional collaboration with attendees. It was also stated that their poster should be presenting science and not allow any type of marketing or selling of a product as that happens at other conferences. It was noted that with the addition of the 'other participating corporation' status which allows organizations to apply if they are contributing to the growth of the CNS research field, the program has grown rapidly and will continue to grow. The 'other participating corporation' also allows Contract Research Organizations (CROs) who are providing support to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device industries to apply. K. Ressler proposed a task force consisting of Council members and the Liaison Committee chairs to revisit the current categories and application criteria to see if any needs to be revised in 2024. It was suggested to also include ACNP members who are in industry. L. Brady, L. Monteggia, and C. Zarate volunteered for the task force on behalf of Council. K. Ressler and H. Mayberg will also be involved as past and current president. The Liaison Committee chairs will also be included and a list of current ACNP members from industry will be provided to Council to include.
7. ***Embargo Policy*** – During a previous call, Council approved the below Embargo Policy. After further discussion in the Executive Office, the policy has been slightly revised below.

Current Policy:

Any press release, promotional materials, social media, or website use by a presenter, the presenter's employer, or any other outside person or entity about a presentation scheduled for the ACNP Annual Meeting must be embargoed (not released) until the time and date of the presentation. Additionally, ACNP should not be mentioned or referenced regarding the data or presentation until the first date of the Annual Meeting. If referenced at that point, it should be clear that the release/posting is not sanctioned by ACNP. This includes any detail of the abstract and the title.

Updated Policy:

Any press release or public promotion by a presenter, the presenter's employer, or any other outside person or entity about a presentation scheduled for the ACNP Annual Meeting must be embargoed (not released) until the time and date of the presentation. Additionally, ACNP should not be mentioned or referenced regarding the data or presentation until the first date of the Annual Meeting. If referenced at that point, it should be clear that the release/posting is not sanctioned by ACNP. This includes any detail of the abstract and the data from the presentation.

S. Timm advised that the only edit was excluding social media in the updated policy as we did not want to discourage poster presenters from posting on social media to encourage attendees to visit their poster and also that social media would be hard to control. S. Timm advised that the goal of the embargo is to not release information presented at the meeting prior to presentation. It was noted that the updated policy is vague; however, it can be re-evaluated and adjusted in a few years. There was a motion, a second, and all of Council approved the updated Embargo Policy.

8. ***Update on AfCNP Mental Health and Neuroscience School*** – Council reviewed the current update on the AfCNP Mental Health and Neuroscience School sponsored by the ACNP, NIDA, and AKU Brain and Mind Institute. S. Timm advised that she has been working with Peter Kalivas, and Lukoye Atwoli, AfCNP, on the school that will occur May 31st to June 9th in Nairobi. P. Kalivas and L. Atwoli plan to invite 10-12 clinical research scientists from the College among others to participate as faculty members and mentors. They hope to fund 30 early career scientists in mental health and neuroscience from Africa. S. Timm advised that updates will be presented to Council in the future. Council suggested waived virtual registration invitations to the 30 students for the 2024 ACNP Annual Meeting to introduce them to the College. Another suggestion was to request the Diversity & Inclusion Committee consider offering mentorship to these students in the future from ACNP URM trainees. Another suggestion was to provide access to NPP as DPN is already open access, and that the journal receives ten free subscriptions from the publisher each year which currently are offered to the URM Travel Awardees. S. Timm suggested waiting until we have more information from P. Kalivas on the student's research interests to make sure they are in line with the College. C. Zarate advised that the Global Outreach Task Force also received 50 virtual invitations to extend to early career and senior scientists through outreach by the task force.
9. ***Executive Office Report*** – S. Timm presented the Executive Office report to Council. She advised that the ACNP team has had great retention over the past few years. Rebecca

Shannon joined the ACNP team in March to oversee some of the committees and support DPN; however, she will be moving into the Meetings Content Department within PMG. She will stay on with ACNP until the new hire is fully trained. S. Timm advised that if the College receives the MOSAIC grant, we may need to add more staff to manage the program. Volunteers from ACNP and CPDD helped write the MOSIAC grant along with the PMG Science Writer and Grants Department. If funded, the program will begin in July 2024. This has been a challenging year for Council and staff to navigate given the complex issues regarding the annual meeting locations. This will continue to be a challenge moving forward, balancing the need for a location that is safe for all attendees and the rising costs. As of this morning, there are 1,896 in-person attendees at this year's annual meeting and 250 virtual. This year's meeting will continue livestreaming all sessions which adds around \$100,000 for additional audio visual. S. Timm suggested for Council to further discuss if the College should continue providing live streaming sessions or only provide recorded sessions for our virtual attendees, noting that recordings will be available within 24-48 hours after the session. S. Timm noted that in-person attendees also livestream sessions from their guest rooms onsite instead of attending the session in person. S. Timm reminded Council that in 2019 they agreed to limit the number of invited guests to the meeting once the meeting attendance hit 2,000 in-person attendees. Hybrid meetings have kept the number of attendees just under the 2,000 cap. However, attendance continues to grow. One solution to limit growth would be to set aside a number of invited guest invitations and give these on a first come, first served basis. It was suggested that the task force together with Liaison Committee chairs discuss the number of participating corporation attendees. Lastly, S. Timm advised that Parthenon Management Group continues to grow and 53% of the College's revenue comes from PMG.

10. PMG Report – S. Timm presented the PMG Report to Council. She reminded Council that PMG is a for-profit organization, wholly owned by the ACNP. PMG does pay taxes but is able to give back 10% of profits to the College. To date, PMG has 96 employees in 14 states and services 24 association management clients, 14 meetings only clients, four grants management clients, and five consulting clients. New business includes transitioning four new full-service association management clients which include, The Research Association on Alcohol (RSA), National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN), Clinical TMS Society, and Flux; The Society for Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience. New meetings clients consist of virtual meetings for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and Major League Baseball and in-person meetings for the Protein Society and the International Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Congress. S. Timm advised that PMG continues to focus on and benefit from growth of our current clients. She noted that growing current clients is often more profitable for PMG than onboarding new clients. PMG developed Pillar AMS over the past year which has expanded our IT team. The IT team is focused on the Association Management System (AMS) build and transition of our clients from Joyn, current AMS system, to Pillar. ACNP will no longer have to pay for an AMS system beginning in 2024. PMG will be only association management company who will have built an AMS. The PMG Board will discuss this in more detail and request a deeper dive into the financials from an auditing perspective on how to prepare for the growth of Pillar. PMG hopes to begin licensing Pillar in late 2025 or early 2026. One of the selling points of PMG until then will be that Pillar is only available to our clients. FY24 is shaping up to

be another healthy year for PMG. S. Timm anticipates year-end revenue to be \$1.1 Million before paying federal and state taxes, paying the max allowable donation to ACNP, and paying a third of pre-tax profits back to staff in profit sharing. S. Timm is also focused on growing our senior leaders and just started a senior leadership training program reviewing the difference between a leader and manager. Lastly, PMG held our third annual staff retreat in September where all staff gather in Nashville for two days of team building. The teams worked from April to September learning monthly about the Lencioni model which outlines the five dysfunctions of a team and how to overcome those. There was a speaker at the staff retreat who spoke on the Lencioni model to tie all the effective team behaviors. PMG currently has a 90% retention rate for staff. With the growth of PMG, S. Timm focuses on elevating current staff to grow into leadership positions instead of looking for outside leaders.

11. Annual Meeting Location and Date Priorities Survey and Future Meeting Locations –

Council discussed the annual meeting survey data and how to report it to membership. K. Ressler reminded Council that 52% of members completed the survey. The survey was sent to membership, non-member attendees from the past three years and current and past travel awardees. It was noted that members felt more strongly than the other categories to keep the meeting in one hotel in a warm location. Location in a warm climate and dates of the meeting were ranked the highest in reasons of importance regarding the annual meeting followed closely by 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. 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. Approximately 30% of respondents wanted to keep the meeting in December, 30% wanted to move the meeting in a different month, and 30% had no opinion. It was noted that 50% of our members want to continue switching between east and west coast locations. It was advised that S. Timm wrote about the survey results in her November Director's Notes Bulletin article and questioned if we need to do more to share the results with membership. K. Ressler advised that he also plans to address it briefly in tomorrow's President's Plenary session.

K. Ressler advised that discussion is also needed on the proposed locations for the December 2027 or January 2028 Annual Meeting to narrow the list to a few locations for staff to source based on the guidelines from the Annual Meeting Task Force. During the last Executive Committee call, Council agreed that the Annual Meeting Task Force needs to revisit the guidelines by the LGBTQIA2S+ subcommittee to focus on safety and not protections. E. Leibenluft, Angela Ozburn, and Jared Young volunteered to redraft the guidelines and have them reviewed by the LGBTQIA2S+ subcommittee before presenting to Council. With re-reviewing the guidelines, E. Leibenluft advised that Puerto Rico moves to a lower tier. Council thanked E. Leibenluft, A. Ozburn, J. Young and the Annual Meeting Task Force on their hard work researching and drafting these guidelines. Council also thanked staff on their hard work making the necessary plans to consider issues of safety proactively for this year's meeting in Tampa. The Executive Committee discussed Washington D.C., Nevada, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and Colorado during their last call on locations to consider for the next open annual meeting year which is either December 2027

or January 2028. After discussion and votes, Council decided on the Gaylord National in Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, Atlantis, Bahamas, and Las Vegas as locations for staff to source. Council will discuss the results of the sourcing and strive to make a decision in spring of 2024.

12. Associate Member Term on Council – The current Associate Member term on Council is for one year. N. Kraguljac proposed to extend the term to a two-year term and allow the Associate Members to vote. This will be further discussed during the Tuesday Council meeting. Concerns were raised about Associate Members wanting to become full members during their second year and having to rotate off Council. Another concern was that the original intent of the program was to only have a one-year term to allow more opportunities for Associate Members to have this experience. K. Ressler advised that A. Ozburn and N. Kraguljac could continue joining Executive Committee calls until the April Council meeting.

Information Items:

13. Submitted Committee Reports – Council reviewed the submitted committee reports.

14. Audit Committee Report – Council reviewed the Audit Committee report.

15. ACNP Website Report – Council reviewed the ACNP Website report.

The meeting concluded at 12:58 PM Eastern Time.