

**2015 Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience  
Business Meeting Minutes  
October 19, 2015, 7:00-8:00 am**

Members present: Katherine Mickley Steinmetz, Andy Mickley, Mary Lou Caspers, Greg Butcher, Ashley Fricks-Gleason, Mary Morrison, Maggie Gill, Elaine Reynolds, R. Charles Lawrence, Ian Harrington, Jade Zee, Chris Korey, Tracie Paine, Aaron Cecala, Julio Ramirez, Gary L. Dunbar, Kurt Illig, Charles Weaver, Jennifer Yates, Amy Jo Stavnezer, Shelly Dickinson, Lisa Gabel, Eric Wiertelak, Bruce Johnson, Bill Grisham, Carlita Favero, Veronica Acosta, Hewlet G. McFarlane, Karen Parfitt, Lora Becker

Monday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>

7:00 – 8:00 am

Hyatt Regency Downtown

151 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60601

Crystal Ballroom C

**Welcome**

Report of the President and introduction of incoming FUN President (Lisa Gabel): Lisa Gabel welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for their involvement in FUN. The 2014 minutes were approved.

**Old Business and Committee Reports**

1. Election Results, Acknowledgment of outgoing officers, and Recognition of incoming officers (Amy Jo Stavnezer) Amy Jo Stavnezer reported the following:  
Leah Chase - President-Elect  
Amy Jo Stavnezer – President  
Lisa Gabel - Past-President  
Kurt Illig - Treasurer  
Dave Jewett -Treasurer-Elect  
Katherine Mickley Steinmetz will continue on for 2 more years as Secretary  
Concilers - Tracie Paine, Hewlett McFarlane and Veronica Acosta will continue for one more year and Jade Zee, Charles Weaver and Carlita Favero begin the first of their 2 year term as Councilor.

We had 4 people nominated for President, one accepted the nomination

We had 1 person nominated for Secretary, one accepted the nomination

We had 11 people nominated for Councilor, 9 accepted the nomination (for 3 positions).

We had 232 votes cast

Same amount of participation in voting as last year. In future years looking for more people to stand for the elections.

**Officer/Committee Reports**

2. Travel Award (Amy Jo Stavnezer) There were 63 applications and 25 awards to give out. Several of the same vendors gave awards. The David Hubel Fund gave a new award this year. Thanks to the councilors and other members who read and

- rated the applications.
3. Brain Awareness Travel Award Committee (Lisa Gabel) FUN took the role in picking the award winner since SfN had some turn over in staffing. The role of FUN working with SfN will depend on staffing for picking BAW travel awards in future years. To increase applicants, we removed the theme H poster requirement and put the application online. There were 10 completed applications this year, up from 2.
  4. JUNE (Eric Wiertelak & Bruce Johnson) The fall issue is available on the website with 16 articles. The website has been improved. The new Editor in Chief is Bruce Johnson. JUNE is looking for the possibility of having JUNE be a little more self sufficient via advertising on the website. JUNE is thinking about various features such as topical reviews, features on issues in other journals, etc. Eric will continue with the reviews and add features such as case studies and gadget reviews. Eric will update us on these changes via e-mail.
  5. Education committee (Eric Wiertelak) We are in a quiet phase because we are in the middle of our 3 year cycle. We are working on the workshop planning for 2017 at Dominican.
  6. PDCS report (Eric Wiertelak) There has been an increase in demand for further reviews, so Eric may contact you asking you to review.
  7. cNDP Report (Gary Dunbar) cNDP has merged with other groups to become the Neuroscience Training Committee (NTC). Gary will be advocating to at least hold our liaison position in the group. The graduate student fair was a great success.
  8. Public Policy committee (Julio Ramirez) We had a nice effort last year with the DC meeting. We had about 2-dozen faculty and students visit representatives on Capital Hill. Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) has worked with us on this and plans to continue. The current budget: the White House has suggested 3-5% increases for NIH and NSF funding. At the House level the budget is flat. The Senate has suggested a healthy increase. We use Research America to make our members aware of issues. Please act on these emails that you receive and contact your representative.
  9. Website Committee (Amy Jo Stavnezer on behalf of Bob Calin-Jageman) A Google Drive site has been created for all members of the executive committee and one for all members of FUN. We will be using this to share information. We have increased support for the website. Bob is working to improve the website. Veronica Acosta is the contact person if you have web content that you would like to put up.
  10. Social Committee/Poster Session (Lisa Gabel on behalf of Jeff Smith) We have had discussion about how to improve the social over the past year. Changes for this year include capping the posters at 175 with only one poster per board. We ended up with 156 applications, so we could accommodate everyone. The applications were down from previous years. We are not sure why that is, but we will survey members about the social to make improvements. We also are shortening the awards ceremony, removing the seating, and will call the travel award winners as a group. Poster boards will label travel awards winners and a slide show will be running throughout the poster session that has a slide for each travel award winner.

11. Awards Committee (Lisa Gabel on behalf of Jeff Smith) Jeff, Lisa, and Hewlett were on this committee. Come to the social to find out who won!
12. FUN Equipment Loan program (Lisa Gabel on behalf of Jeff Smith) Jeff has been in communication with a number of vendors. This was most talked about program from the session at the booth about what FUN can do for you and it is very popular. If you have new equipment that you may want, talk to Jeff. We could add the question to the social survey: What new kinds of equipment people might want so that we can solicit appropriate vendors? Mary Morrison offered to help Jeff communicate with vendors.
13. FUN Booth & Treasury Report (David Jewett & Kurt Illig) We are almost half way to our projection. Booth staffing is going well. We are in the black for 2015 based on today's booth sales. We were in the red for last year because we were in a more expensive location last year. We saw an increase in our total assets of \$52000, primarily because of the Hubel award. We are predicting a deficit for the coming year, based on conservative estimates. If the deficit occurs, we do have a buffer that we can tap into. The question was raised of if we might want to have a reserve account that is separate from the endowment.
14. New Business
  - a. Newsletter. It went away this year, so we have revised the ad hoc committee to include councilors heading the newsletter. Carlita and Charles will be in charge and will be getting the newsletter running soon. JUNE has considered "Teaching shorts" articles, so there will need to be communication between the newsletter and JUNE
  - b. Social media committee. Joe Trepani will be establishing this. If you are interested in working with this, let him know.
  - c. (Andy Mickley) Nu Rho Psi is the neuroscience honorary that was started by FUN in 2006. In 2011 it became an independent organization. We now are continuing communication between FUN and NRP between the two presidents. This is not a change in the bylaws. It is just an addition to the presidents' role. NRP has awarded 57 charters, approaches 3,000 NRP members. NRP will sponsor 5 travel awards through FUN. They sponsor undergraduate research grants and grants to support outreach activities. There is an annual theme each year for the outreach. This year the theme is traumatic brain injury. NRP is partnering with DOD to provide educational resources. NRP is financially solvent and has had significant contributions from one primary commercial company and has raised funds through a crowdfunding campaign. The presidents are communicating to make sure that there is communication in soliciting funds from vendors. Lora Becker is the new president of NRP. They are searching for a new Executive Director. This is a part time position. Please spread the word or think about applying.
  - d. Announcements:
    - i. Julio Rameriez is receiving the Grafstein Award for Mentorship! Kuddos to Julio. Julio thanks FUN for creating the structure for us all to be better mentors.

- ii. Councilors will be assigned to specific roles. See report. If you want to get involved in any of these things, contact the assigned councilors.
- iii. Bob is working with a version of Google forms (Lime Survey) so that everyone can upload info to one site and then be viewed by reviewers. This will be useful for travel award applications, proposals, etc.
- iv. Votes:
  - 1. Unanimous approval to appoint Raddy Ramos as the new Associate Editor and Ian Herrington to the editorial board of JUNE.
  - 2. The budget was unanimously approved.

7:51am Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Katherine Mickley Steinmetz.