

EEG and Clinical Neuroscience Council Meeting, September 2009.

Date of the meeting: September 9, 2009
Location: Atlanta, USA
Present: Ivan Bodis-Wollner (President [IBW])
Silvana Galderisi (President Elect, Secretary [SG]),
David Cantor (Treasurer, Past President [DC])
Norman Moore (Chief Editor of the ECNS Journal [NM])
Pierre Flor-Henry (Councilor at large [PFH])
Oliver Pogarell (Councilor at large [OP])
Bernd Saletu (Councilor at large [BS])
Emily Stevens (Councilor at large [ES])
Dean Salisbury (Councilor at large [DS])
Antonio Strafella (Councilor at large [AS])
Andrei Vedeniopen (Councilor at large [AV])
Nash Boutros (Observer [NB])
Leslie Pritchep (Observer [LP])
Kemal Arikan (Observer [KA])
Lukasz Konopka (Observer [LK])
Allan Krumholz (Observer [AK])
Armida Mucci (Observer [AM])
Joyce Small (Observer [JS])
Antony Craig Swicegood (CPA [ACS])
Thomas Dierks (Observer [TD])

Meeting Agenda

Old business

1. **Welcome** (IBW)
2. **Treasurer report.** DC introduces Mr Swicegood, the new ECNS CPA. He illustrates his report, in which the first part covers the first fiscal year started on March 1, 2005 and ended February 28, 2006; the second fiscal year ended on February 28, 2007, the third ended on February 28, 2008, the fourth on February 28, 2009, and the last part covering March 1- July 31 2009. IBW notices that the main inflow from 2007 to 2009 came from the NIH grant, while up to 31/7/2009 it reflects the payment of the membership fees. ACS specifies that, but he could not get bank statements from BestBank on the three accounts for the appropriate months to show the money leaving one account as a transfer and being deposited into the operating account. However, he was able to manage that funds were transferred back to the operating account when they were needed. . A big increase in cash outflow in 2009 is due to expenses for CPA; in particular, 8000 \$ for financial reviews up to February 2008; 175 per month since March 2008. ACS also warns councilors that so far no Journal bookkeeping was provided, which is an issue to be addressed as soon as possible, as the journal is an ECNS activity. He also underscores that journal's publication expenses are increased from 23.000 \$ in 2006 to 47.000-46.0000 \$ in 2008/9. A discussion on the possibilities to cut journal expenses follows and investigating alternatives is deemed necessary. A Treasurer's report as of July 31, 2009 was made available to councilors and approved. DC then announces that he does not wish to run again for another 2 year term as Treasurer. A debate follows and the Council asks him to extend his mandate in order to fully accomplish the main tasks .
3. **Secretary report:** Approval of the minutes from the 2008 council meeting. SG then informs the Council that for OP and DS the first 3 year term expired, therefore a renewal has to be decided upon; the

Council is all in favour; however, since a new Secretary has to be appointed, the President proposes DS and the nomination is accepted by the whole Council. SG then reports that Ronald Herning resigned from the position of Councillor at large, therefore this position is vacant, together with a position vacant since last year, and one left open by DS. IBW proposes Armida Mucci from Italy and Lucasz Konopka and Silvana Riggio from USA; the proposal is accepted by the whole Council and will be presented to the General Assembly.

4. **ECNS Journal Report:** NM reports that the IF of the journal is 1.15. He underscores the need for Journal board members to be more active and comply with the following rules: the mandate as journal board member should last three years and then be renewed provided that at least one editorial board meeting was attended; three papers were reviewed during the mandate and one paper published. Furthermore, Editorial board members should recommend new members for the board, after approaching them by email to verify their willingness to serve on the journal board. NM then reports that the issue of the pdf availability is still to be clarified. As to forthcoming special issues, the Editor lists a special issue on Laterality edited by PFH and one on Parkinson's Disease coordinated by IBW, one on Sleep coordinated by Roseanne Armitage/Hoffmann. Two special issues dealing with Electrophysiology teaching in Psychiatry are also planned: one will include contributions from Chairs of US Departments, and the other one from non US Departments. NM also informs the Council that he obtained the permission to submit a grant application to NIH to support future ECNS meetings. The grant will cover US meetings only, every two years, on the following topics: Multimodal Imaging and Electrophysiology; Multimodal Imaging and Genetics; Multimodal Imaging and TMS; Multimodal Imaging and Infrared Spectroscopy. The maximum coverage will be \$ 50000 per year for 3 years. NM then highlights the need to move to electronic submission and review process.
5. **Review of the Frankfurt meeting (TD).** 200 participants are reported and a financial loss of about 3000 Euros seems to be the final budget.

New Business

1. **The 2010 Istanbul meeting. Kemal Arikan** illustrates the forthcoming conference in Istanbul. He asks for the extended member list, not only the paying members, to send them an invitation for the conference. ES will provide him with a list of more than 700 members. Arikan also proposes to have a certification board set up in Istanbul. He informs the present that a special award for Roy John will be issued in Istanbul and asks some help from Leslie to post that information on the website. Leslie accepts to help on that.
2. **Future meetings proposals. Thomas Dierks** informs the board that there is a proposal to organize the 2011 conference in Heidelberg, where a prestigious University venue will be available, and there will be almost no expenses for the conference center and technical support. The board unanimously approves. NM informs the board that the conferences for 2012, 2014 and 2016 will probably be held in US for the NIH grant requirements. For the 2012 meeting NM proposes Tennessee.
3. **Committee reports:**
 - **Program Committee:** Gerry Bruder wrote to SG that he is willing to resign from Chair of the Committee. IBW proposes to rename the Committee into Conference Planning Committee. The following members are proposed and approved by the Council: IBW as committee Chair, NM, OP, NB and AS as committee members. The following changes will be made in the bylaws will be proposed to the General Assembly: **ARTICLE VII Section 6. Standing Committees.** C) Program. This committee will be responsible for the planning and execution of the annual meetings. **Proposal for change: Conference Planning. This committee will be responsible for the planning of the annual meetings.**

- **Membership Committee:** ES reports that at the moment ECNS has 339 members, 150 paying, full members 131, jr 13, Associate 3, retired 1. A database has been created containing all members information (on the ECNS website, accessed by using a password). Payment on line has been successfully implemented. Several ideas on possibilities to increase memberships are then proposed, including advertisements in other organizations' newsletters (e.g. APA and American Neurology Association), a quarterly electronic newsletter for members, a campaign to collect overdues, and develop contact databases. An expanded recommended readings page should be included in the website for members; links to relevant articles and studies supporting our field should also be provided. The report is accepted.
- **Pharmaco-EEG Committee report:** LK apologizes for being inactive and states that he is willing to start again to work for the committee. BS says that industries are now more interested in pharmaco-EEG studies and attempts to involve them more actively are worth to be pursued. IBW invites LK, BS and DC to come up with proposals for symposia and other initiatives for the forthcoming meeting. The report is accepted.
- **Publication and Web Committee report:** SG reports that AV produced an excellent electronic newsletter for the first part of the year, but a second one did not follow. The website improved, but help is needed to maintain a more regular check and update. KA and TD offered to help. AV is willing to continue with the newsletter.
- **Examination Work Group:** DS reports on the progress of the work group. A consensus has been reached on the creation of a certification board independent from ABEN. IBW suggests that an appealing certificate has to be planned, whose content is of interest for neurologists, psychiatrists, and other professionals, such as those involved in optometry and neurorehabilitation. Recognition from other societies is deemed important; LK proposes to contact the neurofeedback society (ISNR). The Council votes on the proposal of modifying the bylaws in order to abolish the seat of the ABEN President from the ECNS board. The bylaws will be updated as follows, given the General Assembly approval: ARTICLE IV Council Section 1. Composition ". All members of the Council shall be referred to as "Councilors". Chief Editor of Clinical EEG and Chairman of the Board of the American Board of EEG and Neurophysiology (ABEN) shall have *a seat* on the Council if *he/she was* not elected member of the Council. In this case *he/she* will have no voting rights. The underlined sentence should be eliminated and italics will change into singular. ARTICLE VII Section 6. Standing Committees. Ph.D. Certification will be replaced by the Exam working group
The proposal is unanimously approved. The members of the Work Group are DS, OP, LP, ES, SG, NB and LK.

4. **General discussion and Miscellaneous.** NM invites all councillors to discuss the possibility of creating a Federation of Clinical Neuroscience involving ECNS, ISBET, ISNIP and IPEG, with the advantage of sharing memberships and some administrative work in planning the meetings, but no merging would be implicated.

Overview Action Items

Action Number	Responsible Person(s)	Action to be taken
[01]	Galderisi	To write to Peter Bernad to let him know that the collaboration between ECNS and ABEN is terminated. To update the ECNS bylaws accordingly (the seat of the ABEN President in the ECNS Council is cancelled). To update Article IV and VII of the bylaws. To prepare the Council minutes.
[02]	Cantor	To send a last update on accounting.
[03]	Salisbury	To continue coordinating the working group on certification process in order to prepare the QEEG exam for Istanbul. To start his activity as Secretary.
[04]	Vedeniapien	To prepare the two 2009/2010 newsletters
[05]	Moore	To communicate to all members the rules for journal editorial board members