

**2014 Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience
Business Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2014, 7:00-8:00 am**

Members present: Ron Bayline, Mary Lou Caspers, Shelly Dickinson, Gary Dunbar, Chris Fink, Ashley Fricks-Gleason, Lisa Gabel, Jeff Grimm, William Grisham, Jean Hardwick, Reba Howard, Michael Hylin, Kurt Illig, David Jewett, Bruce Johnson, Mike Kerchner, Barbara Lom, Denise McQuade, Andy Mickley, Katherine Mickley-Steinmetz, Tracie Paine, Karen Parfitt, Julio Ramirez, Elaine Reynolds, Jeff Smith, Amy Jo Stavnezer, Charles Weaver, Eric Wiertelak, Jennifer Yates

Welcome and President's Report:

Jeff Smith welcomed everyone and thanked them for their efforts and involvement in the organization. The 2013 minutes from last year were approved.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Election Results: Lisa Gabel reported the following: There were 3 nominees for President-Elect, 2 nominees for Treasurer-Elect, and 19 nominees for 3 Councilor positions. A total of 218 members participated in the election. The following members were elected:

President-Elect: Amy Jo Stavnezer

Treasurer-Elect: David Jewett

Councilor: Hewlet McFarlane, Veronica Acosta and Tracie Paine

Additional positions: With the appointment of Amy Jo Stavnezer to President-Elect, there was a one-year vacancy for Secretary. A special election resulted in the appointment of Katherine Mickley-Steinmetz to Secretary for a one-year term and Jade Zee, runner-up in the current Councilor election, as Councilor for one-year.

The 2015 Executive Committee, therefore, is:

Past-President: Jeff Smith

President: Lisa Gabel

President-Elect: Amy Jo Stavnezer

Treasurer: Kurt Illig

Treasurer-Elect: David Jewett

Secretary: Katherine Mickley-Steinmetz

Councilor: Hewlet McFarlane, Veronica Acosta, Tracie Paine, Jade Zee

Lisa Gabel also thanked the outgoing officers for their service: Amanda Clinton and Dorothy Kozlowski.

Travel Awards: Lisa Gabel reported that FUN received 67 applicants and awarded 23 travel awards this year, at \$750 each. The number of applications doubled this year. Thank you to the councilors and additional reviewers in selecting this group of students, and to Jeff Smith and FUN for funding an additional award this year. Travel awards were sponsored by: Lafayette Instruments and Camden Instruments, Grass Foundation, Nu Rho Psi and Neuroscience Associates, Coulbourn Instruments, Panlab, & Harvard Apparatus,

ADIstruments, Leica Microsystems, Sinauer Associates, Noldus, Wellesley College, Med Associates, MBF Bioscience, Carnegie Mellon University, Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience, Data Sciences International, and San Diego Instruments.

Brain Awareness Week poster travel award: Lisa Gabel reported that Alexandra D'Ambrusio from University of New England won this SfN sponsored award. Over 3000 school-aged students have gone through their outreach program. We only received two applications and need to find better ways to advertise this award – the activity does NOT need to take place during BAW for the poster to be eligible.

Program and Department consultation service: Eric Wiertelak reported that he received 23 requests for consultations. Please feel free to sign up for this service by emailing Eric directly.

Journal of Undergraduate Neuroscience Education (JUNE): Eric Wiertelak reported that JUNE is now fully listed in PubMed. There has been an increase in the number of submitted manuscripts and there is now a page charge to help defray XTML costs. There were 2 issues published this year, next year there will be 2 regular issues and an extra issue to report on the FUN pedagogical conference in Ithaca (sponsored in part by SfN). In the fall of 2015 Bruce Johnson will become Editor-in-Chief and will attend the Council of Biology Editors Bootcamp for training. Eric Wiertelak will move to Senior Editor and Aaron Cecala will become a part of the Editorial Board. Finally, the FUN Executive Committee approved a change to ARTICLE XV – PUBLICATIONS of the FUN bylaws to bring the language of the Bylaws in line with the way that JUNE is organized.

Education Committee: Eric Wiertelak reported on the successful pedagogical workshop hosted at Ithaca College. There were 120 participants from over 40 institutions, and assessments indicated that the conference was well received. Plans for a late July 2017 FUN workshop at Dominican University, Oak Park Chicago, IL, are underway.

cNDP: Eric Wiertelak finished term as liaison and appointed Gary Dunbrar to take his place for the next 3 years. Eric indicated that conversations at the cNDP meeting suggest that a change is needed in Neuro masters programs because of industry needs for training degrees. In addition, there was a transition in ERIN from the ERIN editorial committee to the SfN cNDP, however, cNDP has not yet identified an exec committee for ERIN.

Public Policy and Governmental Affairs Committee: Julio Ramirez reported that Kim Phillips and Amanda Clinton will join the committee. Julio urged us to meet with our representatives, now or in the future (bring them to your campus) to discuss how federal funding influences our field and your school. FUN again worked with CUR (Beth Ambos) to create an advocacy toolkit to provide advice when meeting with representatives. There were 8 meetings with representatives, with students 20 participating, planned. For all intents and purposes, White House, House and Senate budgets are all flat for science research and science education. Be aware that Lamar Smith, TX, has proposed an increase of up to 5% for NSF Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Math, IF the Social, Behavioral and Economic Science directorate is no longer funded. Scientists, in general, are not in favor of this. Information from Research!America indicates that our representatives pay attention to contact – they COUNT calls, emails, and visits on topics and those numbers matter.

Public Education and Communication Committee: Jennifer Yates reported on PECC's messaging initiative that hopes to distill core concepts of SfN to help researchers talk to the media and public. PECC will contact local SfN chapters to do training sessions. The remapped core concepts for K-12 science standards include Neuroscience, these can be found on brainfacts.org.

Website report: Jeff Smith reported (for Bob Calin-Jageman) that by late spring Drupal 8 (the system we use for the website) will be ready to work with and implement. The changes are expected to have a big impact and to increase functionality, allow easier navigation, will work on mobile devices, and could be a good time to think about to reconsider organization and content on the site. The new membership category (pre-faculty) is popular with 7% of the total membership of 535 in that category. Members receive an email from the secretary when memberships expire inviting them back. We need to figure out ways to better interface with and provide services to those members. We are still paying \$20/month/url to prevent another website attack.

Social Organizing Committee: Jeff Smith reported (for Noah Sandstrom) that there were 206 poster abstract submitted and accepted for presentation at the social. This is a record high number and is possible only because we were able to get extra poster boards, we had approval for up to 300 poster boards. Using the SfN themes, our posters are:

- 12% Theme A: Development
- 9% Theme B: Neural Excitability, Synapses, and Glia – Cellular Mechanisms
- 21% Theme C: Disorders of the Nervous System
- 13% Theme D: Sensory and Motor Systems
- 9% Theme E: Integrative Systems – Neuroendoc, Neuroimmuno, & Homeostatic · Challenge
- 30% Theme F: Cognition and Behavior
- 3% Theme G: Novel Methods and Technology Development
- 3% Theme H: History, Teaching, Public Awareness & Societal Impacts

We also discussed how to make the increasing size of the social more sustainable. Moving to a satellite meeting would all us to have more time, but this is much more expensive. It was also mentioned that we might find a way to become more involved in the graduate school fair, as those representatives find value in meeting with our students, there will be a conversation with cNDP to see if this could allow for a longer session? Individuals with ideas should talk with Jeff Smith.

FUN Awards Committee: Jeff Smith reported (for Noah Sandstrom) that there were nominations for all 5 of the awards. Thanks to Jeff Smith, Beth Myer-Bernstein and Adrienne Betz for reviewing the nominations.

The 2015 winners were:

- Service – Jean Hardwick, Ithaca College
- Mentor – Barbara Lom, Davidson College
- Educator – Wes Colgan, ADInstruments
- Career – Bruce Johnson, Cornell University

· Lifetime – Carol-Ann Paul, Wellesley College (Carol-Ann's son was present to accept her award posthumously, she had been informed of receiving the award prior to passing away). In addition, this award will henceforth be named the Carol-Ann Paul Lifetime achievement award.

Equipment Loan Program, Jeff Smith reported that decisions on the equipment loan applications would be sent out shortly. The six participating vendors are:

- Kinder Scientific - Provides a wide array of behavioral equipment.
- San Diego Instruments - provides a wide array of behavioral equipment.
- ADInstruments - provides a teaching/research electrophysiology system.
- Data Sciences International (DSI) - has provided an implantable telemetry system (First year).
- Noldus - provides us with an EthoVision XT software package for tracking studies.
- Nikon - provides us with an entry level fluorescent microscope w/camera.

The committee chooses the awardees and then mediates the relationship between the awardee and the company, usually for a period of 2 years. Members can encourage more participation from vendors, especially the companies that you use the most. Send the names of contacts to Jeff Smith and he will gather and share the necessary information.

Equipment Loan Awardees (announced in December) were:

- Raddy L. Ramos, New York Institute of Technology. "Behavioral consequences of cerebellar molecular layer heterotopia in rodent models" Roto-Rod Motor Skill Measurement System from San Diego Instruments
- Lisa A. Gabel, Lafayette College "Auditory Discrimination in a mouse model of dyslexia" SR-Lab startle response system from San Diego Instruments
- Suren Ambegaokar, Christian Fink, and Jennifer Yates, Ohio Wesleyan University "Developing a novel fused-format introductory neuroscience course" A PowerLab 26T system from ADInstruments
- Rupa Gupta Gordon, Augustana College "Physiological synchrony in conversation" A PowerLab 26T system from ADInstruments

Booth Report: Kurt Illig reported that the credit card machine is not working, but most people have cash. Though annoying, this actually saves us the credit card usage fee. The booth is selling: two colors of t-shirts, ladies-cut t-shirts, brain pins, squishy brains and left over magnets (for the last time ever). The scarf/tie designer has retired, so we will need to search out a new vendor to continue this item. As of day 1, there were \$3500 in sales (\$5100 last year, \$2500 2 years ago) and 40% of the t-shirts had been sold (the design, color scheme and women's cut are all good). In addition booth programming seems to be going well, and people are coming by for ad hoc advice. Booth programming is:

- Sun 10 am - How can FUN help YOU: Student Travel Grants and the Equipment Loan Program (Lisa Gabel and Jeff Smith)
- Mon 11 am - NuRhoPsi-The National Honor Society in Neuroscience (Andy Mickley, Graham Cousens, Eric Wiertelak and Zoe Hesp)
- Mon 1 pm - Designing an undergraduate neuroscience program (Elaine Reynolds)
- Tues 10 am - How to prepare for a career at a small liberal arts college (Hewlet McFarlane)

Treasurer's report: Dave Jewett reported that at the end of fiscal year 2012 there was \$107,000 in the combined accounts and \$136,000 at end of fiscal year 2013. The Oppenheimer account is growing and we might consider moving some of the regular account funds to this account since

we are in good financial shape. The proposed 2015 budget has a deficit of approximately \$14000, because of FUN sponsored travel awards and JUNE editor training budget, however there was an overage of approximately \$12000 on the Ithaca workshop that will be used to cover this difference. I FEEL LIKE I'M MISSING SOMETHING HERE

NEW BUSINESS:

Newsletter committee: Jeff Smith reminded the group that several years ago councilors created a more formal newsletter to provide information, inform membership, list activities, etc. Amanda Clinton is taking this on as chair/editor and she will name others to grow the newsletters. The fall 2014 newsletter was the largest to date and brought about recognition that JUNE and the newsletter editor need to work together to ensure that the different needs of these instruments are met.

Social Media Committee: Jeff Smith reported that we will create an ad hoc committee, chaired by Jen Yates, to better interact in the world of social media. Contact Jen if interested in helping.

Bylaw change: Jeff Smith reported that the Executive committee voted to modify the by laws related to JUNE. The modification of bylaws bring the language in line with the current practice. There is a Senior Editor, Editor in chief, Associate Editor and an Editorial Board. The motion passed.

Nu Rho Psi: Andy Mickley announced that there would be a NRP informational session at the FUN booth at 11 am and said thanks for space in the booth.

7:55 am – adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Jo Stavnezer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Jo Stavnezer".