

Minutes of ECNS Board Meeting Sept. 7 2011

Present: Ivan Bodis-Wollner (IBW), Silvana Galderisi (SG), Norman Moore (NM), Nash Boutros (NB), Oliver Pogarell (OP), Kemal Arikian (KA), Nevzat Tarhan (NT), Dean Salisbury (DS), Bernd Saletu (BS), Eric Sellers (ES) was delayed in transit.

Armida Mucci (AM) was not present due to her father passing away.

SG opened meeting at 10:15.

- formation of Executive Council, which helped manage the Society during this difficult year. The negative side is that administrative need to involve the Board more. The whole council did vote on issues, but we need to streamline the process to encourage quicker responses.
- Norman has been very constructive with the process with Sage, particularly with the incorporation issue

Norman – Journal meeting

- Impact factor – continual improvement with current value at 1.325
- Equipment review – not happened yet – technology guidelines for transmission of data
- Clinical cases – Oliver will oversee...
- Publication lag is about 1.5 years
- Silvana mentioned the access to pdfs as a limiting factor, will change with new publisher
- Financial issues – still costly \$52k/year
 - o Membership increase – about +30 this year
 - o Advertising – No pharma, equipment still low, Grass.
 - o Impact factor – increased importance and visibility.
- Sage points
 - o contract runs from 1/2012 through 12/2016
 - o Society appoints Editor & Editorial Board
 - o ECNS determines Editorial policy in consultation with SAGE
 - o ECNS pays Editorial expenses (Catherine, editorial assistant)
 - o 4 issues, 80 pages (\$90 extra pages)
 - o B&W figures free
 - o Color \$800, then \$200 for additional color figures. Online color free. Some discussion of the charges and any possible membership benefits. Current policy is first color figure is free, after that is cost. Board felt that as long as pdf had color, we could accept that. Norman will confirm that online version of journal will have color figures.

- Copy Editor services – clarification of roles, Society and SAGE.
- Online access to journal, including all previous versions
- SAGE costs to Society \$80 print or \$60 online only
- Institutional \$250
- Individual \$188
- Obtain renew subscriptions
- Maintain membership database and collect dues \$2/memberBased on one hundred thirty five (135) non-member institutional (non-consortia) subscribers or fewer than one hundred eighty-nine (189) member subscribers, determined by averaging the number of each subscriber category receiving each issue published during the year. If fewer, penalty \$7k to \$9k annually
- 20 copies of each issue free – to be distributed by ECNS – archives – for Journal Board members
- Free pdf to first author
- Publisher obtains advertising – we have veto power, but will consult with us
- 2 black and white ECNS advertisements per issue (e.g. annual meeting announcements)
- Abstracting and indexing services
- Booth at each meeting
- Will provide us 10% of any revenues of \$100k
- Will provide manuscript software
- Will provide a financial report
- Special issues – related to R13 proposal (unclear status)
- Next ECNS-hosted meeting themes:
 - 2012 Moore/Sellers, Johnson City, Tenn PTSD/TBI/BCI/Music
 - 2014 Mark George, Charleston – Multimodal brain Imaging and TMS (NB suggested broader Brain stimulation)
 - 2016 Theodore Huppert, Pittsburgh, Multimodal Brain Imaging and NIRS
 - Silvana suggested getting themes to businesses too for industry support
 - New Editor Search Committee - Nash B. Chair

Board Meeting

- Motion to approve the minutes from 2010. Motion SG, IBW second, unanimous yea vote

Board Member issues

- 2 year meeting missing – special circumstances of 2 meetings in Europe may have been an issue
- Flor-Henry, excused for illness
- Lukasz – excused for Istanbul meeting

- Antonio Strafella – not active – will see about Johnson City
- Andrea Antal – will remind her about Johnson City
- Question of Silvana Riggio involvement

- DS will solicit ideas for new Board members

Not for profit status

- Silvana explained the situation of our lapse in corporate status. Our incorporation has lapsed due to a lack of paying state dues to remain incorporated and for non-payment of taxes. IRS has accepted taxes but assigned us an EIN as a for profit corporation. We had a special meeting in Atlanta to meet with the accountant Craig Swicegood. Taxes were paid though as far as we can tell. Norman and Silvana have negotiated with SAGE to make the contract provisional to being reincorporated.
- We must specify duties in this regard for Treasurer – yearly incorporation and taxes.
- Proposal to examine having local accountant nearby treasurer
- Nash question – When AMEEGA and APEA – Why not reincorporate anew?
- We need to have an accountant to do our taxes!!!
- Discussion of our electronic records database – good to have but we need to index
- Norman mentioned that the EIN cannot be used until we incorporate
- See additional comments under Secretary’s report immediately below re:incorporation.

DS presented Secretary’s report (to be inserted)

1. Incorporation – process is moving along.
 - a. Strategy – reconcile with each state, then IRS – cheaper than dissolving and reforming
 - b. Eric to take over in Tennessee with local accountant
2. Professional Society management
 - a. FABS – too expensive
 - b. REES group – no return call
3. Vote to increase dues – journal fees to cover postage hikes – approved by membership
4. Vote to move business offices to Tennessee – locale of Treasury – approved by membership
5. Vote to accept SAGE publishing contract – approved by membership
6. Membership recruiting push to meet contractual agreement with SAGE is underway
7. Board rotation – no one due this year
8. Resignations – No one from Board, Emily from membership Committee, Silvana Riggio from Examination Committee

Treasurer's report – Eric

- 2 accounts, a checking account and a merchant's account
- Merchant account gets all the deposits (interest bearing), \$ transferred to checking account to pay bills
- The total expenses need to be reconciled. Need to check the total merchant expenses. Eric caught the error and Norman presented the correct figures to the Board. Report was accepted.
- About \$12k on hand, expecting ~\$13,000 for journal, up to \$5k for incorporation expenses. Thus, we will likely face a deficit.
- We expect to make up the shortfall in next year's budget, pending the signing of the SAGE contract.
- Norman (Treasurer) moves that Eric becomes Treasurer. Seconded by IBW. Unanimous yeas vote.

IBW – Committee report

- Several attempts for 2012 were discussed, Hawaii, then NY, then Australia, but no success
- Nash suggested using Hawaii for a joint meeting with the Australasian Society for Psychophysiology.
- Norman will organize the conference in Tennessee
- Norman inquired with IBW regarding the proposed slate of conference sites (proposed in R13).
- Norman has a potential benefactor to underwrite a special symposium for music, and also the deputy Chair of the University
- Nash suggested Oliver Sachs last book on music and the brain
- Norman also suggested maybe John Gruzelier music and biofeedback
- Bernd also has some research on music and social phobia
- Music symposia met with general enthusiastic response
- Norman suggested maybe having a special talk in Johnson City for a talk on the history of the Society – with Kevin and Catherine (longtime publishers we have replaced)

Relationship with other societies – need a formal agreement with ISNIP re: what is provided at each meeting, space, time, costs for invited speakers, rooms, time slots in the program?

- We have had some problems with organization of ISNIP hosted conference.
- Difficult to get time and space, and venues changed, no fees waived, etc
- Unclear what relationship with ISBET will be
- Action item – DS will correspond with ISNIP regarding communication with the local organizers – keynotes, presidents, invited lecturers, submission process – invited symposia accepted by the ECNS or ISNIP for the other society.

- Norman has also mentioned fees for publication of the abstracts – cost (at least a significant portion) has to be assumed by the local organizers in the fees
- OP has suggested a joint meeting of the 3 presidents at each meeting

2010 Conference – IBW stated on behalf of the Board what an excellent job Kemal & Nevzat did in organizing the meeting in Istanbul.

- Nash wondered how many ECNS meetings there were
- Future meetings were discussed. The 3 proposals for 2012, 14 and 16 are in place. ISNIP will need to handle 2013 (possible place Geneva, Prague), 2015, and 2017
- Nash suggests something on website for hosting conference

R13 – we need to find someone to write the proposal, we need to find out with Nash and DS will see if it is even feasible

Publication and website Committee Oliver Pogarell

- Armida, John Richards, Kemal, Oliver, Andrei,
- Screened website, which is in good shape in general
- Odd postings of services were clarified or removed
- Job postings
- Fee for postings –\$50 for job openings (free for members), \$100 for others (advertisement of services for all) – 6 months time limit. Mentioned by DS, seconded by SG, unanimous yeas vote.
- OP will make executive decisions with Committee regarding content
- OP suggested we need to get a better description of the roles of the website committee, as it has changed from screening to more active role
- NB proposed a new member for Committee, will forward to OP
- DS raised the need for ECNS website to incorporate SAGE links once the contract is signed so that membership, submission etc is there
- Remove email link for newsletter, just send to it – it is on website
- We may want to remove the instructions for membership, and just put in a big button for membership – the instructions are misleading

Membership Committee – Nash B.

- Nash will follow up with Emily as a member of the Committee
- We have 214 current paid members (some are administrative)
- Nash focused on the 216 in our database that have not renewed. Proposed that we target them to rejoin.
- Membership by invitation – about 80 invites/17 paid memberships (reduced rate).
- Last year we agreed to have a booth for ECNS, Nash suggested booth at APA this year in Philadelphia.

- Issue of targeting different disciplines (e.g., neurology) was raised. Nash has suggested that when we see posters of interest, we should recruit those authors in behavioral neurology.
- DS mentioned the low number of junior members – proposed to remind members to add postdocs and graduate students.
- Oliver asked what was the number of special persons that get the journal but do not pay for journal. Nash was not sure, will check with Norman/journal.

PharmacologyEEG – Bernd S (Lukasz letter)

- LK report read
- Bernd stated that Pharmacology-EEG is a bit down, because 4 large pharma companies have moved from psychiatry to oncology, and no new compounds.
- SG brought up the new antipsychotics by smaller companies. So, she expects a few down years but then a resurgence.
- Nash stated we need to translate the findings into clinical recommendations for treatment. Development of a recommendation, perhaps through World Federation.
- SG suggested a good opportunity would be a position paper/focused review concerning outcome indices for clinical trials.
- Norman suggested we have a yearly focus paper on research. Diagnosis, genetics, treatment outcomes.
- SG conclusion is that if drug does not change EEG it has no clinical effects. So Nash suggests that has clinical relevance.

EEG Examination\Certification work group

- Nash has attached a detailed report
- Extremely delicate situation
- American Board of Medical Specialties discussions –
- Nash has developed a plan for development of certification in Clinical Psychiatric Electrophysiology. This entails the formation of 2 subcommittees, one on EEG and one on QEEG.
- MD certification only. A separate process would need to be developed for certification of PhDs.
- Open to neurology and psychiatry.
- Question of what initial 2 subcommittees would develop,
- IBW suggest separate certifications for each subcommittee
- Action item is to form the first 2 subcommittees. Nash will Chair the committee, and recruit the first 2 members of each subcommittee.
- Decision was made to table vote right now to allow further discussion of proposal.
- Meeting was reconvened to further discuss the issue.
- A proposal was made for ECNS to immediately sanction BCIA qEEG biofeedback certification for PhDs. After lengthy discussion, the Board decided not to accept this proposal.

- Alternatively, SG suggested that we develop the test to certify MDs first, have it accepted by ABPN, then develop a separate test for PhDs.
- NM discussed the issue of not serving the needs of the PhD members of the Society.
- OP suggested simply focusing on a world wide PhD certification.
- DS suggested that we then for 2 separate and independent Committees, one headed by Nash for MD certification and acceptance as a Psychiatry subspecialty by ABPN, one headed by TDB for PhD certification. This was unanimously accepted.
- Leslie P, Lukasz K, and David C will be approached to form the PhD committee

Award Committee

- Nezvati will support Awards through his University in Istanbul. Excellence in Translational research for 3 young scientists, and Roy John Award
- Nash will forward list of Awards of the Society to Nezvati & Kemal.
- Kemal has been handling Roy John Award.
- Kemal will develop a Committee description

Miscellaneous

- Norman proposes the formation of a research committee, which will be on the slate for next year