



## Annual Meeting

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place Chicago, IL  
Saturday 12 April 2008 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

## MINUTES

### In Attendance:

Board of Directors: Michael Finkel, President; Tarakad Ramachandran, Vice-President, Kamel Elzawahry, Secretary-Treasurer; Johan Aarli, Edison Miyawaki, Piero Antuono, Lily Jung, Gustavo Roman, William Carroll

Advisory Council: Ned Sacktor, Jun Kimura

Staff: Carrie Becker, Executive Director; Jane Aberle, Development Associate

Guests: Lakshmi Ranganathan, Mohammad Wasay, Zahid Cheema, Raad Shakir

Regrets: Aneesh Singhal, Jock Murray, Diana Schneider, Eric Hauth (Directors)  
Lord John Walton, James Toole, Roger Rosenberg (Advisory)

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am with a welcome from Dr. Finkel. All present offered introductions and their respective affiliation. The meeting proceeded as follows:

- Dr. Elzawahry, Secretary-Treasurer, presented minutes from the 2007 annual meeting in Boston and December 1 regional meeting in Chicago. All minutes were approved. Dr. Elzawahry also presented the Treasurer's Report reflecting spending in accordance with the approved 2007-8 budget. He commented on the prudent use of funds for the year, in addition to the need for the Foundation to generate additional revenues in order to implement successful projects. The Treasurer's Report was approved.
- Dr. Finkel announced the resignation of two Board Members due to work-related conflicts, namely Dr. Daroff and Dr. Subramanian. One individual has since been proposed for Board membership, Dr. Zahid Cheema, whose curriculum vita was sent in advance to the Board. The Board approved the election of Dr. Cheema as a new Director, with a term to end 2010.
- Dr. Becker presented the Executive Director's report. The report included an announcement of the Board's three new initiatives, initially proposed, discussed, and planned for implementation at the Board's December 1 meeting in Chicago. The draft of the Foundation's new website, facilitated by Dr. Becker and Webmaster John Johnson per the Board's vote on December 1, 2007, was used as a means of sharing the initiatives. Board and Advisory Council members were invited to provide comment and suggestions to the website on an ongoing basis.
- The Tool Kits for Africa project was discussed and a prototype bag with equipment circulated. Board members Dr. Carroll and guest Dr. Shakir reinforced the need for the kit to contain high quality equipment. Dr. Elzawahry was thanked for personally contributing 10 sets of equipment for the initial kits. Dr. Sacktor suggested the bag be somewhat larger. The initial 50 kits will be distributed through a teaching course in Dakar, Senegal in June. Drs. Amadou Gallo Diop, Gretchen Birbeck, and Ned Sacktor will be asked to provide additional helpful information as to the bag design and contents, given their expertise with education and training in Africa.
- The NEUROshare project, a reorganization of the original WFN book sharing project was discussed. The point was made that some neurologists served by the Foundation may prefer only electronic materials, though it was also noted that many of the WFN CME Education Coordinators continue to request and value printed materials as well. The project will not replace current efforts to distribute educational materials electronically, but will supplement that effort as requested by targeted neurologists whose training and education programs are enriched by the project.

- An update on the proposed 2008 Affiliate Membership appeal was presented, whereby a \$100 (individual) or \$300 (corporate) donation in support of the WNFo will elicit receipt of a framed certificate, membership card, and updates on Foundation activities and events.
- Following a short break, Dr. Finkel presented the President's Report. The report included notice of the 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Oceanic Congress & Annual Conference of the Indian Academy of Neurology, to be held in New Delhi October 23 through 26. Dr. Finkel also reported current funding efforts targeting Stanley Medical College alumni, coordinated by Drs. Elzawahry and Ramachandran. In addition, Lord John Walton of the WNFo Advisory Council will begin working with Foundation staff in May toward helping secure program support.
- At the invitation of the Executive Committee, Drs. Lakshmi Ranganathan and Mohammad Wasay then presented their respective projects in Chennai, India and Karachi, Pakistan as prospects for WNFo funding. Dr. Ranganathan's project targets women with epilepsy, promoting their economic independence, while Dr. Wasay's project gathers neuroepidemiological data on the population of Karachi in an effort to influence public health policy and thus funding. It was noted that to date the Foundation has secured \$5,600 toward Dr. Wasay's \$14,000 project budget. Though also invited, Dr. Calixto Machado was unable to attend the meeting from Cuba to report an update on his Korein-funded project.
- Dr. Johan Aarli, President of the World Federation of Neurology and Member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation presented an update of the WFN's Africa Project and the named lectureships to be funded by the World Neurology Foundation at the WCN 2009 in Bangkok. Dr. Elzawahry noted that now that the WFN was considering biannual World Congresses, AND PROPOSED THAT THE Foundation support an additional 4 Lectureships every two years. The Board agreed to the proposal, given available revenue to support the addition.
- Dr. Finkel suggested a second annual regional meeting of the Board of Directors, to be held possibly in concert with either the AAN or ANA's regional meetings in the fall. The Board shared an interest in an additional meeting, noting the value of the December Chicago meeting, though the specific date and venue were not decided.

A luncheon immediately followed the meeting at which the WNFo Board was joined by the Trustees of the World Federation of Neurology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kamel H. Elzawahry, MD, Secretary-Treasurer

