

ACNP Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 5, 2023
7:00pm – 9:30pm 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: Neill Epperson (Council-Elect have voice but no vote)
Yasmin Hurd

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

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

Nina Kraguljac and Angela Ozburn were recused from Agenda Item #1.

- 1. Membership Committee Report to Council*** – N. Epperson reported to Council the results of the Membership Committee meeting on Saturday, December 2nd. N. Epperson advised that each candidate for Associate Member and Member are reviewed by five committee members. The Membership Committee reviewed 93 applications for Associate Member, 68 applications for Member, and 33 applications for Member to Fellow promotions. Out of the 33 applications for promotion to Fellow, 20 applicants qualified for automatic promotion and were not reviewed by the committee. The remaining 13 applications were reviewed by the committee and were accepted if 75% of the committee approved their promotion to Fellow. In the past, this percentage was only 50%; however, the 2022 Membership Committee voted to change this to 75%. For Associate membership, there

were 40 applications from women, 14 applications from underrepresented minorities, five applications from government, and five applications from industry. For full membership, there were 25 applications from women, seven applications from underrepresented minorities, three applications from government and one application from industry for full Member.

Below are the statistics for full Member:

- Member Acceptance Rate – 46% (31/68)
- Females Applied – 25 (37%)
- Females Accepted into Membership – 11 (44%)
- Females Rejected – 14 (56%)
- Males Applied – 43 (63%)
- Males Accepted into Membership – 20 (47%)
- Males Rejected – 23 (53%)
- URM Applied – 7 (10%)
- URM Accepted into Membership – 4 (57%)
- URM Rejected – 3 (43%)
- Government Applied – 3
- Government Accepted into Membership – 0
- Government Rejected – 3
- Industry Applied – 1
- Industry Accepted into Membership – 0
- Industry Rejected – 1

Below are the statistics for Associate Member:

- Associate Member Acceptance Rate – 28% (26/93)
- Females Applied – 40 (43%)
- Females Accepted into Membership – 9 (23%)
- Females Rejected – 31 (78%)
- Males Applied – 51 (54%)
- Males Accepted into Membership – 17 (33%)
- Males Rejected – 34 (67%)
- URM Applied – 14 (15%)
- URM Accepted into Membership – 4 (29%)
- URM Rejected – 10 (71%)
- Government Applied – 6
- Government Accepted into Membership – 1
- Government Rejected – 5
- Industry Applied – 5
- Industry Accepted into Membership – 0
- Industry Rejected – 5

The Accepted Associate Members are:

Aaron Alexander-Bloch	Nathaniel Harnett	Muhammad Parvaz
Frederick Barrett	Ishrat Husain	Candace Raio
Laura Berner	Takashi Kitamura	Deepak Sarpal
Giordano de Guglielmo	Daisuke Koshiyama	Cody Siciliano
Dani Dumitriu	Talia Lerner	Benjamin Suarez-Jimenez
Mehdi Farokhnia	Elizabeth Lippard	Benjamin Wade
Elizabeth Glover	Hilary Marusak	Evan White
David Goldsmith	Kristen Maynard	Anna Zilverstand
Jordan Hamm	Alexander McGirr	

The Accepted Members are:

Chadi Abdallah	Benjamin Goldstein	Daniela Schiller
Erin Calipari	Ryan Herringa	Rebecca Shansky
Gregory Collins	Stephan Lammel	Joanna Steinglass
Jennifer Coughlin	Brady Maher	Jeffrey Strawn
Nikolaos Daskalakis	Stephen Mahler	Michael Treadway
Jeremy Day	Michelle Mazei-Robison	Nolan Williams
Michael Drew	Jonathan Morrow	Scott Woods
Adriana Feder	Minae Niwa	Michael Yassa
Fabio Ferrarelli	Angela Ozburn	Larry Zweifel
Zachary Freyberg	Marta Pecina	
Flavio Frohlich	Julia Sacher	

The Accepted Members to Fellow are:

Jennifer Blackford	Gabriella Gobbi	Sheila Rauch
Maura Boldrini	Ebrahim Haroon	Michael Stevens
Pascal Bonaventure	Dawn Ionescu	Dardo Tomasi
Joseph Cheer	Ryan LaLumiere	Consuelo Walss-Bass
Janet Clark	Chitra Mandyam	Thomas Weickert
Susan Ferguson	Paul Newhouse	Daniel Wolf
Cecilia Flores	Sachin Patel	Eric Youngstrom
Jay Gingrich	Konasale Prasad	

N. Epperson advised that there were fewer slots to fill with only 57 open slots this year. The average age of accepted Associate Members was 39 and the average age of accepted Members was 47. N. Epperson suggested encouraging more women Associate Members to apply for full Member as there were fewer applications from women in the Member category. It was suggested to review the percentage of women in the College vs. the percentage of women in the field. Council would like to see the gender breakdown of men and women as Associate Members and how long before they applied for full Member as a comparison. N. Epperson advised that it was a very competitive year for membership and

the committee received great candidates. There was a motion, second, and all were in favor to approve the new Associate Members, Members, and Fellow promotions. Council thanked N. Epperson, Charles Nemeroff, and the Membership Committee for all their hard work.

N. Epperson thanked Tori Swinehart in the Executive Office for all her assistance this year. She also advised that Charles Nemeroff and Olusola Ajilore will be the 2024 committee chairs.

2. ***Career Development Committee Proposal*** – L. Brady reviewed the proposal from the Career Development Committee on an Early-Stage Investigator (ESI) Assistance Program Application for the ACNP Annual Meeting. This is a new initiative to support ESIs in attending the ACNP Annual Meeting. An Early-Stage Investigator is defined as a Program Director/Principal Investigator who has completed their terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training, whichever is later, within the past 15 years and who has not received a substantial NIH research award for which they are PD/PI such as an R01 or R01-equivalent. The funds will be need-based, rather than merit-based. The Career Development Committee is requesting 10 awards in a travel stipend for the amount of \$2,500 each. Eligible travel costs will include a five-night hotel stay, coach airfare, and ground transportation up to \$2,500. Individuals who receive a travel stipend or other funding as non-member participants, for example current or past Travel Awardees, will not be eligible for this program. The new ESI Assistance Program funding would be part of our use of funds initiative. It was questioned if the applicant must have been invited to the meeting before applying for the program, and it was advised that they must first have an invitation to the annual meeting. It was suggested to include R01 or equivalent as international applicants would not apply for an R01. It was questioned if the committee has an estimate of how many people would apply. L. Brady advised that the committee did not discuss this during their conversations. L. Brady advised the committee did discuss narrowing the applications only to smaller, minoritized universities; however, agreed to keep it open to all universities. It was suggested that the Career Development Committee make it more explicit in the application on how providing these funds will address need. Council voted to approve the proposal; however, requested more information from the committee on how the need would be addressed in the application and the process for scoring and awarding applications.
3. ***Proposal for Changes to Name and Mission of the Women's Committee*** – E. Leibenluft reviewed the proposal from the Women's Committee to change the name of the committee to the ACNP Gender Equity and Inclusion Committee and update the mission of the committee. The committee proposed that the mission would be: 1) *to advance gender equity and inclusion in College participation, including in membership, awards, sponsorship, and leadership*; 2) *to promote gender equity and inclusion in career development and in the development of leadership skills*; 3) *to encourage allyship among our members for gender equity and inclusion efforts within ACNP and at their home institutions*; 4) *to liaise and coordinate activities with the LGBTQIA2S+ sub-committee of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee*. It was noted that the College does not have control over members' home institutions and suggested to remove that from the mission. Instead,

it was suggested to educate members to be allies within ACNP and the broader community. Another suggested amendment was to coordinate with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee as a whole instead of only the LGBTQIA2S+ sub-committee. The updated mission is the following: *1) to advance gender equity and inclusion in College participation, including in membership, awards, sponsorship, and leadership; 2) to promote gender equity and inclusion in career development and in the development of leadership skills; 3) to educate members on allyship for gender equity and inclusion efforts within ACNP and the broader community; 4) to liaise and coordinate activities with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.*

There was a motion, second, and all were in favor of the new name and updated mission. Council also reviewed the Women's Committee Report. E. Leibenluft noted there are less women winners in honorific awards and membership, but that the College has made great strides.

4. ***Women's Luncheon Symposium*** – Council thanked the Women's Committee and panelists on this year's symposium. It was suggested to provide question cards for the Women's Symposium and Diversity & Inclusion Symposia in the future instead of open microphones in the room, similar to the NIH Director's Session. Council also agreed to issue a statement on the College's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion during Wednesday of the meeting.
5. ***Review Strategic Plan*** – Council reviewed the completed Strategic Plan. S. Timm emphasized to focus on the objectives of accomplishments and what is still in progress when reviewing the plan. She advised that the College has made significant progress on the goals and even though a goal might not be completed, work is underway or ongoing on an annual basis. Most of the goals and objectives were completed on the strategic plan. K. Ressler advised that in 2024, the College will need to draft a new strategic plan for 2025-2030. The new strategic plan should review the goals for the annual meeting, goals for diversity in the College, discuss how to better liaise with the American Brain Coalition (ABC), participating corporation program and how to engage industry, how to enhance the relationship with the FDA, etc. S. Timm advised that a task force will need to be formed consisting of Council members, Associate Members, industry members, and government members to work on the strategic plan next year. N. Epperson, C. McClung, L. Monteggia, E. Leibenluft, L. Brady, C. Bearden, A. Ozburn, R. Valentino, B. Carlezon, N. Kraguljac, and K. Ressler volunteered to work on the strategic plan on behalf of Council. The task force will be finalized in early 2024.
6. ***Associate Member Term on Council*** – During the Council Meeting on Saturday, it was suggested to extend the Associate Member term on Council from one year to two years and to allow the Associate Members on Council to vote. A concern raised during Saturday's Council Meeting was that promotion of Associate Members to full members during their second year would require them to rotate off Council. Additionally, the original intent of the program was to limit to a one-year term to allow more Associate Members to have this experience. As a counterargument it was noted that the Associate Members might be able to contribute more on Council during their second year as the first year is more of a learning

year. It was suggested to also have terms of two years where a new set of Associate Members would join each year. It was noted that if the Associate Member becomes a full Member during their second year, they could rotate off as Members are not allowed to serve on Council. The staggering of terms would also allow for near-peer mentoring between the Associate Members. The complexity of finding the courage to have a voice, but not being allowed to vote was discussed. It was advised that the Constitution and Rules Committee discussed allowing Associate Members on Council to vote during their early discussions last year and agreed that since Members cannot serve and vote on Council, it would not be fair to allow Associate Members to vote on Council. S. Timm noted that this would be a Bylaws change which would require first for the Constitution and Rules Committee to discuss, then a formal vote would be sent to voting members of the College so if approved, this would not go into effect until 2025. After a vote, Council agreed to charge the Constitution and Rules Committee with discussing if the Associate Member term should be changed to two years with staggering terms each year. The Executive Committee will continue to discuss voting vs. non-voting and provide a clear charge to the Constitution & Rules Committee in January.

7. ***Stakeholder Initiative to Advance Translation in Mental Health Treatments*** – K. Ressler updated Council on the Stakeholder Initiative to Advance Translation in Mental Health Treatments Meeting on Sunday. He advised that there were around 40-50 people in attendance consisting of ACNP Executive Committee, NIH, industry, FDA, FNIH, and philanthropy organizations. The group brainstormed data sharing across organizations and the role of the ACNP in bridging the gap in translation between academic, federal, regulatory, and industry relationships. K. Ressler suggested for the members of Council in the meeting Sunday to connect after the annual meeting to debrief on the meeting, discuss ACNP's role, and follow up with Council before discussing next steps with Hussein Manji.
8. ***PMG Board Recommendation*** – S. Timm brought forward the recommendation from the PMG Board that ACNP consult a tax attorney on the growth of PMG to ensure that the ACNP tax exempt status will not become endangered with the introduction of Pillar AMS. The PMG Board members consist of David Kupfer, chair, Kerry Ressler, Ken Davis, Neill Epperson, Guy Goodwin, Carol Tamminga, and Ronnie Wilkins. S. Timm advised that an estimated fee for consulting with the tax attorney could be around \$5K. Council approved this request.
9. ***Thank you to Council Members Rotating Off*** – K. Ressler thanked L. Brady, C. Bearden, and E. Leibenluft for all their help with Council over the years.
10. ***Thank you to 2023 President, Kerry Ressler*** – Council thanked K. Ressler for his leadership through a difficult year and applauded him for his thoughtfulness in all discussions.

Information Item:

11. ***Results from Recent Vote on Bylaws*** – Council reviewed the recent results from the vote on the Bylaws. The vote on replacing the membership category term, Fellow, to Chartered

Member did not receive a favorable response from two-thirds of members who voted and was not approved. The vote on combining the Constitution and Rules Committee with the Ethics Committee was approved.

ARTICLE XII: Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution and By-Laws of the College may be proposed by a two-thirds vote of Council or by petition of ten percent of the Fellows without approval of Council. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in a manner approved by Council with response required within sixty days. Approval requires a favorable response from two-thirds of members who vote. The vote shall be null and void if fewer than thirty percent of Fellows and Members participate. Council shall decide whether a subsequent vote, requiring the same criteria for approval, will be distributed by the Secretary.

The meeting concluded at 9:42 PM Eastern Time.