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Minutes of the Business Meeting of the American Pancreatic Association, Friday, November 2, 2012, Miami, Florida

Rodger A. Liddle, MD [President], Martin Freeman, MD [President-Elect], Diane M. Simeone, MD [Past President], Ashok K. Saluja, PhD [Secretary-Treasurer], Carlos Fernandez-del Castillo, MD [Councilor], Anirban Maitra, MD [Councilor], Stephen J. Pandol, MD [Councilor], and Vay Liang W. Go, MD [Editor-in-Chief, *Pancreas*]

CALL TO ORDER

The annual business meeting of the American Pancreatic Association (APA) was called to order by Secretary-Treasurer Ashok Saluja at 2:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 2011 business meeting were distributed to those in attendance for review. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr Liddle was unable to attend the meeting; however, he sent his presidential report to be read in his absence. He noted that a unique and important feature of the APA is that it integrates basic scientists, clinicians, and clinical investigators. The APA is ahead of the curve because this is becoming a new trend in medical research as a way to enhance and advocate for translational research. The APA meeting is a tremendous compilation of talent and know-how, and with the right environment and encouragement, wonderful new advances can spring forward. The APA can provide this environment and encouragement by continuing to conduct meetings that present the best of both basic and clinical research. By making this information available to all and encouraging collegial interactions, the APA will be a fertile field for fostering new advances in pancreatology. Dr Liddle thanked the Scientific Advisory Committee of the APA and the International Association of Pancreatology (IAP) including Dafna Bar-Sagi, Craig Logsdon, Santhi Swaroop Vege, Carlos Fernandez del Castillo, Masao Tanaka, Jeremy Wilson, Peter Hegyi, and Pramod Garg. He also thanked the board for their contributions to an outstanding meeting.

SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Dr Saluja presented the treasurer's report and indicated that the APA is doing quite well financially. The year 2012 has been a very good year for fundraising. We do not have the final expenses for the 2012 meeting but are within budget and expect to be in better financial standing for the meeting.

This year, a total of 332 abstracts were received from 26 different countries. We had 510 registrants for our annual meeting, although approximately 20 were unable to attend because of Hurricane Sandy hitting the East Coast. Again, both our abstracts and attendance are up from previous years. The number of countries represented by abstract presentations and registrations were up considerably, probably in some part because of the joint meeting with the IAP.

Dr Saluja reminded that the APA is continuing to grant Mini-Sabbatical Funding of up to \$5000. This is for young investigators who want to learn new techniques by visiting other institutions. Six awards have been granted since the start of the program.

2013 APA MEETING

Dr Saluja reported that the 2013 meeting will be held on October 30 to November 2 again at the Eden Roc Hotel in Miami, Fla. The contract details are being finalized. Program details are forthcoming.

APA AWARDS

The Vay Liang & Frisca Go Award for Lifetime Achievement in Pancreatology was given to Dr Murray Korc and Dr Horst Kern. Past APA President George Scheele was on hand to present the award to Dr Kern. Dr Korc's son, Dr Paul Korc, presented his award. In addition, a new award, the Distinguished Service Award, was presented to Dr Edward Purich. Two abstracts were selected to receive the Hirshberg awards in the field of pancreatic cancer, and 2 additional abstracts were selected to receive the National Pancreas Foundation awards for abstracts in the area of pancreatitis. These awards were presented during the awards dinner on November 1, 2012.

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARDS

Dr Saluja reported that because the organization is in good financial shape this year, 35 awards were granted. This is an increase from previous years. These awards are designed to encourage the continued participation by young pancreatic specialists by defraying the travel costs to attend the meeting. All awards were for \$500, and the \$300 member registration fee was waived.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dr Freeman, as chair, gave the report on behalf of the nominating committee. Other members of the committee included Ashok Saluja, Carlos Fernandez-del Castillo, Anirban Maitra, and Craig Logsdon. The slate of candidates recommended for election by the nominating committee, as specified in the bylaws, was as follows:

President-Elect: Stephen Pandol, MD (1-year term)

Councilor: Miklos Sahin-Toth, MD, PhD (3-year term)

The slate was approved unanimously for election by voice vote.

PANCREAS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT

Pancreas remains the top journal of our field, and all members of the APA have free online access. The journal is distributed online through the Ovid and Lippincott Williams & Wilkins networks, with global penetration in more than 110 countries today and more than 30,000 visitors per month. The journal continues to grow and is now processing more than 1,600 articles per year, but the acceptance rate unfortunately continues to drop, with only 1 of 4 submitted articles being accepted for publication because the publisher's page allocation remains the same and the journal continues to be 8 issues per year. In 2012, *Pancreas* increased the 5-year impact factor to 2.961, and the 2-year impact factor is 2.923, up from 2.386 the previous year. Our publisher, Ms Elizabeth Durzy, discussed the option of open access for *Pancreas*, and the editorial board discussed how best to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the journal's continuous publication since 1986. We welcome our new associate editors: Drs Guido Eibl, Andres Gelrud, Pamela L. Kunz, Diane L. Reidy-Lagunes, Lucas Wong, and Bechien Wu to the editorial board.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashok K. Saluja, PhD

Secretary-Treasurer