

SIVB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (DRAFT)
Telephone Conference Call
Saturday, February 27, 2010

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- 1.0 INTRODUCTION: The meeting was called to order by Todd Jones at 10:36 AM. Board members in attendance were Michael Spencer, Todd Jones, John Finan, Bill Smith, Dwight Tomes, Liz Roemer, Barbara Reed, Paul Price and Mark Jordan. Not present were Barbara Doonan and Dan Brown. Guest Marietta Ellis also attended.
- 1.1 Adoption of Minutes John Finan distributed the minutes from the October 16-17 board meeting on November 24. Corrections were received from Marietta Ellis and Barbara Doonan – Marietta’s comments have been incorporated while Barbara’s comments were mostly grammatical and will be incorporated prior to posting. Also, executive session minutes will be removed prior to posting to the web. **John Finan move and Paul Price seconded that the October minutes be adopted after incorporating the minimal changes recommended by Barbara. MOTION PASSED**
- 1.2 Adoption of Agenda Todd Jones asked if there are any changes to the agenda. Bill Smith asked to include an item later about an award to Roland Nardone – will be discussed today. **Bill Smith moved, Liz Roemer seconded that the agenda be adopted. MOTION PASSED.**
- 1.3 Outstanding Action Items, John Finan reported the following action items from the October, 2009 Board meeting.
- 1) Liz will follow with an e-mail request for someone to take the lead on possible FDA funding. **Liz had a conversation with Cindy about pursuing but this was not completed – ongoing.**
 - 2) Dwight Tomes will send draft verbiage about ethics and COPE standards for suggestions. **Dwight reports that a statement is on the front matter of the journal about COPE standards - Done**
 - 3) Barbara Reed will follow up with Springer to see how free/low cost journal access for developing countries can be established and advertized via AGORA and HINARI; a booth can be set up at the annual meeting to advertise this. **We are linked in with AGORA - Done**
 - 4) Pam Weathers and Barbara Reed will look into use of annuities to start/supplement the endowment and forward that information to Bill Smith. **Received information and forwarded - Done**
 - 5) Todd Jones will collect some information from the society of cereal chemists on their foundation. **Todd sent link of cereal chemists website to Bill containing information - done**
 - 6) Marietta will update the board on the amount of \$ that is in the Funds for the Future. **Done**
 - 7) Michael Spencer will contact sponsorship/grants subcommittee and follow up for grants with IAPB group – **Done NSF proposal is submitted – uploaded yesterday. And he is optimistic that we will receive funds.**
 - 8) Todd will follow up with Roger to try to place Todd on the executive committee **Done**
 - 9) Marietta will tell Springer to send in the vendor application form and they will receive their booth at no cost. **Done and they are sponsoring lanyards.**

- 10) Cindy Goodman will contact specific membership to contact and encourage personnel from local universities to attend.
- 11) Marietta will collect information on Raleigh for discussion at the next meeting - **Done**
- 12) John Finer will work to assemble a questionnaire with input from Marietta and Todd to ask the emeritus how they could become more engaged with the society. **Ongoing**
- 13) Paul Price will talk to Gordana of Columbia University for possible contact for establishing additional relationships with other societies. **Done – e-mails sent – timing for meetings is not right - ongoing**
- 14) Barbara Reed will talk with Lia about contact for Cryobiology to build relationship within this society. – **Done and for discussion today.**
- 15) Marietta will find out what IAPB offers for new membership **Done pink sheet lists information on their web site and special benefits for new members – internet subscription and reduced registration fee for meeting.**
- 16) Marietta assemble list of lost memberships and distribute names to the board – **Done.**

Additional action items:

- 1) **Marietta reports lockbox remote check deposit is ongoing as she still needs to install new software on her computer**
- 2) **Marietta is resolving meeting room space for the June meeting.**
- 3) **Marietta has been collecting information on meeting registrants who are associated with either SIVB and/or IAPB for split of registration. Identifying stickers for the badges are being ordered.**

2.0 2010 MEETING UPDATE

- 2.1 2010 IAPB Meeting; Tab 2 in the board meeting packet. – Marietta reports that IAPB is trying hard to find additional attendees – 61 SIVB members are registered, IAPB reported that they had 114 registered through their site. Marietta reported that the last IAPB meeting was centered around increasing numbers. They need 800 rooms per night. Of our 61 registrants, most are plant.

Cindy joins at 11:00 - asked how many animal registrants we have. Not broken down but easy to figure out later. Deadline dates for registration have been pushed back – March 15 is the new deadline date to allow info to be put on flash drive.

34 student registration fellowships have been awarded. Michael reports that the NSF grant will allow for 62 student fellowships and student registration is all that we can use it for. Liz asked if we cannot get 62 a, what happens, Michael reports that we need to follow the spirit of the grant. Paul asked if we can roll over the money to next year. Michael reports that we may be able to do this. 14 student application in to student awards – only 1 is animal. Lia reported 4 for oral student competition. There are 10 students and 10 post-docs competing for presentation awards. We do need to increase Students fellowship applicants – but they need to submit abstracts and deadlines are rapidly approaching.

Marietta reports that she is working on the logistics part at the American center – approx cost for social is \$1400 – working on cost for SIVB to put on meeting at America center. She is also working with sandy in the MO group and the convention center folks.

Hotel space – Marietta suggested that the board stay at the Hyatt – to meet room block minimum. The last Orlando meeting had 1200 registrants – IAPB is very short this time. Orlando, early registration was 600-700 – now we are only at 200 – this is a serious problem.

Exhibit cost is \$3K and exhibitors are down too. in Orlando, it was \$1800 – will not look good to have minimal exhibitors. In green sheets, there is a listing of SIVB registrants.

- 2.2 2010 In Vitro Biology Meeting Update; T. M. Spencer /C. Goodman, Cindy reports IVACS section – speakers realize that they have to fund their own travel. The session conveners tried to select SIVB members or local people for presenters in most but not all cases. Cindy wants to find a place on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday for the IVACS program committee meeting. Marietta suggested that this be combined with business meeting from 8-9 on Monday. Need to check with current and incoming chair to see if they are available for a Monday, combined meeting.

On the plant side, Michael reports that IAPB is driving the plant session. Barbara Reed reports some difficulty finding speakers for her sessions, which are not IAPB sessions, as the registration cost is so high.

Todd asked if Cindy/IVACS has a compelling program. Cindy reports that there are a little more fish people for this year's meeting.

- 2.3 Meeting Statistics/Meeting Update, M. Ellis

- 2.4 Fundraising. Marietta reports that John Harbell has been working to get funds for the IVACS student initiative and IVACS meeting funds. Marietta reports that \$2200 is still needed to make up for registration for IVACS.

Dwight reports that the pink sheet summarizes the \$ that has been raised. Several companies donated early this year or at the end of last year. Fundraising for IAPB has been very slow. Todd reports that BASF was able to donate separate donations for SIVB and IAPB. The SIVB contribution was for student initiative and IAPB contribution from BASF was for meeting support. Dwight reports the strong efforts by Michael for the NSF funds and that it is difficult to obtain industry support in the current environment. Bob Harriman at Scott's promised \$5K support.

Marietta reports that Dow is sponsoring flash drives and will advertise in the journal. Todd has been conservative with sharing SIVB funds with IAPB, at least until the NSF funds are awarded. Liz asked why IAPB is asking for fundraising information from SIVB. They provided information to us, and some of the companies have donated twice. Marietta asked if we share information and will donate to them. Barbara says that we needed to come up with \$5K to cover SIVB plant section - micropropagation. John suggested that it was OK to share information with IAPB as they are sharing with us. Todd suggested that the targeted funds should be specified in any sharing information. Michael says that NSF is for 50K with half to each society. He will meet with Kan to talk about USDA grant funds that may be a little more uncertain.

IVACS needs to generate a little more funds – John Harbell needs to follow up but his situation is not quite settled.

Action item: Todd will follow with Dave Songstad to contact Sigma and others. Todd will contact IAPB to coordinate and make sure that they are aware of this contact.

Action Item: Marietta will craft a response to let IAPB know that we can help and she will provide a list of where the funding is targeted.

Marietta asked about where the Scotts money is targeted. Michael suggested that we hold off on disclosing the Scotts money until we have it in hand.

Todd asked board of directors meeting on Sunday – asking if there were any activities planned for Sat night. There are none planned.

Cindy signed off at 12:30

3.0 AWARDS

3.1 Lifetime Achievement Award Nominations: Lifetime achievement Peggy Lemeux, Wilf Keller, and Donald Ingber

3.2 Fellow Award Nominations: Two nominees for fellow are Dennis Gray and Wayne Parrott

John Finer moved to accept the recommendations of the awards committee. Paul Price seconded – MOTIONED PASSED – Mark Jordan warned that we need to be cautious about giving awards beyond the 2 maximum for each. Todd pointed out that there is an exception clause built into the policy that allows the award committee and the board to give more than 2 awards for each category.

Additional discussion on Roland Nardone as a fellow nominee, where the deadline for submission was missed. Follow-up discussion of service award or special presidential award to recognize contributions to society. Bill Smith suggested that we slow down and a packet could be forwarded to the awards committee at a later time.

Action item: Bill and Marietta will contact Maud soon after the June meeting to expedite the fellow nomination for Roland Nardone.

Michael signed off at 1:00. In leaving, Michael also mentioned that Providence is his choice for next year's meeting.

3.3 Young Scientist Award Nominations No nominees

4.0 TREASURER'S REPORT: Marietta is presenting for Barbara. We started out this year at - \$12,164. This is the first year for a long time that we are not in the red. We are in the plus of \$68,586. This is a very good situation although we may have an interesting year ahead with the meeting. Barbara's company has been able to come up with \$5K that is to be distributed to all sections.

Morgan Stanley Smith and Barney provided some recommendations; recommended that we invest \$50K in a cd ladder and \$50K in short term fund – a particular mutual fund either A or C class. Finance committee approved 50 K in CD ladder and \$50K in C class funds. Barbara asked why we did not go with the A fund, Marietta and Barbara both recommended the A fund but the finance committee recommended the C fund as it was more flexible.

5.0 2011 MEETING UPDATE

5.1 2011 Location Selection/Discussion; Marietta reports that Raleigh and Providence are very similar. We will use a convention center and a separate hotel – not a joint hotel/convention center situation as in Charleston.

Providence: \$159 per night for hotel – \$10 rebate will go to convention center costs. \$13K room rental \$30K food and beverage minimum at the convention center.

Raleigh, \$148 per night \$10 rebate for convention center costs. Convention center gave multiple options – depending on our needs. \$10K for room rental, \$25K food and beverage to \$14K for room rental, \$25K food and beverage.

Providence has us down for too many rooms – Marietta needs to negotiate. Raleigh is willing to provide complimentary rooms for social and meetings. Marietta feels that these are good properties.

Action Item: Marietta will collect best offers from Providence and Raleigh and bring back to the board on the best offers. She will also provide a recommendation.

Barbara mentioned that Cryobiology is interested in having a joint meeting with us.

Action item: Barbara and Marietta will contact cryobiology group to see if they would consider or be more interested in Raleigh or Providence for a location for the next meeting. Barbara will provide contact information to Marietta.

Barbara asked about 2012 – no emphasis at this point. Board suggestions: Vancouver, San Diego, Phoenix, Tucson. San Francisco, Anaheim, Riverside area, LA, Las Vegas, Seattle, Oakland, Berkley.

Michele joins at 2:10

6.0 PUBLICATIONS Barbara Reed has been working to get a contract finalized, In Vitro Plant and Animal are on track. Dwight reports that the flow of publications has been very high – lots of manuscript from India and China – high rejection rate but lots of submissions. Interaction with Springer has been very good. Barbara talked about an in vitro conservation issues with special review format – about 20 papers that are in the process of submission – Dwight says 6 have been submitted.

Michele reports that 29 papers were submitted to IV-A based on a theme of “Embryonic Stem Cells” – waiting on final layout and proof.

Michele reports that she is evaluating a new look for the SIVB website with a more modern edge. Marietta speculated a higher cost associated with improvements – wants to include more news items. Todd asked about how to make the site more interactive or live. No clear solution

Todd received a letter from Reutter and they would be happy to publish our journal – Dwight received a similar letter that he forwarded to Springer.

6.1 Springer Contract Update; Marietta and Barbara are pushing to see profit/loss indices but Springer has been reluctant to provide this information.

6.2 Publication Update; B. Reed reports that Plant and animal tokens have not been made available.

6.3 History Society Participation Updating Website Barbara Reed suggested information on background of society to be posted to the website. **Action Item: Paul will try to dig up the animal history and talk with Sandra. John will take the lead on the history of the plant side**

Michele leaves the meeting at 2:30.

7.0 OTHER BUSINESS

- 7.1 Public Policy letter re: Cell Contamination: Paul reports that Roland sent letters to the journals on cell contamination. Todd asks if we should send additional letters to other journals about contamination problems – cell line identification. Bill asked that we wait for Pam to discuss this. **Action Item: Todd will contact Pam to set up a conference call between involved parties to discuss cell contamination issues.**

Todd brought up that there is a letter of support for Roundup-Ready alfalfa that we should encourage our membership to support by commenting to APHIS on line.

- 7.2 SIVB Foundation Update; Bill said again that we would not establish a foundation and we should consider an endowment as other societies have in place. These other societies are a little different format than SIVB with more, wealthier members. **Action item: Bill Smith will start long range planning on the endowment, working on a strategic plan, setting up a conference call to get people (Songstad, Altman, Harbell, T. Jones, Finer) together and start to come up with suggestions.**

- 7.3 Potential Student Award in honor of Roberta H. Smith; J. Finer wanted to start an endowment for Bobby Smith through SIVB. Bill mentioned that the endowment that other societies have, is used for this, where smaller endowments could be grouped to increase the size of individual endowments, which leads to higher rates. John wishes to pursue fundraising for this as Bobby will be attending SIVB this year.

Mark **Jordan** leaves at 3:05

- 7.4 Potential joint meeting with Society for Cryobiology in **Providence or Rhode Island**, B. Reed 2011/2012 – covered earlier

- 8.0 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE FOR FYI; Marietta e-mailed membership information to all, the dropped memberships seem to come from industry who let their membership lapse. Liz suggested industry group rates for memberships to think about.

- 9.0 ADJOURNMENT, **Paul Price moved Liz Roemer seconded that the meeting be adjourned MOTION PASSED.** Meeting adjourned at 3:28 PM

Review of Action Items: J. Finer

- 1) Todd will follow with Dave Songstad to contact Sigma and others. Todd will contact IAPB to coordinate and make sure that they are aware of this contact.
- 2) Marietta will craft a response to let IAPB know that we can help and she will provide a list of where the funding is targeted.
- 3) Bill and Marietta will contact Maud soon after the June meeting to expedite the fellow nomination for Roland Nardone.
- 4) Marietta will collect best offers from Providence and Raleigh and bring back to the board on the best offers. She will also provide a recommendation.
- 5) Barbara and Marietta will contact cryobiology group to see if they would consider or be more interested in Raleigh or Providence for a location for the next meeting. Barbara will provide contact information to Marietta
- 6) Paul will try to dig up the animal history and talk with Sandra. John will take the lead on the history of the plant side for the history section of the society web site.

- 7) Todd will contact Pam to set up a conference call between involved parties to discuss cell contamination issues.
- 8) Bill Smith will start long range planning on the endowment, working on a strategic plan, setting up a conference call to get people (Songstad, Altman, Harbell, T. Jones, Finer) together and start to come up with suggestions.