

**Minutes: Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience (FUN) Business Meeting
Nov 14, 2011, Washington D.C.**

Submitted by Jan Thornton, FUN secretary, 12/01/11.

Present: Jennifer Yates, Monica Linden, Sonsoles de la Calle, Denise McQuade, Barbara Lom, Noah Sandstrom, David Jewett, Chris Korey, Bruce Johnson, Jean Hardwick, Karen Parfitt, Mike Kerchner, Mary Morrison, Jared Young, Eric Wiertelak, Mary Lou Caspers, Erin Keen-Rhinehart, Julio Ramirez, Bill Grisham, Jeff Wilson, Larry Normansell, Kurt Illig, Elaine Reynolds, Joe Achor, Katherine Mickley Steinmetz, Andy Mickley, Jeff Smith, Amy Jo Stavnezer, Ron Baline, Shelly Dickenson, Beth Meyer-Bernstein, Jan Thornton.

Welcome and Introductions. Shelly Dickenson welcomed and introduced the incoming FUN president Elaine Reynolds and president-elect Noah Sandstrom.

Election Results. Reynolds thanked the outgoing officers and recognized the incoming officers. Incoming officers include Noah Sandstrom, President Elect; David Jewett, Treasurer Elect; and Bob Rosenberg, Monica Linden, and Barbara Lom as councilors.

Travel Awards. Reynolds gave information on the Travel Awards. Thirty-eight applications, 9 corporate sponsors and 19 travel awards. Brain Awareness Week award will also be given out.

Officer/Committee Reports

Nu Rho Psi (Mickley). NRP now has 25 chapters, a national board (Joe Achor is president) and tax exempt status. They are applying for group tax exempt status for the chapters. This year they will talk about developing a business plan, how to develop travel awards, small grants, etc.

Journal of Undergraduate Neuroscience Education, JUNE (Grisham). There were approximately 7000 hits from 111 nations. They are working on getting JUNE listed in PubMed. Regular publication dates of March 15 and Oct 15 have been set up.

Public Policy (Ramirez). Julio Ramirez gave a report on proposed national funding. He urged members to meet with congressional representatives both in DC and at home, with the goals of keeping congress informed about why our work is so important, noting that we are advocates not lobbyists. A partnership with the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) was formed to give advice on how to approach congressional representatives. If this program takes off CUR will provide a lobbyist to inform how to best approach congressional representatives.

SOMAS-URM (Ramirez). Five awards were made this year. Awardees were announced. Ramirez gave information on the number of papers, number of student co-authors, etc by past SOMAS awardees.

cNDP Report (Johnson). Wiertalak will replace Bruce Johnson. There will be 4 FUN members on cNDP. 40% of institutions in cNDP are undergraduate institutions. 7 SfN undergraduate travel awards were given this year. Ramirez was congratulated for winning the educator of the year award.

FUN equipment loan program (Smith). There are 4 strong corporate sponsors. This year, there were 7 applicants and all equipment will be loaned out. Smith will serve as coordinator again next year. He would like to expand the type of equipment available e.g. microscopes. Contact vendors if you have any possible sponsors willing to donate.

Education Committee (Wiertelak).

2011 FUN Pomona Workshop. Evaluations indicated there was a high degree of satisfaction and the cost was reasonable. Social events were very popular. There were fewer attendees at the main workshop than expected but the workshop will be revenue neutral. The JUNE issue featuring the workshop is in the works. The 2014 workshop will be in Ithaca. They will develop a full mission statement, with financial information.

The Program and Department Consultation Service: send Wiertelak your information if you want to be a consultant. It is small but growing. Encourage departments/programs to apply for the service.

FUN social/posters (Yates). There will be 160 posters on 130 boards. Had to turn some away. Will be giving travel and other awards. There will be FUN postcards at the booth.

FUN-SfN Booth (Jewett). Sales yesterday were approx. \$4300 (\$5000 last year). Joe Schrader (Conn College) won the t-shirt design contest. Give any student a free t-shirt who works at the booth. No notecards were available this year- hopefully next year. Other suggested products included 'clings', stickers.

Treasurer (Bayline). Fluid assets approx \$51k. It will be \$32k when current outstanding items are cashed. Income is over \$30k. Projection is for \$40-41k. There is a discrepancy with the number of paid members noted on the website that Calin-Jageman and Bayline will figure out. Expenses, especially SfN costs have increased substantially this year but should be about \$40-41k so FUN will break even. People can become members at the booth this year. It was discussed whether an endowed travel awards should be set up.

New Business

- FUN members were asked to provide urls for teaching resources to ERIN.
- FUN Future. Will start a presidential task force/working group. Will get input from members and come back next year with recommendations.
- Bylaws Update related to JUNE were approved.