

CNSORG.ORG Board Meeting Minutes

17:20 p.m., July 20, 2008, Portland, OR

1) Attendance

Ranu Jung (Arizona State U., USA), President
Dieter Jaeger (Emory U., USA), Vice-President
Bill Holmes (Ohio State U., USA), Program Chair
Frances Skinner (Toronto W. Res. Inst., Canada), Treasurer
Patrick Roberts (Portland, USA), Local Host
Frances Chance (UC Irvine, USA)
Jean-Marc Fellous (U. of Arizona, USA)
Tim Lewis (UC Davis, USA)
Klaus Obermayer, (TU Berlin, Germany), incoming Vice-President Europe
Steven Schiff (Penn State U., USA)
Todd Troyer (UT San Antonio, USA)

Dennis Glanzman, NIMH
Yuan Liu, NINDS

Absent

James Bednar (U. Edinburgh, UK)
Sophie Deneve, (ENS, France)
Alain Destexhe (CNRS, France), outgoing Vice-President Europe
Christiane Linster (Cornell U, USA), Grants-chair
David Redish (U. Minnesota, USA)
Ingo Bojak (Swinburne U., Australia)
Leslie Kay (U. Chicago, USA)
Susan Wearne (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, USA)
Christina Weaver (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, USA)
Emilio Salinas (Wake Forest U, USA)

Agenda items: (see attached agenda)

Status Report (Ranu). We have non-profit status and can accept donations. As CNS.ORG is incorporated in California, we need a local representative there. Frances Chance was voted on to be that representative.

Financial Report (Frances Skinner). (see attached handout)

Reiterated that either treasurer or president must be resident in US
A US bank account is required.

Funding Prospects (Yuan and Dennis)

Grant funding could become available upon application:

NINDS: 1 year max 10K

NIMH: 5 years max, usually only given once

Web Page (Ranu)

New web site is almost complete, but not going active during meeting.

Managed by academicwebpages.com, with a 24h update cycle

Call for Proposals (Ranu)

The current template is a big advance over previous year. Could use a bit more detail on financing.

Sponsorship (Jean-Marc)

Obtained \$5900 in sponsorship this year, have 30 organizations in database.

12:00 – 2:00 p.m., July 21, 2008, Portland, OR

1) Attendance

Ranu Jung (Arizona State U., USA), President
Dieter Jaeger (Emory U., USA), Vice-President
Bill Holmes (Ohio State U., USA), Program Chair
Frances Skinner (Toronto W. Res. Inst., Canada), Treasurer
Patrick Roberts (Portland, USA), Local Host
Frances Chance (UC Irvine, USA)
Jean-Marc Fellous (U. of Arizona, USA)
Tim Lewis (UC Davis, USA)
Klaus Obermmayer, (TU Berlin, Germany) incoming Vice President Europe
Steven Schiff (Penn State U., USA)
Todd Troyer (UT San Antonio, USA)
Avrama Blackwell (George Mason Univ., USA, new board member)

Dennis Glanzman, NIMH
Yuan Liu, NINDS

Absent

James Bednar (U. Edinburgh, UK)
Sophie Deneve, (ENS, France)

Alain Destexhe (CNRS, France), Outgoing Vice-President Europe
Christiane Linster (Cornell U, USA), Grants-chair
David Redish (U. Minnesota, USA)
Ingo Bojak (Swinburne U., Australia)
Leslie Kay (U. Chicago, USA)
Susan Wearne (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, USA)
Christina Weaver (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, USA)
Emilio Salinas (Wake Forest U, USA)

Travel Awards

31 students were funded out of 42 applicants for Portland meeting, 21 US (300 USD), 10 from abroad (600 USD)

Could look for IBRO funds for future travel awards for applicants from developing countries
This requires acceptance of presentations from these applicants by March
Tim Lewis agreed to remain point person for travel award funding.

Steven Schiff remarked that special tutorials for students from developing countries could be organized

BMC publication

Bill Holmes: Bugs are pretty much worked out, system works well. Could use sponsorship for publications. Cost of BMC 2007/08 was \$8500. Quote for 09: \$8924 for 200 abstracts, \$14,000 for 350 abstracts.

We could do a better job in advertizing citable open-access abstracts in call for meeting submissions.

Report from local organizer (Patrick Roberts)

Generally things are going smooth. Student housing turned out to be a big workload (managing front desk jobs like keys etc). Not recommended for future meetings.

Travel grant checks (cut from the University) were also a headache.

Guidelines should clarify expenses for invited speakers in future. Some discussion ensued on this topic. Maybe should have a per diem standard? Need max for airline fare. Need to confirm speakers early. Need to put in some specs in instructions for local organizer. It was suggested (and agreed) that travel costs for invited speakers should be cheapest fare plus 30%.

PR for future meetings and cnsorg.org

Maybe dissemination of meeting announcement could be enhanced to get more submissions. (Attendance at Portland ~214 – pretty low). Post at Universities, listservs, Make .pdf postcard as e-mail attachment. Also hit previous attendees. Make use of Bernstein Center mailing lists.

Steven Schiff volunteered to make a cnsorg.org Wikipedia entry.

First announcement of 2009 meeting should be September 2008

Maybe create poster for Berlin and send a packet to each country for local dissemination / mailing.

Need a logo.

Google Apps (Ranu)

For better information sharing within cnsorg.org a file management system could be started, e.g. google docs. Frances Chance and Ranu will look further into this.

Books (Ranu)

Maybe a link to cnsorg.org could be put on a computational neuroscience book series (e.g. Springer). Books could come from workshops. Possible sponsorship by e.g. Springer.

Meeting Structure

Maybe a tutorial day could precede main meeting [good for IBRO funding request etc] with reception at end of day.

Berlin (Udo)

Most contracts are signed. Minister will provide welcoming remarks!

Workshops will be close to main meeting, with 8 rooms available.

New Board Members (Ranu)

Avrama Blackwell (George Mason University, USA) voted in.

As the meeting ran out of time, it was agreed to proceed voting by e-mail on a list of other nominees. Nominees will not be contacted beforehand and will therefore not necessarily agree to serve.