

SIVB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA
OCTOBER 7-8, 2005

1.0 INTRODUCTION: The meeting was called to order by President David Altman at 3:35 pm. Board members present were: David Altman, Cynthia Goodman, John Harbell, Richard Heller, Michael Horn, Dennis Laska, Paul Price, Nancy Reichert, Sandra Schneider, David Songstad, and Mark Jordan. Guest Marietta Ellis [New Beginnings Management(NBM)] was also present.

1.1 Adoption of minutes. John Harbell moved, and Paul Price seconded, that the June 3-4, 2005 minutes be adopted. Motion Passed (10:1:0).

Adoption of agenda. After much discussion, Cynthia Goodman moved, and Richard Heller seconded that the agenda should include sections 6.05 "Report of original ballot of initial Nominating Committee" and 7.2 "Report of initial Nominating Committee on ballot processing" be included in the agenda. Motion Passed (7:3:1). John Harbell moved, and Dennis Laska seconded, that a modified agenda be adopted as long as the initial specified time limits are adhered to. Motion Passed (10:1:0).

2.0 2006 AND 2007 MEETINGS

Mark Jordan discussed the 2006 program including confirmed sessions. The keynote speaker will be Ron Phillips who is a member of the National Academy of Science. Marc van Montagu will give the plenary talk in one of the Plant Biotechnology Section's sessions. Other speakers are being confirmed. Paul Price suggested that scheduling roundtable discussions with students during breakfast could be a good way to get them involved.

2.1 Selection of host hotel for 2007 meeting. Marietta Ellis discussed the letter of agreement The Westin in Indianapolis provided for the 2007 meeting. The room rate is currently \$155 per night and she will negotiate with them reduce it to \$139, plus reduce the number of room nights and the catering account. The best deal will be finalized soon. David Altman asked if we need a host hotel. Dennis Laska said we would have to rent meeting rooms somewhere which could cost \$85-100,000. **Sandra Schneider moved, and Paul Price seconded, that Marietta should go forward with negotiations for more favorable terms in our agreement for The Westin in Indianapolis to be our host hotel for our 2007 annual meeting. Motion Passed (11:0:0).** Marietta will forward the finalized agreement to the Board via email for a vote.

3.0 PUBLICATIONS [Michele Schultz (NBM) joined the Board meeting by speaker phone.] Michael Horn reported that In Vitro Cellular and Developmental Biology-Plant (In Vitro-Plant) is doing well. The impact factor is down a bit but the recent naming of an Invited Reviews Editor has increased the number of those submissions which should bring it back up. According to Denry Sato, his transition as the new Editor of In Vitro-Animal is going smoothly and Wallace McKeehan (former Editor) is helping.

3.1 Publications Committee recommendation. The Publications Committee has spent a great deal of time urging publishers to submit proposals. Elsevier contacted Michael Horn just three days ago, but it was too late to submit a proposal for consideration. Indra Vasil [represented International Association for Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology (IAPTC&B)], has been involved since that Society's journal is published with In Vitro-Plant. He anticipated that we would sign with Springer so he obtained an agreement from the IAPTC&B to share in the cost of moving to online manuscript submission with "Editorial Manager" prior to 2007. Michael's report delineated the motion the Publications Committee wanted presented. David Altman asked for clarification since the motion contained two options. Michael indicated that option 1 (both journals move to Springer) was preferred and recommended, but Denry Sato and Michele Schultz expressed a strong opinion in favor of motion 2 (In Vitro-Plant moves to Springer, In Vitro-Animal stays with Allen Press). Cynthia Goodman asked why CABI bowed out and Michele indicated it was strictly a business decision. There was discussion in regard to what option would result in more revenue being generated from In Vitro-Animal. It appeared that moving to Springer would result in about \$7,000 more in revenue. Michael Horn said In Vitro-Animal was currently a money-maker, but was in serious decline and we would need to spend approx. \$10,000 in marketing if we stayed with Allen Press.

There was discussion on whether or not to continue with page charges In Vitro-Animal currently assesses. Springer would prefer to discontinue that practice. Richard Heller said removing page charges might increase the number of submissions. Sandra Schneider said that without page charges, In Vitro-Animal would be a throw-away journal. The Springer proposal guaranteed a certain amount of revenue without any page charges. Cynthia Goodman asked what about digitization of older volumes already conducted by Allen Press (for use in BioOne) and the revenue it generates. David Altman asked if we move that data to a different publisher, would we pay back-charges for digitization.

Detailed proposals from both Springer and Allen Press were included in the Board packet, plus a detailed comparison of both options was provided by NBM. Separately, representatives from each publisher were given an hour to discuss their proposal with the Board.

3.1.1 Springer presentation. Representatives from Springer who presented information included Scott Delman, Sabine Schreck and Henry Krell. They presented background information about Springer and shared examples of their journals. Springer created a society-dedicated publishing team in 2004, and it currently publishes 286 society-owned journals as part of its 1119 journals. Stated goals for our journals would be to increase the number of submissions, increase their impact factors, increase rankings of In Vitro-Animal (now 152 of 155 journals) and In Vitro-Plant (150/155) to ranks of approx. 130 in four years, shorten the turn-around time for publication, and review potential

initiation of book series that are affiliated with our journals. These goals could attract new authors and members to the SIVB and increase revenue to the Society. The in-house marketing group would try to maximize visibility of our journals via various venues and would commit \$25,000 to this in the first year. Springer will pay a royalty of 35% of total revenue and guarantees a minimum of \$75,000 yearly to SIVB (plus \$25,000 to IAPTC&B). A \$30,000 signing bonus would be provided (\$15,000 per journal) plus \$10,000 to IAPTC&B. Springer will provide stipends of \$17,000 yearly to each editorial office, plus \$10,000 to the IAPTC&B editorial office. Subscription prices will remain the same for the next four years. If Springer only publishes In Vitro-Plant, the editorial office support would remain the same, the guaranteed revenue would be reduced by one-half and the signing bonus would be \$20,000 to be split evenly between SIVB and IAPTC&B. The marketing commitment amount would also be reduced, but the specific amount was not mentioned. Although not discussed during the presentation, the net income above the minimum guarantees would vary depending on the number of subscriptions and royalties generated per year.

3.1.2 Allen Press presentation. Representatives from Allen Press were Guy Dresser and Stephanie Hall who presented background information about Allen Press and discussed their successful working relationship with the SIVB. With seventy years of industry experience, Allen Press has proven their expertise in producing more than 400 scientific, medical and technical publications for nonprofit organizations. This specialization has enabled them to offer lower production costs for high quality prints and allows the client to maintain control of their journals. They are also a leader in internet publishing and current clientele includes 135 journals and 80 publishers. They also stressed their proactive, personal customer service. Since all societies are a little different from one another, Allen Press offers services, essentially ala carte, enabling each society to choose services that suit their needs. They can also keep their prices lower than large commercial publishers whose journals can cost 3-7 times more which contributes to the trend of libraries canceling approx. 6% of their journals each year. David Altman asked if Allen Press could turn the In Vitro-Animal's impact factor around (went from 1.4 to 0.362 in the last ten years). Guy said the SIVB should work with a marketing group and we could use their in-house marketers or we could work with others. They suggest we spend \$10,000 on this endeavor per year. Guy clarified an issue raised earlier and indicated that Allen Press would not charge us for any SGML coding they had already provided to the SIVB for use in BioOne and if we chose to leave Allen Press but stay with BioOne, we would then begin to pay the per page fee (\$5.75).

3.1.3 Board's decision on choice of publisher. The Board discussed the merits and drawbacks of each proposal for greater than one hour. Primarily, the impact on In Vitro-Animal was considered since In Vitro-Plant will go to Springer after our contract with CABI expires. Many acknowledged in the

discussion that Allen Press has done an excellent job with In Vitro-Animal. It was more a comparison of two different approaches to sharing scientific information with our peers. With Allen Press, the SIVB maintains more control but must do a great deal of work in addition to paying for, and deciding on, marketing strategies. Springer could automatically increase the number of institutional subscriptions of In Vitro-Animal from 270 to 3000. Discussion also addressed how each would contribute to the growth and overall financial health of our Society.

Meeting adjourned for the evening at 9:00 pm. Meeting was called to order on October 8 at 7:30 am.

3.1.3 Board's decision on choice of publisher. The discussion continued for 30 minutes with a greater emphasis on who could more effectively market our journals – Springer or us, an area many of us are unfamiliar with. Since In Vitro-Animal is in a crisis, it is important to see what organization could revitalize it and contribute to growth of the SIVB. **John Harbell moved, and Paul Price seconded, that we adopt option 1 of motion 1 put forward by the Publications Committee. Motion Passed (9:2:0).** David Altman suggested that during the negotiations with Springer we ask them to pay for In Vitro-Plant to go online even before the contract begins, which should be to their benefit, plus negotiate the royalty stream since most back issues have already been digitized.

4.0 2006 PROJECTED BUDGET

4.1 Approval or modification of 2006 budget. Prior to the Board meeting, Marietta Ellis emailed the working budget for 2006 compared to 2005. Richard Heller discussed the budget and indicated we will have a small amount of money left at the end of 2005 – we won't be in the red. The financial statement, provided in the Board packet, is not as negative as that for 2004 (>\$100,000) and the Board should be congratulated because we are now essentially even. This is due, primarily, to us controlling meeting costs. **Sandra Schneider moved, and Paul Price seconded, that the 2006 working budget be approved as proposed by Richard. Motion Passed (11:0:0).** There was discussion on keeping the \$30,000 signing bonus from Springer out of the 2006 budget. **Richard Heller moved, and Nancy Reichert seconded, that the signing fee from Springer should be placed into the SIVB investment account. Motion Passed (11:0:0).**

Richard Heller discussed a continuing concern related to speaker reimbursements which, in 2005, all Sections covered. The philosophy has been if the Section raises the money they get to decide the level(s) of reimbursements to their speakers. However, when the receipts are submitted for reimbursement, Richard doesn't know what limits, if any, have been set. An example this year for a very large reimbursement showed the need for this discussion. Richard said he would feel more comfortable if each

Section/Program Chair OK the amount prior to processing. Nancy Reichert said that example came from her Section and that they changed their reimbursement rules and procedure because of it. Richard said it is important that the speaker know upfront what will be reimbursed and that information can be included in the initial invitation letter sent by the SIVB. **Richard Heller moved, and Nancy Reichert seconded, that the speaker reimbursement form should be modified to include approval, by signature, of the Section designee that oversees speaker expenses. Motion Passed (11:0:0).**

Going back to the publications discussion, Michael Horn suggested we proceed with In Vitro-Plant's conversion to Editorial Manager for online tracking even if negotiations with Springer to pay for it fail. Cynthia Goodman seemed to recall it was already included in a previous budget. David Altman said she was correct, but due to change of secretariat of the IAPTC&B they asked us to pay their part of the fee, so we didn't pursue it. **Michael Horn moved, and Cynthia Goodman seconded, that the SIVB, on the possibility that our negotiations with Springer fail to obtain a commitment for paying \$8,000 for online manuscript tracking for In Vitro-Plant, the SIVB commits money to cover that expense from the investment account. Motion Failed (5:6:0).** Richard Heller also recalled that we had already approved paying for online manuscript tracking to be paid from our Funds for the Future. John Harbell said we have approx. \$25,000 in that fund (listed on statements in temporarily restricted account line) and should tell submitters we will be on track in 2006.

5.0 FUNDRAISING

5.1 Update on fundraising. Fundraising information and a list of company contacts were provided by David Songstad. He said the USDA grant (\$8,000) had not been received yet so it was left off the 2005 contribution list, and one-half of the contribution from UST will go to the 2006 meeting as requested. With these considerations, we raised exactly \$50,000 for the general fund with total contributions reaching \$95,000 in 2005. David believes we can raise more than that in 2006 and we already have commitments from Land-O-Lakes, 3M and Cargill. (He and David Altman traveled to Minneapolis one day early to visit with some of these companies. Nancy Reichert accompanied them to Land-O-Lakes.) David Altman also indicated additional key contacts have been made which will be followed up on. He also suggested we contact companies such as Medtronic (medical device company) and explore the possibility of them developing and presenting training workshops which would attract medical personnel. Dennis Laska suggested the training be tied to CME credits and linking scientific sessions to training workshops. Potential sessions were discussed. Michael Horn said there should be a mandate we put out press releases on at least one topic. David Songstad already contacted a local TV station that might provide some coverage. Marietta Ellis will send information to those on the company contact list by the end of the year.

6.0 2006-2008 SIVB SLATE OF NOMINEES (Delia Bethell joined the Board meeting by speaker phone.)

At the June 2005 meeting, members of the Cellular Toxicology and Vertebrate Sections voted to merge. Paul Price indicated a vote by the Board was needed to officially modify the Bylaws to combine the two Sections. Cynthia Goodman said the question of merging with that combined Section will be put on the Invertebrate Section's ballot this year. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee, conveyed by Mary Ann Lila, advised the Board that they can modify the Bylaws to allow two Sections to merge without a vote by the membership. They further suggested the ballot reflect this merger. **John Harbell moved, and Paul Price seconded, that the Board create a single Section from the two existing Sections of Vertebrate and Cellular Toxicology. Motion Passed (11:0:0).** Paul Price said they have come up with seven potential names for the merged Section. David Altman said he will contact the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to change the names in appropriate places in our Bylaws.

6.05 Report of original ballot of initial Nominating Committee. Sandra Schneider gave the Board a set of handouts just before the Board meeting began on October 7. As Chair of the initial Nominating Committee, she indicated her committee filled the slate with a few exceptions on September 19 which was within the time frame specified by the Bylaws. She asked for clarification on various parts of the SIVB Constitution and Bylaws. Delia Bethell provided clarification on those issues.

6.1 Approval of slate. An Ad Hoc Nominating Committee was formed by David Altman, chaired by Delia Bethell, to find nominees for all remaining vacant positions. She presented the completed ballot to the Board. Discussion on the Constitution and Bylaws by Sandra Schneider and Delia continued. **John Harbell moved, and Michael Horn seconded, that we come to a close on this discussion and accept the candidates submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee. Motion Passed (10:1:0).**

7.0 CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

7.1 Approval of modification or clarification of membership classes allowed to vote. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee affirmed that the classes of members eligible to vote in elections are those designated as Regular, Lifetime and Emeritus. This information was conveyed to the Board by Mary Ann Lila.

7.2 Report of initial Nominating Committee on ballot processing. Sandra Schneider shared the information submitted to her by AIBS in regard to their procedures for ballot processing and the fee associated with it. She suggested we subcontract with them for this upcoming ballot. David Altman said the Executive Committee (previously called Management Committee, expanded to include all current officers) had examined the proposal and determined it was too costly. To save money, a paper ballot will be used and the Tellers Committee will be composed of officers of the Faculty Senate at Mississippi State University and overseen by Secretary Nancy Reichert as specified in the Bylaws. Paul Price indicated this was a financially-driven decision. **John**

Harbell moved, and David Songstad seconded, that the Board accept the recommendation made by the Executive Committee to only have a paper ballot in this next election. Motion Passed (9:1:1). Delia Bethell indicated that prior to approving the modifications made in the Constitution and Bylaws last year, we were obligated to mail ballots, but in this example, online voting would double the cost. Sandra continued to discuss the use of AIBS and wanted the Board to consider using them in the future. **Sandra Schneider moved, and Cynthia Goodman seconded, that the Board explore options from AIBS or other organizations to conduct both online and paper ballot for the next election cycle. Motion Passed (8:2:1).** The Ad Hoc Nominating Committee recommended that the two newly merged Section ballots be merged since one person was nominated to run for each office in both original Sections. Paul and Sandra indicated they would work on providing a ballot that included greater than one nominee in at least two of the Section officer positions.

8.0 OTHER BUSINESS

Dennis Laska indicated the SIVB has numerous historical materials and wanted to know what the Society plans to do with all of it. The suggestion was to made to contact June Bradlaw and ask her to look at our materials at the University of Maryland to see what they have. Michael Horn suggested the SIVB website be revamped plus provide a “join IAPTC&B” link on the Plant Biotechnology Section’s web page.

Pamela Weathers emailed the Board an update on the student surveys and wanted that information read into the minutes. “The student survey that was done at the 2005 meeting had only about 12 respondents so we proceeded to query students also via email. We had a much better response with nearly 30 respondents overall (pretty good return for surveys!). We queried under grad students, grad students, and postdocs. The vast majority of respondents were grad students which is good...that was our main target group. The data are being crunched by my students and would have been ready by end of October, but we can’t quite make it by this week end. One critical thing they did determine, however, is that MOST student attendees do NOT have advisors who are SIVB members!! I found that very disappointing and you might want to discuss that finding a bit at the meeting. Once the analysis is done, we will send an Executive summary to all Board members along with hard copies of the full report to the SIVB office and to the President. I will include one copy of the original surveys in the SIVB copy in case anyone wishes to re-investigate the data we gathered.”

Michael Horn moved, and John Harbell seconded, that the Board meeting be adjourned. Motion Passed (11:0:0). Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

9.0 ACTION ITEMS

9.1 New action items.

1. Marietta Ellis will send the Board the 2007 meeting contract with The Westin for acceptance via email vote.
2. Paul Price will transmit the newly combined Section name to Marietta Ellis and the Board plus the finalized slate of nominees for that combined Section.
3. Cynthia Goodman will work with members of the Invertebrate Section and will send Marietta Ellis the question(s) that Section will vote on.

9.2 Old action items yet to be completed (numbers don't match those in original minutes).

June 2005:

1. *The Chair of the Awards Committee (Amy Wang) will be the go-between for the Lifetime Achievement Award to ensure nomination packets are received and provided to the Board in a timely manner. David Ellis will convey this to Amy. ONGOING*
2. *David Songstad will convey the decision about proposed fund-raising incentives to Marietta Ellis. COMPLETED*
3. *Richard Heller will coordinate with NBM to initiate and provide semi-annual accounting reports of all restricted accounts to the Board and Section Chairs. (Will be provided June 30 and Dec. 31.) COMPLETED*

February 2005

4. *The Board will review the contract from JSTOR and make recommendations whether or not to sign. Within the next 10 days, Board members should send questions and suggestions to David Altman, who is the contact person. COMPLETED*
5. *The Constitution and Bylaws Committee will look into the role of the Board in regard to making endorsements. Nancy Reichert is the contact person. ONGOING*
6. *The Constitution and Bylaws Committee will clarify which class(es) of members are allowed to vote. Nancy Reichert is the contact person. COMPLETED*
7. *Amy Wang will be notified that the decision in regard to who receives Fellow Awards will stay within the Sections. Marietta Ellis is the contact person. COMPLETED*

October 2004

8. *Mike Horn will ask the Publications Committee to look into providing members with electronic journal access only, and determine how much it would cost to provide hard copies to members. Information will be reported at the February, 2005 Board meeting. ONGOING*
9. *Marietta Ellis will look into getting a business checking account that charges lower fees than the current account. Information will be reported at the February, 2005 Board meeting. ONGOING*
10. *Marietta Ellis will post the list of potential awards plus nomination criteria on the SIVB website by the December 15 Board meeting. ONGOING*
11. *Pam Weathers will work with Marietta Ellis to ensure a check-box be added to registration forms to request room sharing, and will develop a student questionnaire for distribution at the 2005 meeting. COMPLETED*

12. David Altman will contact CABI about the IVCDB-P journal to urge it be listed in the PubMed database, replace the vacant senior editor position as quickly as possible, and to finalize the online submission process. *COMPLETED*
13. Nancy Reichert will work with Marietta Ellis to get a membership data list that includes length of membership in the SIVB. Nancy will work with the Membership Committee to decide on type(s) of recognition to be given to long-standing members. *COMPLETED*

May 2004

14. The Publications committee consider a list of English editors available to help with foreign language submissions. *ONGOING*
15. Board members from each Section should find a volunteer to write a "Points to Ponder" column and send the information to Dave Songstad. *COMPLETED*
16. Membership data should track the same time for present and previous years and should include the change in membership for each Section. *COMPLETED*
17. The membership brochure should be finished this summer for use with fundraising and membership mailings. Nancy Reichert is contact person. This was extended to summer 2005. *ONGOING*
18. All Award winners and the year of the award should be listed on the web site by the end of the year. It will also be included in the History Committee's annual report. This will be completed by the end of 2004. Sandra Schneider is the contact person. *ONGOING*