

SIVB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OCTOBER 27, 2007

- 1.0 INTRODUCTION: The meeting was called to order by President Paul Price at 8:03 am. Board members present were: David Altman (via conference call), Daniel Brown, David Ellis, Richard Heller, Michael Horn, Todd Jones, Dennis Laska, Paul Price, Nancy Reichert, Guy Smagghe, and Pamela Weathers. Guests Janis Demetrulias and Marietta Ellis [New Beginnings Management (NBM)] also participated. Janis stayed through the discussion of the 2008 meeting.
- 1.1 Adoption of agenda. Pamela Weathers moved, and David Ellis seconded, that the agenda be adopted. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).
- 1.2 Adoption of minutes. Richard Heller moved, and David Ellis seconded, that the June 9, 2007 minutes be adopted as amended. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).
- 1.3 Nancy Reichert read the action items from the June 2007 minutes. Includes are items from June (#1-8), November 2006 (#9-11) and June 2006 Board (#12-13) meetings.
1. *A 2008 World Congress meeting flyer will be developed (PDF format) to disseminate. Meeting summaries will be included in multiple languages which Guy Smagghe will coordinate. Guy is the contact person. COMPLETED*
 2. *Wayne Parrott and Pamela Weathers will contact organizers of RedBio to see if we can put flyers for the 2008 World Congress in their registration packets. Wayne and Pamela are the contact people. Oct. 2007 update: RedBio will convene a session at the 2008 SIVB meeting. ONGOING*
 3. *Pamela Weathers will invite Craig Mello to be our Keynote speaker. Pamela is the contact person. COMPLETED*
 4. *A committee consisting of Richard Heller, Michael Horn, Todd Jones, and Paul Price will determine what the SIVB would need to have a successful meeting with the IAPB in 2010. They will prepare a proposal to present to Roger Beachy. Todd is the contact person. COMPLETED*
 5. *Nancy Reichert will conduct a membership analysis comparing regular vs. student members over the years. Nancy is the contact person. COMPLETED*
 6. *Michael Horn will provide an updated report on Springer to the Board. Michael is the contact person. COMPLETED*
 7. *A SOP will be developed for Program Chairs to ease the transition process. John Harbell and Marietta Ellis will coordinate this. John and Marietta are the contact people. ONGOING*
 8. *David Jayme, Mary Ann Lila and Wayne Parrott will come up with recommended SOPs for the Fellow, Lifetime Achievement and Young Scientist Awards. These will include information on the scheduled flow of nominations and the maximum number of awards per class per year. Wayne is the contact person. COMPLETED*

9. *David Altman and Guy Smaghe will look for point people to serve on the 2008 Local Organizing Committee. David is the contact person. Oct. 2007 update: Charles Arntzen will Chair the committee. COMPLETED*
10. *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. COMPLETED*
11. *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*
12. *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. Nov. 2006 update: The new contact person will be Todd Jones. COMPLETED*
13. *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-profit organizations we could take advantage of. Marietta is the contact person. She will begin working on this. ONGOING*

1.4 Global Industry Coalition. Paul Price referred to a letter in the Board packet (section 1) from Janet Reed, Syngenta, asking to place the SIVB on the list of members in science in favor of biotechnology. The Global Industry Coalition is collating this list. **David Ellis moved, and Dennis Laska seconded, that the Public Policy Committee should look into the Global Industry Coalition and make a recommendation to the Board. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).**

1.5 2010 IAPB meeting. Todd Jones referred to the draft Memo of Understanding (MOU) between the SIVB and International Association for Plant Biology (IAPB) in the Board packet (section 3). We went over the MOU and discussed items Todd would bring up with Roger Beachy who was scheduled to participate in the Board meeting via a conference call shortly thereafter. The discussion continued regarding meeting finances, logistics and concerns in holding another joint meeting with the IAPB since the last joint meeting (2002 in Orlando) was financially devastating to the SIVB. The IAPB will not give us a financial guarantee; the split will be based on our percentage of member registration fees after all meeting costs are paid for. We will need to clarify what organization gets “credit” for people listed jointly as SIVB and IAPB members. Richard Heller said that we have made money in recent meetings by controlling costs which is not the way the IAPB runs meetings. He also indicated that we probably will not receive a large amount of financial contributions for the 2010 meeting. Guy Smaghe said that high booth costs would be a concern for the animal side. Will there be a different registration fee for animal members? David Ellis asked if there would be single-track sessions. An additional item to discuss included separating donations for student scholarships from the rest of the funds raised.

Roger Beachy joined the Board meeting via a conference call (9:29 – 10:32 am). He indicated that the IAPB meeting will be held in St. Louis in June 2010, just 8 months after the International Plant Molecular Biology (IPMB) Congress will be held there. The IAPB meeting will focus on plant biotechnology, will include some tissue culture

but mostly the transformation side of it; the meeting will focus on basic and applied biotechnology, including its impact. He suggested that we hold a joint meeting to develop synergism and not be competitors. He believes we can develop a high quality meeting for basic and applied scientists. The SIVB can draw plenary speakers of interest to animal (red) and plant (green) scientists in the morning and then convene break-out sessions in the afternoon. Todd Jones indicated that this scenario should work if the afternoon sessions had the same time schedule which would allow people could go back and forth between red and green sessions.

IAPB is working with the University of Missouri Conferencing Center and they have signed contracts with 3 hotels and are negotiating with 5 others, because of the estimated need for 1100 rooms. They expect 1500 to 2500 attendees. They will nominate a local organizing/steering committee by January 2008, and will have speakers lined up by June 2008. The website will go live in January 2008. Todd Jones indicated that we should have representation on the scientific organizing committee, and Roger indicated that we would have two of ten seats on it. Roger also indicated that he could add one person to his executive committee; they meet approx. once per month.

Todd Jones discussed the proposed changes to the MOU and Roger will send a modified MOU back to us. Todd also indicated that the student registration fee (paid for by designated donations) would be approx. \$350 vs. the proposed \$650 for regular registration. In addition to donations, we will apply for grants to help offset this financial commitment. Roger Beachy is OK with us specifically raising funds for this effort. It was agreed that we will need to coordinate our fund raising efforts and keep each other informed.

2.0 2008 MEETING

2.1 2008 Scientific program update. David Ellis referred to section 2 of the Board packet. The program is in good order, but we still do not have a plenary speaker. Suggestions include Bob Goldberg and Rob Horsch (could talk about the Gates Foundation), Al Gore, Deborah Delmer and David Baulcomb. Paul Price added a workshop to the schedule. Richard Heller asked if the Board would help edit abstracts submitted by Japanese colleagues. Pam Weathers said that RedBio would convene and sponsor one contributed session hosting Latin American speakers. David Ellis said he could contact people at CIMMYT to try to attract scientists from Mexico.

Janis Demetrulias is developing a local network including the University of Arizona and Midwest University-Phoenix campus. David Ellis said that Vicki Chandler and Rich Jorgenson could assist at Arizona State. There are no state funds to donate to the SIVB but the tourism bureau might be able to help promote the meeting. However we could contact local businesses to promote student development, such as Target which is known to fund such initiatives. Dennis Laska suggested that we start sessions late in the morning so free time is during the coolest part of the day.

2.2 Update/statistics. Marietta Ellis summarized the meeting statistics in the Board packet (section 2) for the 2007 and 2008 meetings. In 2008, we can reserve hotel rooms online. There are 450 sleeping rooms, \$20K minimum in food/beverages, the hotel waived the \$10 wellness center fee, and we can rent cars on-site. Two off-site venues discussed for Tuesday night were the Living Desert Museum and Old Tucson. An arranged tour to the Biosphere was also discussed.

2.3 Fundraising. John Harbell was unable to attend the Board meeting, but Marietta Ellis said that he indicated he will begin fundraising now that the preliminary program is set. David Ellis said we could apply for a USDA grant, but he could not submit it; he will talk with Wayne Parrott. Pamela Weathers said we could submit to the NSF on our student initiative and will contact David Songstad about this.

3.0 2009 MEETING

3.1 Board discussion – Charleston/Providence. Marietta Ellis referred to section 3 in the Board packet that compared the initial “packages” offered by hotels in Charleston, SC and Providence, RI. The room rate, food and beverage minimum, complimentary breakfast and parking, in addition to other items, appeared to make the Charleston site more affordable for the SIVB and meeting attendees. **Michael Horn moved, and David Ellis seconded, that NBM is authorized to pursue negotiations with Embassy Suites Charleston Convention Center to be the host hotel for the 2009 Congress on In Vitro Biology. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).**

4.0 PUBLICATIONS

4.1 Springer transition update. Michele Schulz joined the meeting via conference call to contribute to our discussion on publications. Michael Horn referred to the Board packet (section 4) and said that there are ongoing issues with the transition. One issue is BioOne, which Springer prefers we do not renew with. Michele Schultz referred to the Springer handout which indicated lower subscription renewal percentages they partially attributed to competing with BioOne. Michele said we do not need to decide now and this can be discussed at the June, 2008 Board meeting. Richard Heller said that if we want to stay with BioOne, we will need to come up with valid numbers to counter Springer’s assessment.

4.2 In Vitro-Plant Editor-in-Chief search results. Michael Horn discussed the search for the new Editor-in-Chief for In Vitro-Plant. This person would have to make a 5-year commitment to the SIVB in this position. The In Vitro-Plant Editor-in Chief Search Committee conducted phone interviews on five candidates and decided to offer the position to Dwight Tomes, contingent on Board approval. **David Ellis moved, and Pamela Weathers seconded, that Dwight Tomes be named the Editor-in-Chief of In Vitro Cellular and Developmental Biology-Plant (In Vitro-Plant). MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).**

4.3 In Vitro-Animal copy flow update. Michael Horn indicated that there are now about 6-7 papers per issue, whereas before there were only 7-8 in a double issue. We need to increase the number and quality of submissions which should increase the impact

factor. What we do now will show up in two years. Since all review articles are open access, Guy Smagghe suggested that we publish them at the beginning of the year so they will count. Michael said that the time to open access for other articles is a moving wall and Springer wants it to be three years. The Publications Committee suggested it be 18 months for In Vitro-Animal and two years for In Vitro-Plant. The impact factor should outweigh revenue. He will discuss this with the committee and Springer and share his discussions with the Board during our February, 2008 conference call.

There is a suggestion that SIVB publish an online tissue culture book, similar to The Arabidopsis Book published and maintained by the American Society for Plant Biology (ASPB). It would be an open access online, fluid book that would be published as a hard copy every few years. Michele Schultz discussed the process in depth with ASPB's Director of Publications and her report was included in the Board packet (section 4). It would be a costly venture (>\$50K) and would be a lot of work that would need to be coordinated by approx. three editors. We do not know if Springer would be in favor of this so Michael Horn will discuss this with them during a meeting scheduled in November. He will also discuss the start-up and maintenance costs with them.

5.0 FINANCIALS

5.1 Approval of 2008 budget. Richard Heller referred to the working budget in the Board packet (section 5). David Altman said that our accounting costs will increase due to a "990 form" that will go into effect in January. We have \$5500 budgeted for accounting costs which may double in 2008. If we collect the information throughout the year, our costs could be reduced and David suggests that we look at other service providers for compiling the 990. Richard said that our proposed 2008 budget is more conservative than last year and even if we have only 200 registrants at the World Congress (unlikely) and fewer members, financially, we will be OK. **Dennis Laska moved, and Nancy Reichert seconded, that we approve the 2008 budget. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).**

5.2 September 2007 financial statements. Richard Heller referred to the handout of September financials. He indicated that we are holding well and at the end of the year, our unrestricted account should be in the black – the first time in five years. We also will receive another payment from Springer in January. We have maintained a tight control on expenses and run profitable meetings by changing the way we run them.

5.3 Foundation progress report. Todd Jones referred to the proposed bylaws for the SIVB Foundation in section 5 of the Board packet. A few word changes were made to the bylaws and questions arose in regard to the timing in regard to turn-over of foundation board members as it appeared confusing. Todd will send a flow chart (via email) to the Board that better depicts this turn-over. He would like comments back by December 1 so he can then send it for legal review.

6.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

7.0 MEMBERSHIP RETENTION AND GROWTH

7.1 Emeritus member ratification. Nancy Reichert indicated that the following members are seeking emeritus status: Bruce Casto, Glenn Collins, Joseph Feder, Rocco Filazzola, Ian Freshney, Gerhard Kalmus, George Martin, and Lynne Rutzky, and that all meet emeritus criteria. **Richard Heller moved, and David Ellis seconded, that these eight regular members be awarded emeritus member status. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).** There was discussion in regard to the reduced number of members. David Ellis asked if our student initiatives resulted in any of them becoming regular members. Nancy Reichert wondered if two meetings in a row in the Midwest contributed to this reduction. Marietta Ellis suggested that new members be given a questionnaire plus a discount (~10%) off their first meeting registration.

8.0 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

8.1 2008 – 2010 Election ballot voting. David Altman discussed the process leading to the current slate of nominees for the upcoming election listed in section 7 of the Board packet. Our voting this year will be completely electronic for the first time via Zoomerang. **Michael Horn moved, and Richard Heller seconded, that we accept the slate of nominees as listed. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).**

9.0 AWARDS

9.1 Lifetime Achievement Award update. Paul Price indicated that the deadline for this award is February 1, 2008.

9.2 Fellow Award update. Paul Price indicated that the deadline for this award is February 1, 2008.

9.3 Awards SOPs. Paul Price discussed the document “Awards – Operating Principles” drafted by David Jayme, Mary Ann Lila, Wayne Parrott, Carol Stiff, and Pamela Weathers (section 8 of Board packet). It listed the awards overseen by this document and the nominee award approval process. There was discussion on the approval process and it was decided that we will re-discuss this section during our February, 2008 conference call. However, the operating principles part of the document was accepted as written. **Pamela Weathers moved, and Dennis Laska seconded, that we accept the operating principles document with the understanding that the approval process section may be modified after additional discussion at the February, 2008 Board meeting. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).**

10.0 PUBLIC POLICY

10.1 COPUS. Pamela Weathers discussed COPUS (Coalition On the Public Understanding of Science). It is an effort to generate a peer network consisting of scientific societies, universities, businesses, etc. to provide greater public understanding of science and its value to society. They encourage public engagement and are currently involved in promoting and supporting the Year of Science 2009. They are inviting the SIVB to become a COPUS member. Individuals can also join. **Richard Heller moved, and Nancy Reichert seconded, that the SIVB join as a member of COPUS and allow them to add our logo to their website. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0).** Pamela

suggested that some of our future meeting sessions could provide training on how we as scientists can better relate and respond to issues the public are interested in. Richard Heller said that if we had a Speakers Bureau, this exposure via COPUS could give the SIVB greater exposure/notoriety.

ACTION ITEMS

1. David Ellis will contact Wayne Parrott in regard to re-submitting the meeting grant proposal to the USDA. Pamela Weathers may be able to assist. David is the contact person.
2. Pamela Weathers will contact David Songstad in regard to re-submitting the student initiative proposal to the NSF. Pamela is the contact person.
3. Todd Jones will send the proposed SIVB Foundation bylaws and Board flowchart to the Board for review. Todd is the contact person.
4. We will re-discuss the award SOP document during the February, 2008 Board conference call. Invited to participate will be the current (Mary Ann Lila) and newly-elected Awards Chairs and newly-elected Section Chairs. (Current Section Chairs have a standing invitation to participate in Board meetings.)
5. Marietta Ellis will announce/post the February 1, 2008 awards deadline so members know when nomination packets are due.

ADJOURNMENT

Nancy Reichert moved, and Pamela Weathers seconded, that the Board meeting be adjourned. MOTION PASSED (11:0:0). Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.