

4/25/07 draft

SIVB BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONFERENCE CALL  
FEBRUARY 24, 2007

- 1.0 INTRODUCTION: The meeting was called to order by President Paul Price at 12:07 pm (EST). Board members present were: David Altman, Daniel Brown, John Harbell, Richard Heller, Michael Horn, Todd Jones, Dennis Laska, Paul Price, and Nancy Reichert. Pamela Weathers joined at 1:00 pm EST. Guests David Jayme, Wayne Parrott, and Marietta Ellis [New Beginnings Management (NBM)] also participated.
- 1.1 Adoption of agenda. David Altman moved, and John Harbell seconded, that the agenda be adopted as amended. MOTION PASSED (9:0:0).
- 1.2 Adoption of minutes. Michael Horn moved, and John Harbell seconded, that the November 18, 2006 minutes be adopted. MOTION PASSED (9:0:0).
- 1.3 Paul Price asked Nancy Reichert to read the action items from the June (numbers 1 and 2) and November, 2006 Board meetings.
1. *John Harbell will develop a draft on a strategic plan to set up a companion non-profit foundation for the SIVB. John is the contact person. The new contact person will be Todd Jones. ONGOING*
  2. *Marietta Ellis will work with Bank of America to move our account to a sweep account, if it is not currently in one and ask them about any initiatives they have to help non-profits organizations we could take advantage of. Marietta is the contact person. She will begin working on this. ONGOING*
  3. *We will add a link to the ISHS meeting website on the SIVB website. Marietta Ellis is the contact person. COMPLETED*
  4. *David Altman and Guy Smagghe will look for point people to serve on the 2008 Local Organizing Committee. David is the contact person. ONGOING*
  5. *Marietta Ellis will provide Nancy Reichert with the meeting information needed to contact hotels in potential host cities for the 2009 meeting. COMPLETED*
  6. *David Altman, David Ellis and Todd Jones will meet with Roger Beachy to discuss the parameters regarding SIVB meeting possibilities in regard to the IAPB meeting in 2010. David Altman is the contact person. ONGOING*
  7. *We will examine the contracts with CABI and Allen Press to determine if the SIVB needs to pay for destruction of inventoried journals stored at their sites. Marietta Ellis will provide Michael Horn with the contracts. He will discuss this with the Publications Committee and present recommendations to the Board in approx. two weeks. Michael is the contact person. COMPLETED*
  8. *Guy Smagghe will get pricing information for shipping of In Vitro-Plant from CABI and storage at Ghent University. Guy is the contact person and will convey the cost estimates to Michael Horn prior to Michael's impending report to the Board. COMPLETED (non-issue)*
  9. *Michael Horn will investigate alternate providers for website and graphics support and will make recommendations to the Board at the Fall 2007 Board meeting. Michael is the contact person. ONGOING*

10. *Dennis Laska will contact the Awards Committee, David Jayme and Wayne Parrott regarding the changes made to the approved Young Scientist Award. COMPLETED*
11. *Marietta Ellis will contact Mary Ann Lila to follow through with the Lifetime Achievement Award paperwork for the suggested candidates. The Board will vote on the nomination packets via email. COMPLETED*
12. *Dennis Laska will notify David Jayme about the changes made to the SIVB Bylaws that will allow the In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Section to continue with Section approval of their bylaws. COMPLETED*
13. *Nancy Reichert will notify the Constitution and Bylaws Committee of the approved changes to the SIVB Bylaws. COMPLETED*

## 2.0 2007 MEETING

- 2.1 Meeting statistics. Marietta Ellis referred to the statistics sent to the Board on Feb. 23. Compared to last year at this time, there are fewer abstract submissions and meeting registrations. Part of this is due to reduced numbers of sessions and fewer invited speakers per session. Richard Heller indicated that we need approx. 40 more general abstracts. David Jayme indicated that he received a number of student abstracts for the poster competition, but very few were from Purdue. **Dennis Laska moved, and John Harbell seconded, that we extend the abstract deadline to March 31, 2007 to allow us to contact local universities. MOTION PASSED (9:0:0).** Marietta indicated that these abstracts will appear in a later In Vitro journal. She will make a new meeting flyer to attract additional general abstract submissions with the second page of the flyer containing the program, to date. These will be sent to the Local Organizing Committee for distribution. We currently have eight exhibitors: Ace Glass, Inc., Brandel, Conviron, DOT Scientific, Inc., PhytoTechnology Laboratories, Roche Applied Sciences, Springer-Verlag NY, Inc., and Xceed Molecular.
- 2.2 Fundraising. John Harbell referred to the Feb. 23 development funds document. We have commitments for approx. \$83,000, to date. He will also contact Synthecon, the rotating wall vessels that Dr. David Wolf (NASA) will talk about during his talk during the Keynote Symposium. At present, there is no sponsor for the reception following this session, projected to cost approx. \$4,000. David Jayme and Wayne Parrott (Section Chairs) agreed to underwrite the reception with the understanding that the Program Chair will seek alternate funding sources.
- 2.3 Press release. The press release regarding the Keynote talk was discussed. Wayne Parrott thought this talk could attract a local audience and suggested we set a separate fee to allow attendance at this talk, without having to pay the day registration fee (\$170). We charged approx \$20 for Kary Mullis' talk in San Francisco and a few people came. After discussion, a price of \$30 was agreed to which would include admission to the reception. David Altman suggested we advertise the talk and Dennis Laska will ask the tourism bureau assist in advertising.
- 2.4 Awards. Paul Price discussed the letter from Mary Ann Lila (Awards Chair) forwarded to the Board on Feb. 23. It listed the nominees they recommended the

Board endorse in regard to Lifetime Achievement and Fellow awards. It also discussed problems arising from the transition due to a change in chair after the most recent election. David Jayme and Wayne Parrott discussed those problems in greater detail in regard to where the process can be improved. Areas for improvement include: adherence to the Feb. 1 submission date to allow enough time for committee members to review all the packets, add a notification process to allow participants to add to incomplete packets, improve the call for nominations process, devise a regimented transition process from one chair to the next, and ensure the Board understands their role in this process. **Michael Horn moved, and John Harbell seconded, that Indra and Vilma Vasil be given Lifetime Achievement Awards. MOTION PASSED (10:0:0).** **David Altman moved, and John Harbell seconded, that Barbara Doonan, Todd Jones, and Guy Smagghe be given Fellow Awards. MOTION PASSED (9:0:1).** The vote for Denry Sato will take place via email due to the Awards Committee's lack of time to review it prior to this Board conference call. Michael Horn asked if enough funds have been raised for the Vasils' meeting expenses. Trevor Thorpe, the nominator, has been requesting funds. Marietta indicated that \$1,000 had been raised, but at least \$2000 more is needed. David Altman will follow up with David Songstad at Monsanto. Wayne Parrott also suggested that the Awards Committee look at the criteria for each award because he believes that they are biased against industry scientists.

Nancy Reichert discussed Bob Lawrence's impending retirement from UST and his decades of support and service to the SIVB. She suggested that he be honored at the meeting in Indianapolis and suggested the Keynote Symposium be named in his honor. Many contributed to the discussion, all agreeing that he deserves to be honored and a variety of awards were suggested. Paul Price will discuss this with Mary Ann Lila for discussion with the entire Awards Committee. She will contact Paul regarding the committee's recommendation.

### 3.0 TREASURER'S REPORT

3.1 Financials (December, 2006). Richard Heller indicated that we were doing much better the last two years, reducing our debt by approx. \$50,000 per year. He referred to the treasurer's report in the Board packet. Our liabilities have decreased substantially (\$213,000 in Dec. 2005 to \$93,000 in Dec. 2006). With the guaranteed income from the two journals, we will be in good shape. He hopes we will be in the black by the end of 2007.

3.2 SIVB Foundation update. Todd Jones discussed his proposal to modify another society's endowment fund policy bylaws/guidelines for use by the SIVB. He would also like to seek a legal opinion prior to making recommendations to the Board at the June meeting in Indianapolis. **David Altman moved, and John Harbell seconded, that Todd should proceed with development of bylaws/guidelines for a SIVB foundation and seek legal advice/opinions at the appropriate time. MOTION PASSED (10:0:0).**

### 4.0 2008 MEETING UPDATE

4.1 Site selection comparison. Marietta Ellis referred to the information in the Board packet comparing four sites in Tucson for the World Congress. Three sites would be partnered with the Tucson Convention Center with one being all-inclusive, the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Gold and Tennis Resort. Marietta Ellis has been negotiating with them and secured reduced room nights and a food/beverage minimum. **Pamela Weathers moved, and John Harbell seconded, that the SIVB World Congress be held at the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador June 14-18, 2008. MOTION PASSED (10:0:0).**

## 5.0 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

5.1 2008-2010 candidates. David Altman discussed a tentative slate (forwarded to the Board on Feb. 23) for the upcoming elections. His goal would be to have the final slate approved at the June meeting. It was agreed that finalizing a slate earlier than at the fall Board meeting should be allowed. **David Altman moved, and Dennis Laska seconded, that the bylaws be changed accordingly (below). David accepted a friendly amendment to correct the Section names in that bylaw, and throughout the SIVB Bylaws. Bylaws text section 3. Governance of the Society, C. Committees. 1.a. "...In alternating elections the nominees for President-Elect will be 1) members of the Plant Section or 2) members of the Vertebrate, Toxicology or Invertebrate Sections. The Nominating Committee must submit the final slate of nominees for all positions to the Board of Directors at or before the fall meeting of the Board occurring in the year of an election. The Board must ratify the slate of nominees at the fall meeting." be changed to "...In alternating elections the nominees for President-Elect will be 1) members of the Plant Biotechnology Section or 2) members of the In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Section. The Nominating Committee must submit the final slate of nominees for all positions to the Board of Directors at or before the fall meeting of the Board occurring in the year of an election. The Board must ratify the slate of nominees no later than at the fall meeting." MOTION PASSED (10:0:0).**

## 6.0 PUBLICATIONS

6.1 Publications update. Michele Schultz (NBM) joined the conference call for this section, and had put together the information presented in the Board packet. Michael Horn discussed Springer's suggestion that we have contracts with our journal Editors and if the Publications Committee proposes to go forward with this, he will bring it to the Board for approval. He said Springer's website has web pages posted for both journals and has some back issues posted. There is a backlog in digitizing the articles but all back issues should be up within one month. They have an online journal submission process. Michael also indicated that Springer will apply to PubMed to list In Vitro-Plant articles after the journal's impact factor and numbers of subscriptions increase.

## 7.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

7.1 Section Chairs (In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences, Plant Biotechnology) and Education Chair. Paul Price led a discussion regarding whether the above-mentioned chairs should be members of the Board of Directors. Historically, Section chairs were

members of the Board until the number of Members-at-Large were increased to be more representative of the Society. David Jayme and Wayne Parrott both indicated that as long as they were invited to participate in Board meetings and kept informed, they didn't feel the need to be voting members of the Board. **John Harbell moved, and Pamela Weathers seconded, that Section Chairs should be considered permanent, but non-voting, members of the Board, and that this be forwarded to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for inclusion in the appropriate section of the bylaws. MOTION PASSED (10:0:0).**

7.2 2009 and future meetings. Nancy Reichert discussed the proposed sites: Charleston, Providence, RI, and Raleigh/Durham area (Research Triangle Park). She had forwarded meeting information to the cities' convention bureaus. Nancy referred to the last two pages in the Board packet on site information in Charleston Marietta Ellis secured. Paul Price indicated that the timing might be ideal because of two ongoing festivals at that time, but the room price might not be as negotiable because of this, so he suggested that Marietta ask about alternate dates surrounding the festivals. Marietta offered to follow up on Raleigh and Providence. Wayne Parrott suggested that we also look at Savannah. Pamela Weathers thought that Providence was a great site and the temperature might be more moderate than at the southern sites in June.

## 8.0 OTHER BUSINESS

Dennis Laska asked about the status of our recognizing members for their sustained commitment to the SIVB. Nancy Reichert indicated that a motion was passed in 2005 in this regard. Marietta Ellis will come up with some mechanism to recognize members' longevity. The name badges would reflect their membership years (listed in 5-year increments) in the form of a badge, sticker or ribbon. In this regard, invited speakers will receive SIVB laser pointers as gifts of appreciation at this meeting (Indianapolis).

## ADJOURNMENT

Dennis Laska moved, and Pamela Weathers seconded, that the Board meeting be adjourned. MOTION PASSED (10:0:0). Meeting adjourned at 3:52 pm EST.

## ACTION ITEMS

1. Marietta Ellis will develop a new meeting flyer regarding general abstract submissions (vs. student emphasis) and include an updated program. It will be sent to the Local Organizing Committee and Section Chairs. Marietta is the contact person.
2. The press release for the Keynote talk will include the cost of a ticket to attend Dr. Wolf's talk and reception. Marietta Ellis is the contact person.
3. Dennis Laska will contact the tourism bureau to see if they want to help the SIVB advertise Dr. Wolf's talk. Dennis is the contact person.
4. Paul Price will follow up with Mary Ann Lila regarding the status of one of the Fellow nomination packets. He will also ask her to discuss with the Awards Committee an appropriate award for Bob Lawrence for his numerous years of service to the SIVB. Paul is the contact person.

5. David Altman will contact Trevor Thorpe to see what organizations have been contacted regarding covering the expenses surrounding the Lifetime Achievement Awards, and will follow up with Monsanto, if needed. David is the contact person.