



**International Neuropsychological Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
November 3/4, 2022, 5 - 7pm (EDT)**

Present:

Officers: Ida Sue Baron (President), Jonathan Evans (President Elect), Alberto Fernández (Secretary), Ozioma Okonkwo (Treasurer), Skye McDonald (Past President),

Members-at-large: Karen Blackmon, Desiree Byrd, Sanne Schagen, Shawn McClintock, Sallie Baxendale, Tatia Lee.

Executive Director: Marc Norman

Absent: Nara Andrade, Fiona Kumfor.

Guests: Deborah Koltai, Tony Stringer, Stephen Rao, Christian Salas, Lena Dobson.

**Welcome and Introduction**

Ida Sue Baron explained that she understands the emotion of the moment because of the results of the election. She said that she is aware of the weaknesses of the INS election process.

She said that the BOD would offer congratulations to the members elected: David Loring, Rochele Paz-Fonseca, Cady Block, and Melissa Lamar.

She also said that she was grateful for the requests received from some BOD members regarding the order of the agenda and explained that the agenda cannot be changed because of time constraints with the tasks. She added that there will be enough time to discuss the elections affair.

**Secretary Report**

Minutes, July 5/6, 2022

Minutes, August 18/19, 2022

**MOTION: Move to approve the report of the INS Secretary Report.**

**Motion by Alberto Fernández**

**Seconded by Jonathan Evans.**

**Motion approved unanimously; all in favor, none opposed**

## **Treasurer Report**

Ozioma Okonkwo explained that in the last year in the investment accounts there was 1.1 million and it has decreased to \$979,000 in August 2022 as a consequence of the fluctuations in the market. Desiree Byrd noticed a withdraw of \$6,000. She asked if there is an operational account. Ozioma Okonkwo explained that the withdraw is the cost of managing the accounts. He also explained that the management process. He also mentioned that he, Marc Norman and Chantal Marcks worked on how to avoid the difficulties in the budget experienced last time. They found a process to make sure that BOD members have the budget at hand at the end of July/beginning of August. He thanked Marc Norman, Chantal Marcks and Jamie Wilson for their help.

## **Justice and Equity Subcommittee Report**

Tony Stringer and Deborah Koltai were invited to the meeting. Tony Stringer explained the initiatives of the Justice and Equity Subcommittee Report. He explained how the committee is formed. He explained the mission of subcommittee. He showed the completed initiatives. One completed initiative was the "Confidential 2-hour BIPOC Neuropsychologist Conversation". He explained different situations of microaggressions and possible solutions.

Deborah Koltai explained two initiatives: 1) survey of current neuropsychological resources for clinical work, research and teaching. She explained the difficulty to collect data. From 300 expected contacts they obtained only 46 responses from 17 countries;

2) an application was developed to train experts in neuropsychological measurement. They hope to pair one trainee with one mentor from the USA.

They have some future initiatives, namely, Survey African Academy of Neurology (AFAN) and analysis, Grant: await summary statements and revise, Instrumentation summit, Electronic neuropsychology resource bank, Possible topics for JINS special issue including Neuropsychology in Africa and Problems and solutions in accessing neuropsychological services in Africa (or worldwide?).

Jonathan Evans noted that the cross-cultural SIG and the Consortium on Cross-Cultural Neuropsychology (ECCRON), from Europe, as good resources.

Ida Sue Baron acknowledged the great contribution of the subcommittee.

## **JINS-Awards Committee Initiative**

Christian Salas was invited to participate of the meeting. He explained the initiative about linking the awards to JINS. In a meeting after Barcelona, they agreed to consider only the major awards (early, middle and senior career) in JINS. He explained that the awards of the postdoctoral are not appropriate to be included in the JINS because the evaluation is only based on abstracts. Stephen Rao explained that this is an opportunity that can produce benefits for JINS and the organization. He also explained that it will be an invitation, but the awardees will know that the manuscripts will be peer-reviewed and might accepted or rejected. They also might include a short paragraph on the awardees in JINS.

Ozioma Okonkwo asked for a clarification of the process. Stephen Rao answered that the work of students may not reveal the work of the students but the work of the laboratory of which they are part of. This is also valid for the situation of the postdoctoral awardees.

Shawn McClintock noted that he and the INS awards task force met recently, and he thinks that the postdoctoral candidates could be considered for this.

**MOTION: Move to approve the JINS awards committee initiative that invites early, midcareer, lifetime achievement awards for research and distinguished career awardees to be invited to submit as it is written in the materials provided to the BOD empirical or review paper to JINS focused on a research program for peer-review and if it is accepted the honor of being published with a brief biography and a picture.**

**Motion by Ida Sue Baron**

**Seconded Sallie Baxendale**

**Motion approved unanimously; all in favor, none opposed.**

Ozioma Okonkwo asked if the BOD is supposed to take votes on members who are present or if they should be outside. Marc Norman answered that there have been votes in both ways, with them present or absent. Ozioma Okonkwo expressed that the votes should be taken while the committee chairs are not present.

## **INS Committee Business**

### **A. Science Committee Requests**

Lena Dobson explained that they have information that many potential attendees do not attend to INS conferences especially because of the housing costs. The Science Committee proposed that some local members might offer housing to these members. There are some concerns to be considered like safety and how the guests are received. There should also be a disclaimer that INS is not the guarantee for this initiative. Glenn Smith asked how they can match the hosts and guests. She answered that there would be a process similar to find a mentor and a mentee. There would be an application process. This would be especially offered to people from low- and middle-income countries. The details still need to be defined. Shawn McClintock highlighted the difficulties with hosting people after Covid and the difficulties of transportation. Lena Dobson answered that they have not discussed the transportation issue. Ozioma Okonkwo commented about INS liability. Lena Dobson answered that this would only be a forum for people to meet. INS would only be facilitating a process but not taking responsibility for it. Ozioma Okonkwo explained that even in that case there is a potential legal risk for the organization.

Ida Sue Baron explained that the BOD should not approve this initiative today but to inform the committee if they can move forward with the details of this initiative.

Karen Blackmon expressed her concern by the legal complications of this initiative. Shawn McClintock concurred with her.

### **B. FESN Symposium**

Lena Dobson addressed the topic of the FENS symposium in which she, Ruchika Prakash and Sarah McPherson will participate. She asked if the speaker will be funded.

Ida Sue Baron asked if the BOD should change the previous decision to not fund this initiative.

Skye McDonald suggested to include local INS members in the symposium to reduce costs.

Sanne Schagen said that if there are no new arguments the decision should not be changed.

Ozioma Okonkwo supported her statement considering the difficulties in the current budget.

Jonathan Evans supported the idea of Skye McDonald suggesting that members who are planning to attend that conference could be included in the symposium.

Marc Norman asked if INS had a commitment to FESN as regards the organization of this symposium. Ida Sue Baron answered that this is an invited symposium, and it will go forward anyway. The discussion at this point is if the INS members can be offered financial support. Ida Sue Baron noted that the committee chairs are requesting more contact with the BOD and that is why she invited Lena Dobson to participate.

#### C. SIG Committee Policies and Procedures

This item was deferred.

#### D. Education Committee New Members

It was informed that there are two new members Travis Wearne and Eliane Miotto.

#### E. Science Committee Appointment

Jonathan Evans and Karen Blackmon met with Lena Dobson to evaluate re-appointing her as the Chair of the Science committee. They both agreed to re-appoint Lena in the Science committee.

#### **MOTION: Move to re-appoint Lena Dobson as Chair of the Science Committee**

**Motion by Jonathan Evans**

**Seconded Karen Blackmon**

**Motion approved unanimously; all in favor, none opposed.**

#### **President Report**

##### INS Board Election Policy

Ida Sue Baron expressed the concern of the BOD for the results of the election. Because many BOD members were disappointed with the results of the election (the winning candidate was not from a non-English speaking country), and in order to correct this unintended process, she suggested to undue the slate system that was voted on and vote for a new slate system and to have this special slate occurring next year. She proposed to design a cycle considering the number of members in a country and not the language that they speak. The cycle should be changed next year. She also expressed that this is a problem that existed for a long time. Sanne Schagen said that that proposal does not guarantee that the situation happening this year cannot happen again next year. Ida Sue Baron answered that having a self-nomination would not happen if the members were well informed. She also suggested a Bylaws change. She said that there are problems with the nomination committee. She mentioned that there are contradictions and flaws in the Bylaws that should be corrected. Alberto Fernández said that information would not avoid the same situation considering that in the last election, despite knowing the intentions of the BOD, one member decided to self-nominate.

Glenn Smith said that there should be a change in the Bylaws constraining the possibility of self-nomination in certain cycles.

Sallie Baxendale expressed that eliminating the self-nomination option is not a desirable option.

Sanne Schagen said that the BOD should vote on who agrees that self-nomination is possible only within the cycle designed by the BOD. Skye McDonald agreed with this idea. She also said that there are many societies that do not have self-nominations and spoke in favor of the nomination committee because it is an independent committee. She noted that the Bylaws were simplified to avoid the constant changes made by the BOD. She thinks that the process is not delineated in the Policies & Procedures manual and that should give the BOD the authority to enact the Bylaws in the way they interpret them. Ozioma Okonkwo agreed with the previous opinions and questioned the motivations of the self-nomination of the self-nominated candidate. Tatia Lee supported the idea of maintaining the self-nomination but restricting it according to the cycle defined by the BOD. Sanne Schagen agreed with Ozioma Okonkwo. Glenn Smith noted that the BOD can decide about limiting the nominations geographically, but members might not agree with this. He suggested the Bylaws change.

Alberto Fernández agreed with Ozioma Okonkwo and did not agree with the idea of a geographical definition of the cycles considering that this method could not be representative of the membership. If the cycles are defined geographically a candidate from a country with very few members could be elected and that would not be representative.

Skye McDonald summarized that most of the BOD members agree that the self-nomination should be kept but limiting the self-nomination cycles to the regions nominated by the BOD.

Shawn McClintock proposed to have an additional meeting to a more in-depth discussion of the topic.

Jonathan Evans said a decision should be made about this topic in this meeting.

**MOTION: Move that the BOD look at how to initiate a process for Bylaws change that will reflect alignment of the self-nomination process with the intended goal of increasing representation by the targeted communities.**

**Motion by Skye McDonald**

**Seconded by Desiree Byrd**

**Motion approved unanimously; all in favor, none opposed.**

Ida Sue Baron suggested that she, Jonathan Evans and Marc Norman meet with the lawyer.

Skye and Sanne suggested having a new meeting soon to make decisions about this topic. It was agreed that the next meeting should be in two to three weeks' time.

#### B. Presidential Task Force on INS Finance

Ida Sue Baron informed that the presidential task force on Finance has been formed. The members of this task force are Kathleen Haaland, Gordon Chelune and Bruce Hermann.

#### C. Announcements

This item was deferred.

**Executive Director Report****A. San Diego Meeting format**

This item was deferred.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm EDT.