

FUN Business Meeting Minutes November 15, 2010 San Diego 2010

Meeting started at 7:05 am

Attending: Ron Bayline, Beth Meyer-Bernstein, Bob Calin-Jageman , Leah Chase, Shelly Dickinson, Gary Dunbar, Alan Gittis, Bill Grisham, Jean Hardwick, Mary Harrington, Kurt Illig, Bruce Johnson, Chris Korey, Sonoles de Lacalle, Andy, Mickely, Mary Morrison, Gary Muir, Julio Ramirez, Elaine Reynolds, Jeff Smith, Jan Thornton, Eric Wiertelak, Jennifer Yates, Jared Young, Seth Ramus, Mary Lou Caspers, David Jewett, Mike Kerchner, Matt Beckman, Jeff Wilson, Eric Herzog, Karen Parfitt, Jeff Grimm, Cheryl Frye, Leslie Sargent Jones, Barbara Lom, Larry Normansell, Kirk Lunnen, Katerine Mickley Steinmetz, Margaret Gittis, Karl Johnson, Amy Jo Stavenezer, Neil Schmitzer-Torbert, Dennis Brooks McQuade

Elaine Reynolds filling in for Carol Ann Paul as secretary

Election Results (Shelley Dickinson)

- Acknowledgement of Outgoing Officers: Thanks to Chris Korey (leaving past president post) and Jennifer Yates (leaving president post), Jeff Smith, Gary Muir and Leah Chase (leaving councilor post), Sonsoles Lacalle (leaving treasure post)
 - Recognized Incoming Officers: Elaine Reynolds as president elect, Jan Thornton as incoming secretary, Ron Bayline as incoming treasurer, Amy Jo Stavenezer, Kurt Illig, Beth Meyer-Bernstein and Jeff Smith as incoming councilors
 - We need to fill the treasurer elect position
- Shelly thanked Alan Gittis for his service on PECC

Officer/Committee Reports

- Nu Rho Psi (Mickley) Our honors society with 19 chapters. Society is moving to new structure that will have independence from FUN and its own governance structure as indentified in its constitution. It hopes to have officers in place by Jan 2012. Andy asked everyone to consider applying for a chapter.
- JUNE (Dunbar)-Gray discussed the transition to new editor in chief, (Bill Grisham), JUNE's growth and its need for new help. He proposed that we expand JUNE's review board. Moving to a pdf distribution. Gary is still trying to get into Pubmed (although there are no clear criteria). Gary thanked contributors, editorial board, reviewers, Barb Lom, and Eric Weirtelak for becoming associate editor. JUNE is planning on a fall issue, and spring issue for 2011

- Public Policy (Ramirez) Julio has been using email lists to get people to email or send letters etc, on issues important to neuroscientists using Research America Network. 2011 is a critical year with a continuing resolution through 2011 instead of a budget. The Republican's Pledge to America will return to funding to 2008 levels. The good news-The Obama administration has tried to increase funding 2011 budget 8% increase. Julio encouraged advocacy and suggested bringing students on congressional visits. He asked for us to respond to calls for letters/phone calls on these issues.
- SOMAS (Ramirez) Julio thanked FUN for SOMAS money, He announced new SOMAS faculty, 4 awardees from 24 applicants:
 - Joel Bish, Ph.D., Ursinus College
 - Carolyn Pytte, Ph.D., Queens College, CUNY
 - Latha Ramakrishnan, Ph.D., Saint Cloud State University
 - John Ramcharitar, Ph.D., St. Mary's College of Maryland

Julio presented assessment on first 6 years of SOMAS. 18 total scholars who have published 83 papers, 5 per scholar, 40 of which involved students coauthor. 16/18 SOMAS scholars have funding totaling 6.2 million. 8 have received internal recognition and awards, 6 have been tenured. 8 hold national and local leadership positions, 7 are involved in FUN leadership. All 18 students working with SOMAS scholars are continuing to pursue educational, many ultimately interested in PHD programs (7 in grad school, 5 engaged in apps, 5 research tech with intention to attend graduate school and one elementary school teacher)
- PECC Report (Gittis) Alan is rotating off after 3 years on the committee. He feels as if he made headway with SfN staff. Discussed a presentation at the social on a civil discussion on animal rights. He also discussed our BAW award at SfN BAW event
- cNDP Report (Johnson) Bruce holds the FUN liaison position. CDNP is listening and values the role of FUN in undergraduate education. They are expanding on our idea of undergraduate travel awards, distributed information on our abstracts, worked towards some grants orientation toward undergraduate researchers. The committee is also looking at how they can help with equipment program by putting the word out to vendors, Bruce also talked about his report. There will be a session on undergraduate education at the cNDP annual meeting similar to Olivio's session at SfN. It will also be discussed at the meeting the challenges for undergrad programs and how to build undergraduate program memberships.
- FUN equipment loan program (Hardwick) This is the second year of the program with 3 awards this year. ADI would like to see proposals for their equipment. Jeff Smith taking over program for next year. We need to work on getting new vendors. It's a great way for junior faculty to start research. Jean discussed additional solicitation of donations. A suggestion was made that we survey the membership for estimate of need and ways to solicit vendors.
- Education committee (Wiertelak)

- Consulting services-Looking for people to apply to participate
- 2011 Pomona FUN workshop-We are planning to hold the meeting on July 29-31st, with a pre-event on labs. We will be making an announcement in 2 weeks or so. Eric reminded everyone that the meeting runs on a business model with 120 participant slots.
- FUN study abroad with be sponsoring a summer abroad program in Germany run through University of Charleston abroad office and program, also working on a research program, and a full semester program, ,
- Social/Poster Session (Korey)-120 posters, Advertised through many means and shared with lots of people. We will also acknowledge people who won awards at the social.
- Booth (Bayline)-Ron declared that the FUN booth is up and running. Early earnings are \$5250 at this time, we are low compared to last year. We use the FUN booth to pay meeting expenses but we are only at break even on merchandise. Ron expressed some concern that T shirts sales are down and suggested we think more about what will sell. Gary thanked Ron for organizing the booth. Ron thanked all the volunteers
- Treasurer-Finance committee (de Lacalle) We have \$18,000 in cash on hand and \$18,000 in bonds. We also have a CD from the Grass Foundation (\$41,000) which grows in endowment and which we use for travel awards making a total of \$76,000. We have money and can consider growing endowment. In the past the booth pays for meeting expenses (advertisements in Exhibitor guide and JNeurosci, \$15,000 covers expenses for meeting). We used our exhibitor and guest badges wisely this year. FUN dues goes to JUNE, travel awards mostly sponsored by donors. We have moved from 348 to 314 members, with 5 institutional members. We expect a membership surge with this meeting. We contributed to SOMAS again this year. Our tax report is available if anyone wants to see it.

New business

Motion from JUNE, moved and second, friendly change-delete “or general member” Motion carries.

Meeting Adjourned