

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Society for Glycobiology

Seattle, WA
Nov. 11, 2011

In attendance were Board Members and Officers: Robert Haltiwanger, Anne Dell, Hud Freeze, Chris West, Michael Pierce, Kelley Moremen, Kelly Ten Hagen, Michael Tiemeyer, Don Jarvis, Vlad Panin, Tom Gerken, Robert Yu and Ian Wilson (non-voting representative from IGO).

1. **Meeting was called to order** by President Anne Dell at 12:30 pm and signed conflict of interest forms were collected from all Board members.
2. **The minutes of the previous Board Meeting** (2011, Seattle, WA) were approved.
 - a. **President's Report:** Thanks and Announcements:

Everyone was welcomed and the Past President Bob Haltiwanger was thanked for organizing the successful Society meeting in St. Pete Beach, FL. He steps off the board as past-president for 2011. As a part of New Business there was an extended presentation and discussion by FASEB officers (via teleconference) regarding the benefits of Society membership in FASEB (Joe LaManna, President of FASEB; Parker Antin, Chair of FASEB Membership Committee; Howard Garrison, FASEB Deputy Executive Director for Policy; and Guy Fogelman, FASEB Executive Director). Numerous benefits were discussed including scientific advocacy in Washington, discount to FASEB journals, and numerous other benefits for things such as minority support. FASEB asks Society to commit to at least 3 years of membership. The costs for membership in FASEB will be stepped up over the course of 3 years (1/3 of the standard FASEB membership cost for the first year, 2/3 membership cost for the 2nd year, and full cost in the 3rd year). Membership of the Society within FASEB would include a membership to the FASEB Board of Directors. The discussion emphasized the many beneficial advocacy efforts that are being pursued.
3. **Secretary's Report:**
 - a. Minutes of Board Meeting from 2010 and the Secretary's report were distributed and election results were summarized: Chris West was elected as President-Elect, Steve Rosen was elected to the Nominating Committee, new members of the Publications Committee were Richard Cummings, Michael Tiemeyer, and Jacques Baenziger. Michael Pierce was re-elected Treasurer. For 2011 the Awards Committee was comprised of Hud Freeze, Bob Haltiwanger, Rick Cummings, Jim Paulson, and Steve Rosen. For 2012 the Awards Committee will be Chris West, Anne Dell, Jim Paulson, Steve Rosen and Armando Parodi. The 2011 Nominations Committee was comprised of Bob Haltiwanger, Tamara Doering, Nancy Dahms and Jamey Marth. The 2012 Nominations committee will be comprised of Anne Dell, Nancy Dahms, Steve Rosen, and one appointee by the board (to replace Tamara Doering). The Board discussed the appointment of the ad hoc member of the 2012 Nominations Committee and after discussion they voted unanimously to select Jerry Hart as the appointee from the Board with Jacques Baenziger as a backup. The Program Committee for the 2011 meeting was established by the President in consultation with the Past-President, and the President-Elect. The Publication Committee has three members of the committee elected by the membership and Richard Cummings, Michael Tiemeyer, and Jacques Baenziger were elected for a 5 year term (2012-17). Armando Parodi was chosen by the Awards Committee to receive the Karl Meyer Award. Sen-itiroh and Y.C. Lee were chosen for the Rosalind Kornfeld Award for Lifetime Achievement in Glycobiology. Travel awards (varying from \$250-\$500) were given to 63 students/postdocs to attend the meeting at a total cost of \$24,500. Based on criteria from prior years, travel awards were funded at \$500 per lab. If two applications were received from the same lab, then the award was split evenly (\$250 each). If the applicant was not a member of the Society, the award was reduced by 25%, and if the mentor was

not a member the award was reduced by 25%. Discussion of the membership status of the travel award applications indicated that the process should be automated with the development of the new website so that there would not be an issue of applications coming from non-members. Questions were raised regarding whether we should provide fewer more highly judged travel awards. The conclusion was that the benefits of the travel awards were largely to support as many young scientists as possible with as little burden to the Awards Committee. It was also mentioned that many of the travel awards do not have a sustainable effect on maintaining membership in the Society. Concern was also expressed that the cost of the travel awards to the Society were considerable and with the increasing cost of FASEB membership in the coming years it might be necessary to revisit the number of travel awards and how they are judged. A comparison with the highly restricted travel award policy of the ASMB was discussed, especially in regard to the joint meeting for 2012. Membership rolls for 2011 in the Society were 393 (memberships accepted between Sept 1, 2009 – Aug 31, 2010). This was a disappointing decrease of ~50 members from 2010 and 2009. The question was whether this reflects fewer email reminders for membership in 2011 and if membership would rise again once FASEB would provide a more frequent prodding for renewals of memberships. A discussion continued regarding the benefits of Society membership (discounted Journal subscription, discounted registration fee for the meeting, and Society webpage). There was a discussion of additional features that should be incorporated into the website to provide extra value to members. A unanimous vote was taken to accept the Secretary's report.

4. **Treasurer's Report:**

- a. Mike Pierce presented a summary of the Treasurer's report of the Society accounts. He discussed the fact that at the end of 2011 the Society will close out the financial books with Scientific Association Management and transfer all funds into the Treasury in accordance with the switch over to FASEB Meeting Management Services. The hope is to save money on the new website and other costs and the Treasurer should have a better day-to-day accounting of the finances of the Society. There will be extra set-up costs for the website (\$20,000), but a reduction in ongoing cost for maintenance of the website (\$5,000). The Treasury balance entering 2011 was \$157,233 and final total balance at the end of 2011 was \$140,927 as a consequence of the upfront costs for the website (\$20,000) and upfront costs for the joint 2012 Society meeting (\$15,000). There should be some cost savings from the joint meeting with ASBM in 2012. Securities held by the Society rose slightly (\$117,045 to \$123,687) following a switch of all of the assets from Merrill Lynch to Cambridge Investments. The Treasurer was pleased with the more personalized treatment from the new investment company. Dr. Pierce stated that once the SAM account is closed there would likely be an additional \$20,000 in assets coming into the Treasury. With the new FASEB management of the Society, the membership fees will now go through a PayPal account directly into the Society Treasury. Receipts for 2011 included memberships (~\$49,235), royalties from Oxford (\$37,855), and other sources of funds totaling \$87,090 in revenues. Expenditures totaled \$129,868 with the largest components being Oxford subscriptions (\$32,918) and travel awards (\$24,050). A discussion followed regarding the potential impact of higher meeting management costs for FASEB on the ability to provide travel awards in the future. It was mentioned that FASEB is likely to provide additional fundraising for the meeting beyond what had been accomplished in the past and this could offset the additional management costs to the Society. There will be an NIH R13 application submitted and other fundraising efforts associated with the 2012 joint meeting with ASMB. An additional option was discussed for a poster award separate from the travel awards. A summary of the historical costs and income for the prior Society meetings was discussed. Historically, the meeting resulted in a net gain of \$10,000 to the Society Treasury. A unanimous vote was taken to accept the Treasurer's report.

5. **Editor's Report:**

- a. Manuscript submissions to Glycobiology (totaling ~250) is down from a high of ~275 last year after having increased over the last several years. There was a greater decrease from Europe that

correlates with a slight decrease in Impact Factor. Time to first decision was 27 days (down from 29 in 2010). Overall final decisions were approximately half accepted and half rejected (or revision window expired), figures that were similar to 2010. Circulation is up, at ~4,500 institutions worldwide, an increase from 4200 in 2010. The Impact Factor is 3.79 (down from 3.93 in 2010). Average time from acceptance to web access is 7 days. It is unlikely that this figure can improve. There was a concern that it takes up to 4 months between manuscript acceptance and hard copy publication. These were considered positive reflections of the journal. Several ideas were discussed to increase submissions including focused issues, email to specific communities, a journal presence at relevant meetings, and an increase in reviews for each issue. Mark Lehrman stepped down as Associate Editor responsible for reviews and he was replaced by Linda Baum. A unanimous vote was taken to accept the Editor's report.

6. **Old Business:**

- a. There was an announcement and reminder that NIGMS, as a part of their 50th Anniversary Celebration, has paid for the recording of the Karl Meyer Award Lecture.

7. **New Business:**

- a. Membership in FASEB was discussed and it will be brought before the general Society Business Meeting for a discussion and vote.
- b. There was an additional discussion regarding the number and amount of travel awards going forward.
- c. There was a discussion of the guest session of by Society at the IGO meeting in Vienna, Austria.
- d. There was an additional discussion of contributing speakers and monetary support for a guest session at the Annual Association of Immunology meeting. The decision for that session would be made in 2012 for an AAI meeting in 2013.
- e. Ian Wilson gave a presentation and discussion regarding the reciprocal guest sessions between IGO and the Society. Ian emphasized the importance of communication, cooperation and coordination. A question was raised as to whether it would be an appropriate time in 2019 for a joint meeting with IGO and the Society. There was an extended discussion of the historical issues related to having a joint meeting with IGO. Ian mentioned that there should be a continuation of a "mutual observer" status of Presidents of each Society attending the Board meeting of the complementary Society (e.g. Chris West attending the 2013 IGO meeting (Glyco 22) in Dalian, China). Euro Glycoscience Forum, Eurocarb, and the International Carbohydrate Organization, Warren Workshop all have an interest in having ongoing communication with the Society for a scheduling of meetings. Anne Dell mentioned that there should be an effort to extend the Society to a more international membership. She proposed a name change for the Society to the "Society for Global Glycobiology". There was also a discussion regarding an update of the Society logo to reflect a more global appeal. The discussion was tabled for further discussion at a later date.
- f. Mike Pierce discussed the topic of potential bequests to the Society. The Society is a 501c6 corporation, and not a 501c3 corporation, and as a result does not qualify for tax exempt contributions. Conversion to a 501c3 corporation would not be possible if the Society has a dues-paying membership. Contributions to the Society would not be tax exempt and the only way to receive tax exempt contributions would be to create a separate parallel foundation with separate Board control that does not have a dues paying membership. The legal costs for creating such a separate corporation would be ~\$10,000, plus \$500-1000 costs per year. There was a discussion regarding the financial feasibility of creating such a separate foundation and whether the donations would be sufficient to justify the effort. The recommendation was to table the topic until there is a likelihood for sufficient contributions that would justify the expense.
- g. Anne Dell discussed that there would be a recognition ceremony for Brent Watson of Scientific Association Management and the cost for a gift would be paid from the Treasury.

8. **President-Elect's Report:**

- a. The President-elect, Hud Freeze, announced that the 2012 meeting will be held in San Diego (Sheraton Marina) on Nov 11-14, 2012 as a joint meeting with the American Society for Matrix Biology. The program for the meeting will be assembled in early 2012. There was a decision to make a combination of plenary sessions in the mornings that are of common interest to both Societies and four concurrent sessions in the afternoon that have more specialized focus. Posters will be at lunch. FASEB is making an extra effort in fundraising for the 2012 Joint Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Kelley Moremen, Secretary
Society for Glycobiology