

International Neuropsychological Society

Board of Directors Meeting

May 10th, 2021

Present:

Officers: Skye McDonald (President), Ida Sue Baron (Incoming President), Jonathan Evans (President-Elect), Ozioma Okonkwo (Treasurer), Alberto Luis Fernandez (Secretary), Marc Norman (Executive Director – Ex Officio)

Members at Large: Juan Carlos Arango Lasprilla, Glenn Smith, Desiree Byrd, Robin Green, Fiona Kumfor, Sarah MacPherson, Sallie Baxendale.

Visitors: Margaret O'Connor (partial attendance)

1. Presidential Welcome/Call to Order (McDonald)

Skye McDonald called the meeting to order. She reviewed the structure of the board meeting. She also said we should meet more often in order to have shorter meetings.

2. Meeting updates- Marc Norman

Marc updates on the meetings. Next meeting in Melbourne will be held in person for Australians but not for foreigners. Financially it may be a good meeting. The New Orleans meeting will be in-person, the organizers are working on the virtual component. Because the world congress is not happening, the following meeting will be organized in Spain, in partnership with Consorcio de Neuropsicología and FANPSE. They are gathering information about Madrid, Toledo and Sevilla as possible venues. This will be a three-organization meeting.

Natalia Ojeda is proposed as the program chair for the Spain meeting. IDA SUE BARON said she is an excellent candidate.

MOTION: Natalia Ojeda to be approved as the program chair for the meeting in 2022 in Spain.

SECOND: Skye McDonald.

All in favor.

The 2023 meeting in February will move from Washington DC because the hotel where it should be organized was closed. The meeting will probably move to San Diego.

The negotiation with Nav Neuro contract is progressing towards a finish. Costs have been brought down.

Dr. Manly allowed INS to provide open access to her talk in response to multiple requests. It will be available to all students and graduate programs.

3. Financial update- Ozioma Okonkwo

Finances are in great shape. This information is based on the communication with the auditors. The finance committee and officers decided not to apply to the Federal Covid Financial Package because INS is not in a sufficiently difficult financial situation to justify this application.

Additional funds have been added to the UBS account. Based on the BOD's approval, UBS is going to split the money into two accounts. One is a rather conservative account and the other one is a more aggressive account.

4. MOU update – Alberto Fernandez and Jonathan Evans

Alberto Fernandez discussed the proposal for MOUs that he and Jon Evans were working on. They proposed two types of MOUs: 1-MEETING SPECIFIC. This MOU specifies activities focused on the organization of a joint conference, workshop, course, etc. This MOU is more akin to a contract, setting out roles, tasks, activities, and responsibilities of the organizations involved.

2-GENERAL MOUs: These MOUs are aimed at general cooperation with other professional and scientific organizations. Their goals are:

- To exchange scientific experiences between organizations
- To facilitate the road to future organization of joint meetings
- To increase the awareness/presence of INS in the world
- To, eventually, increase the number of INS members from around the world
- To help smaller neuropsychological organizations develop neuropsychology in their regions.

Activities involved in MOUS:

The MOU is primarily a declaration of good intentions and cooperation between organizations. Activities listed below are not mandatory and might be described as potential joint activities in the discussions between organizations. The opportunity to implementing each activity with every organization should be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

- advertising each other's activities via websites, newsletters, etc
- promoting participation in each other's conferences
- co-organizing webinars
- reducing membership fee to each other's conferences
- reducing membership fee
- exchanging members' emails

Sallie Baxendale asked about the extension of MOUs. Jonathan Evans and Skye McDonald suggested that it should be renewed on a regular basis and suggested a 5-year period. Robin Green suggested a clause discussing the possibility of cancelling it before the expiration date. MOUs should last for a 5-year period and can be renewed or revisited earlier if necessary.

5. Mentoring update- Robin Green

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

6. Publication task force- Ida Sue Baron

There was a discussion on whether INS should endorse publications and have its name attached. Historically INS has been neutral. The task force prepared a report in which they discussed the possibilities and complexity of this issue. This task force recommended there was not a solid rationale to break neutrality. They focused on SIGs and discussed this issue with their liaison. SIGs response was that they do not want to take the steps necessary to outline a structure and a procedure that would enable them to move forward. As an alternative, they could simply include a disclaimer. The COVID SIG will include a disclaimer in their article.

Ida Sue Baron, on behalf of the task force, asked for comments about this. She mentioned that the task force had looked at other organizations and concluded that it would be exceptionally lengthy and resource heavy to develop a process for this purpose. The task force asked for an answer to this issue from the BOD.

Margaret O'Connor asked about what the procedure would be to regulate SIGs activities. Ida Sue Baron answered that the SIG suggested identifying themselves as INS SIGs and then have a disclaimer.

From the discussion there were concerns raised about how many members of the SIG should approve each publication, who would make that decision, if there should be a minimum of members of the SIG involved, and so forth.

Glenn Smith expressed a concern about giving permission to SIGs to publish in the name of INS. There is no mechanism to decide who is representing INS. The disclaimer is an opportunity for SIGs to move forward without compromising INS. However, there is a need to discriminate when the disclaimer should be used.

Jonathan Evans highlighted the importance of SIGs as productive groups and that the disclaimer would be useful as a reasonable compromise.

Skye McDonald suggested that there are two issues; one is the acknowledgement of INS SIGs as participants in the paper elaboration process. The second issue is the disclaimer stating that the content of the paper does not necessarily reflect the INS formal position.

There is consensus about the idea that it is important to acknowledge the SIGs participation.

Sallie Baxendale asked about the situation of special projects in which INS might endorse the position. But there is no mechanism for that in INS. She mentioned the example of the ILAE-INS joint work on epilepsy.

Margaret O'Connor said that this issue has been discussed before and carefully considered. She suggested that this process was considered too difficult and probably very costly for INS.

Ida Sue Baron suggested that the publications committee should be involved in this issue.

Skye McDonald suggested that SIGs report their disclaimer to the SIG chair while the organization works on a procedure to regulate this issue.

Glenn Smith suggested that there should be a motion and a vote about this topic because of the situations that arose with the SIGs.

MOTION: Glenn Smith. INS establishes a policy that a disclaimer statement (read by Ida Sue Baron from the Task force report) is used in situations in which SIGs are seeking to publish manuscripts on behalf of the SIG and referencing INS.

SECOND: Ida Sue Baron

All in favor, none against.

Ozioma Okonkwo said that SIGs policies and procedures manual officially approved should be edited according to the future decisions made on this topic.

7. SIG membership – Skye McDonald

Skye McDonald asked about the participation of non-INS members participating in the SIGs activities. She suggested that these non-members who are involved in SIGs might participate in some webinars and other INS activities, but not all. They might be considered temporary SIG members without being INS members. She encourages the consideration of this issue by the BOD members. Marc Norman asked about how SIG chairs can differentiate members from non-members. He also suggested to think about what a temporary participation is.

8. Presidents ballot – Skye McDonald

Skye McDonald suggested differing the motion for the presidential ballot for the next BOD meeting because of the lack of time and absence of some members.

9. Adjournment

Skye McDonald offered best wishes and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Alberto Luis Fernandez, PhD

INS Secretary