

Minutes
Executive Committee Meeting
Joint Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves
Wednesday, February 28, 1996
Disney Yacht and Beach Club Resort, Orlando, Florida

Members Present: Nancy Epstein, Kevin Foley, Richard Fessler, Peter Klara, David Cahill, Curtis Dickman, Paul McCormick, Vince Traynelis, John McGillicuddy, Gary Rea, Rich Toselli, Ed Benzel, Arnold Menezes, Steve Papadopoulos, Nevan Baldwin, and Bob Heary

The meeting was called to order by Arnold Menezes at 9:10 a.m.

Treasurer's Report was given by Peter Klara. A positive balance was reported of greater than \$500,000. A separate research fund containing \$100,000 is allocated as a part of the total positive fund balance. An approximate 10% return of investment of the 1995 annual year was reported. Dr. Klara will determine discrepancies in the treasurer's report and report back to the Executive Committee Meeting in April. Of concern was the fellowship fund and the poor return on investment for the 1995 year.

Current Annual Meeting Report was given by Curtis Dickman. It is anticipated there will be greater than 300 primary registrants with approximately 350 registrants total. Exhibits were entirely sold out for space provided. Structure of Annual Meeting Committee currently consists of a Annual Meeting Chairman, Scientific Program Chairman, Exhibit Chairman, and others.

Annual Meeting Future Report was given by Vince Traynelis and Nevan Baldwin. This will be in Newport Beach California. The Scientific Program Committee has been established and will be developing a program. ✓

Future Sites Report was given by Stephen Papadopoulos. The 1999 site will be in Orlando. There is a possibility of repeating at the Disney Yacht Club and Beach Resort and this idea was heavily supported. Subsequent report will be made at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

The AANS Spine Section Meeting will have a program on endoscopic spine surgery. The CNS spine section meeting will have a program on spine trauma. David Cahill requested ideas for future meetings. ✓

Bylaws Committee Report was given by Mark Hadley. Bylaws proposals were submitted to committee members for review and discussion at the next Executive Committee Meeting. } ✓

Nominations Committee gave a report. Arnold Menezes stated that nominations for the 1996-97 year will be presented for Executive committee approval at the April committee meeting. Research Committee Chair and Spine Task Force members will be also nominated and discussed at that meeting.

An extensive discussion of COSS was given by Dr. Menezes and Dr. Sonntag. It was the overall consensus of the Executive committee that we should continue to develop relationships with COSS. A meeting with the AANS leadership will take place after the annual spine meeting in Orlando. Report will be given at the next Spine Executive Committee Meeting.

Research Committee was given by Dr. Fessler. Two research grants have been sent to COSIN for review. Recommendations will be reviewed and developed for the April Executive Committee Meeting.

Newsletter report was given by Dr. Gary Rea. He will have assistant editorship help from Bob Heary and Scott Dull.

Membership report was given by Dr. Papadopoulos. It was voted that dues shall be increased to \$50.00 for 1997. This dues increase was voted unanimously. Additionally, Dr. Papadopoulos will look into the feasibility of membership certificates and a section logo. ✓

Lifetime Achievement Award was discussed by Dr. Menezes. Several suggestions were given. The Nominations Committee in conjunction with the current President will make a recommendation for a Lifetime Achievement Award. The Award will be here and after changed in name to the Meritorious Achievement Award.

A report on SAGES was given by Rick Fessler. This was a meeting primarily of endoscopic general surgeons for establishing guidelines for endoscopic spine surgeons. Dr. Fessler gave a report as to his involvement. Subsequent reports will be given at the time of the next Executive Committee Meeting. It was emphasized that neurosurgery spine surgery should remain quite involved in guideline development.

Outcomes Report was given by Dr. Toselli. The AAOS and council of musculoskeletal specialty societies outcome instrument was distributed to members of the Executive Committee. There will be a meeting in Chicago attended by Drs. Benzel, McCormick, Malone, and Fessler. The report as to this meeting will be given at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

A discussion as to the Joint Section Relationship with the journal Spine was introduced by Vince Traynelis. Meeting abstracts will be published in the journal this year. The Joint Section has received a formal invitation from Dr. Weinstein, Editor of Spine, to join a large international group of spine societies which name Spine as their official journal. There was an extensive discussion as to the pros and cons of this. It was felt by the Executive Committee that this represents a significant expansion of readership and exposure for neurosurgery in a cross discipline and international manner. There was unanimous support for continuing discussion with Spine in an effort to establish an official liaison. Dr. Papadopoulos will communicate with the AANS Board and the CNS Executive Committee for their opinion and approval to proceed. ✓

The meeting was concluded at 12:45 p.m.