

## CNSORG.ORG Board Meeting Minutes

4 p.m., July 8, 2007, Toronto, 89 Chestnut

### 1) Attendance

Ranu Jung (Arizona State U.), President  
Dieter Jaeger (Emory U.), Vice-President  
Alain Destehxe (CNRS), Vice-President  
Linda Larson-Prior (Wash U.), Treasurer  
Bill Holmes (Ohio State U.), Program Chair  
Frances Skinner (Toronto W. Res. Inst.), Local Organizer  
James Bednar (U. Edinburgh)  
Udo Ernst (U. Bremen)  
Jean-Marc Fellous (U. of Arizona)  
Mark Goldman (MIT)  
Tim Lewis (UC Davis)  
Patrick Roberts (Oregon State U.)  
Steven Schiff (Penn State U.)  
Todd Troyer (U. Maryland)  
Susan Wearne (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine)  
Christina Weaver (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine)

Dennis Glanzman, NIMH  
Kenneth Whang, NSF

### Absent

Christiane Linster (Cornell U), Grants-chair  
Erik DeSchutter (U. Antwerp)  
David Redish (U. Minnesota)  
Ingo Bojak (Swinburne U.)  
Leslie Kay (U. Chicago)

Agenda items: (see attached agenda)

### 2) Ranu Jung / Frances Skinner:

The 2007 meeting has 301 registrants, 68% also registered for workshops, 8 registrants for workshops only. There were 42 requests for the Neuron short course. 71 t-shirt orders.

### 3) Ranu Jung:

aii) Better Visa support will be needed for 2008 meeting. At least 3 month lead time, visa info on web site, letters of support to registrants in need of visa, suggestion: Best to check nationality and need for visa at registration time. Best to write acceptance letter to all such identified registrants. Visa requirements should be clearly identified on cnsorg website and link to state department info provided. One board member should be in charge of this process.

#### b) Marc Fellous (Sponsorship chair)

Should have letter with sponsorship info on website.

any board member can solicit sponsors

Levels: \$500 for logo on website

\$1200 for logo in program book

\$2000 for booth at conference

15% discount for long term commitment

Donations are tax-deductable due to our non-profit status

Alain: One could offer sponsorship of special lectures

Steve: Hardware vendors could be contacted, e.g. Apple, IBM

### 4) Program Committee, Bill Holmes:

Poster only submissions were reviewed only by program committee. However, later realized that more thorough review was needed for presenters seeking travel awards. Of 50 applications for travel awards, 44 were granted. Process merit-based, not need-based. [brief discussion on merit of need based process: It would be hard to review need-based arguments]. Money disbursed: \$300 for North American applicants, \$600 for intercontinental travel. Only student travel is supported, not postdoc or faculty.

[Brief discussion on soliciting statement of other support: Not likely to be of much use].

Todd: Keep track of awards to avoid repetition to same students.

Bill: Main headache in procedure was the need to edit abstracts not conforming to BMC Neuroscience format. Need template for authors.

Dieter: Kick back abstracts to authors for compliance.

Bill. New PC members: 4 people rotating off, 5 candidates available from self-nominations. Need confirmation.

### 5) International Relations. Ranu Jung

INCF [Intl. neuroinformatics coordinating facility <http://incf.org/>]

Could potentially sponsor workshop at CNS meeting, e.g. pay travel support  
IBRO. Could sponsor 3<sup>rd</sup> world travel awards.

HFSP? maybe booth at meeting

Need active board member to enhance contacts.

Workshops should be coordinated by board member. Clearer instructions on web  
necessary. Dieter volunteers to be workshop coordinator.

6) Treasurer report. Linda Larson-Prior

cnsorg is registered in California. Local contact person is Frances Chance.

cnsorg uses tax accountant for annual tax declaration

cnsorg has checking account at B of A. This is advantageous for international  
transactions.

the wire transfer option for registration occurs \$10 transaction fee.

Carryover balance: \$63,000.

Fixed cost per year: Around \$10,000

Conference cost relatively stable.

One of treasurer or president has to be from US for bank access reasons. [currently  
treasurer and president have access to account]

Ranu: Need common file space for cnsorg to have access to forms, reports, etc.

Linda: Where are meeting minutes maintained [required to be available]

NIH grant of \$40,000 / year is terminating.

Flexible costs: Banquet: 15-30k / year; travel awards

Expecting about 20k shortfall / year w/o attracting further funding sources

approx. 5:40 p.m. Meeting adjourned

**12 noon, July 9, 2007, Toronto, 89 Chestnut**

Attendance

Ranu Jung (Arizona State U.), President

Dieter Jaeger (Emory U.), Vice-President

Alain Destehxe (CNRS), Vice-President

Linda Larson-Prior (Wash U.), Treasurer

Bill Holmes (Ohio State U.), Program Chair

Frances Skinner (Toronto W. Res. Inst.), Local Organizer James Bednar (U. Edinburgh)

Udo Ernst (U. Bremen)  
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Tim Lewis (UC Davis)  
Patrick Roberts (Oregon State U.)  
Steven Schiff (Penn State U.)  
Todd Troyer (U. Maryland)  
Susan Wearne (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine)  
Christina Weaver (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine)

Dennis Glanzman, NIMH  
Kenneth Whang, NSF

Absent

Christiane Linster (Cornell U), Grants-chair  
Erik DeSchutter (U. Antwerp)  
David Redish (U. Minnesota)  
Ingo Bojak (Swinburne U.) (?)  
Leslie Kay (U. Chicago)

12:10 p.m. Meeting opened.

8) Template for “call for proposals”. Ranu Jung:

Need board comments to template (for meeting site proposals) ASAP. Submit to Susan.

Aiming for proposal deadline Nov. 31<sup>st</sup>, meeting site selection Feb. 1.

Todd: How about moving to 2 year advance

Various: Hard to predict costs 2 years ahead of time. Hard to ensure stability of proposal.

9) Replacement of board members:

up to 5 year term of initial board membership

3 year term of board members joining later

potentially rotating off now:

Phil Ulinski

Todd Troyer

Christiane Linster

Alain Destexhe

Udo Ernst

Mark Goldman

Erik De Schutter

Actually rotating Off:

Udo Ernst  
Mark Goldman  
Phil Ulinski  
Erik De Schutter

Suggestions for New Board Members solicited and vote on suggestions performed by each board member checking 3 names on list:

Candidates (votes received):

Emilio Salinas 8  
Klaus Obermayer 7  
Frances Chance 6  
Victoria Booth 6  
Sophie DeNeuve 6 [added late to list, some board members could not vote on her]  
Nicolas Brunel 5  
Upi Bhalla 4  
Tony Burkitt 2  
Andre Longtin 2  
Raj Rao 2  
Thomas Wennecke 1  
Steyn-Ross 1  
Simon Thorpe 1  
Erik Fransen 0

Note added: Emilio Salinas and Frances Chance have agreed to serve on the board. Klaus Obermayer will be contacted by Alain Destexhe, who has agreed to stay on for another year.

Note added: New program committee members who have agreed to serve are: Victory Booth, Jeanette Helgren-Kotaneski, Volker Steuber, Harel Shouval,

CNS 2008 report: Patrick Roberts

Cost saving on rooms if meal expenses exceed \$37k  
Hotel room rate \$149, student dorm rooms \$50

Discussion: Hotel room rate should be brought down

Grant Proposals

Kenneth Whang: About NSF proposal

-no banquet expenses, alcohol

-should focus on something new and different, i.e. not 10 year continuation of established meeting

- should support participation of women and minorities
- support for 1-3 years can be requested
- travel support only for US students
- speaker cost can be requested

Ranu Jung: Will write NSF proposal

Dennis Glanzman: About NIH proposals

- NIMH not likely to continue support
- might target NINDS
- small grants for special sessions or workshops (5-7k) can be applied for informally
- request should indicate how institute mission is supported

Phil Ulinski: Willing to help someone with writing application [author of application t.b.a.]

CNSORG Mission statement and logo: Ranu Jung

such statement and logo should be created  
 cnsorg should consider broadening its mission  
 e.g. more web content  
 cnsorg should have clear identity

Web Hosting: Ranu Jung

Should consider academic web pages: <http://www.academicwebpages.com/> for new web design and web update support  
 this is different from web hosting, which is still contracted elsewhere

Suggestion: should look into shared file space on web site  
 Could set up a forum with password protection

Role for each Board Member: Ranu Jung

each board member should assume a special function  
 many board members have already done so

- Tim Lewis: travel awards
- Susan Wearne: Visa letters; updating call for proposals template
- Jean-Marc Fellous: Sponsorship Chair, Poster Awards
- Alain Destexhe: European Funding opportunities
- Dieter Jaeger: Workshop coordinator; t-shirts for meeting
- Todd Troyer: Gathering and publicizing educational materials for CNS training
- Christiane Linster: Web site updates (until system is changed); educational materials
- James Bednar and Udo Ernst: Web content mastering
- Linda Larson-Prior: treasurer; afterwards for one year: publication house sponsorship solicitations
- Patrick Roberts: 2008 local meeting organizer

Christina Weaver, Ingo Bojack: providing web content for students and postdocs,  
address student and postdoc concerns

4:05 p.m. meeting adjourned