

## SIVB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 29 – May 30, 2015

### 1.0 Introduction

**Participants:** Eugene Elmore (President), Dwight Tomes (President Elect), Dave Songstad (Past President), Allan Wenck (Vice President), Michael Fay (Secretary), Barbara Doonan (Treasurer), Mary Welter (Member-at-Large), Denry Sato (Member-at-Large), Elizabeth Roemer (Member-at-Large-by Phone), Nancy Reichert (Public Policy Chair), John Harbell (2015 Program Chair), Barbara Reed (Publications Chair), Brad Upham (IVACS, Fundraising Officer), Magnolia Ariza (IVACS, Vice Chair Membership), Joseph Petolino (PBS, Section Chair), Addy Alt–Holland (IVACS, Section Chair), Michael Dame (IVACS, Vice Chair Meeting), Marietta Wheaton Ellis and Michele Schultz (for section 5 only on Saturday).

The Meeting was called to order at 6:27 pm on May 29, 2015

#### 1.1 Adoption of Minutes

The Board of Directors reviewed the minutes from the February, 2015 Board of Directors Meeting. **Motion:** A motion was made to adopt the minutes from the February, 2015 Board Meeting, and the motion was seconded and passed.

#### 1.2 Adoption of Agenda

Marietta Wheaton Ellis indicated that the agenda had been modified to incorporate lunch at 11:30am on May 30<sup>th</sup>, and adjournment at 12:30pm on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Nancy Reichert indicated that Barbara Doonan had sent her a position statement from the AAAS, and that the AAAS would like us to sign the statement. This item was added to the agenda for discussion on May 30<sup>th</sup> under other business. **Motion:** A motion was made to adopt the modified agenda, and the motion was seconded and passed.

#### 1.3 Outstanding Action Items

##### Action Items from the June 2014 Board Meeting

1. Eugene Elmore needs to form an Ad Hoc Committee to work on setting up the certification/education program. **Update:** Eugene Elmore indicated that this action item should be **removed** until a more formal plan is in place.
2. Eugene Elmore needs to contact Paul Price, Dwight Tomes will identify someone from plant, and Denry Sato will contact someone for a special issue on stem cells in In Vitro Cellular & Developmental Biology-Animal. Previously, Dwight had contacted Bill Gordon-Kamm, Eugene had contacted Paul Price, and Denry has been recruiting for the special stem cell issue. **Update: Ongoing,** Both Bill Gordon-Kamm and Paul Price will be at the 2015 Meeting and we can get an update from them concerning writing an article for the special issue. Denry mentioned that the group that participated with the last stem cell special issue is not available since they are working on a similar project with another journal. Denry also indicated that we may not have enough papers for an entire issue; however, we can still publish several stem cell review articles in a regular

issue of the journal. Magnolia Ariza indicated that she and her collaborators might be able to contribute to this project.

#### Action items from the October 2014 Board Meeting

3. Marietta Ellis to keep IAPB funds (~\$800) until provided with contact information for the new USA Secretariat and will offer IAPB USA option for USA members. **Update:** **Remove** as an action item; Marietta will continue to collect dues and distribute issues for SIVB members who are also IAPB members. When the new USA Secretariat is identified, Marietta will contact the individual will regard to this issue.
4. Eugene Elmore to go to Sandra Coecke at the European Union Reference Laboratory-European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods (EURL-ECVAM) in Ispra, Italy, and request that SIVB be able put historical films on the SIVB website or allow links to the materials on the SIVB film library page on the new website. **Update:** **Ongoing**, Eugene Elmore contacted Sandra Coecke by email and she responded and thought this was a good idea. Sandra mentioned that she would follow up with her colleagues at EURL-ECVAM and with Eugene.
5. Eugene Elmore to contact Yvonne Reid to determine status of a tissue culture workshop at the annual meeting. **Update:** **Ongoing**, Eugene discussed this issue with Yvonne Reid, and Yvonne can't currently take the lead on the workshop due to an increase in her administrative job responsibilities at ATCC. The workshop is still possible for next year; however, we will need to identify a new person to coordinate the workshop.
6. David Songstad to approach Dannette Ward about the Monsanto fund and support for the SIVB student initiative. **Update:** **Ongoing**, David did approach Dannette, and will continue to be in communication with her concerning this issue to identify the best time to submit this request.
7. Marietta Ellis and David Songstad to approach the Publications Committee about organizing a potential pre-meeting "Scientific Writing" workshop on Saturday morning for students and other interested participants for which English is not the primary language. This session is being considered for the 2016 World Congress. **Update:** **Ongoing**, this will be discussed at the Publications Committee meeting at the 2015 annual meeting.
8. Sarah Blazewicz and Marietta Ellis to pursue Tuesday off property events in Old Town San Diego or a cruise for the 2016 World Congress, and pursue a possible Zoo trip for Wednesday afternoon. **Update:** This action item is **ongoing**.
9. Marietta and Sarah will begin to search in Raleigh, NC, Asheville, NC, Atlanta, GA, Tampa, FL, and Philadelphia, PA to identify a venue for the 2017 meeting. **Update:** **Ongoing**, this will be discussed at the current Board Meeting.
10. Marietta Ellis to work with the Constitution & Bylaws Committee to work through Strategic Long Range Planning Committee to see if there is anything we need to change with the strategic plan. **Update:** This action item is **completed**. The plan was reviewed and approved by the Constitution & Bylaws Committee, and will be discussed at the current Board Meeting.

11. The Board needs to email ideas and recommendations to David Songstad with the names of individuals who they think would be good candidates for the Officer and Member-at-Large positions, as well as for the Section Officer positions, for the upcoming election. **Update: Completed**, the information is included in the Board packet.
12. Marietta to mention to the Website Committee the Board's suggestion of adding a list of Lifetime Achievement Awardees on the home page of the new website or as a pop up. **Update: Ongoing**, this will be sent to the ad hoc Website Committee for their review.
13. SIVB will offer a survey to students at the 2015 meeting to gauge whether they would continue with SIVB after graduation, and asking if the student initiatives and membership in SIVB are important to them. Marietta and Ningning Zhang to work on survey content. **Update: Completed**, the student representatives provided us with a survey that was included in the student registration packet and in the Board packet.
14. During the 2015 Meeting poster sessions, interview students about what they learned from SIVB and the meeting, and resulting video footage would be used on our website as testimonials for SIVB. Ask permission of students who are filmed to use video on website. Ningning Zhang will work with the business office to coordinate this. **Update:** This item is **completed**. The students have created an authorization form and they will be conducting and filming the interviews at the 2015 meeting.
15. At the 2015 meeting, find out from students what the best social media options are and encourage students to share information on what they learned at the meeting through those venues. **Update:** This item is **ongoing**, Marietta Ellis will ask the Student Officers to add this action item to the agenda of the 2015 Student Affairs Committee meeting.
16. Adjust student initiative for 2015 Meeting so students receive free registration only if they submit abstract/pay abstract fee. **Update:** This item is in place and is **completed**.
17. Marietta Ellis will request that the Website Committee provide their thoughts on an online poster event in conjunction with the 2015 meeting. **Update:** This item is **ongoing**, and the possibility of an online poster event will be discussed at the 2015 meetings of the Education Committee and the Student Affairs Committee.
18. Marietta Ellis to review Endowment information provided by Eugene Elmore. Eugene will adjust information to note money is designated as a gift, and not a donation. **Update:** this item is **ongoing**, and will be discussed at the 2015 Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

Action items from the February 2015 Board Meeting

19. To promote contributions to the IVACS and PBS activity funds, the possibility of adding a line item on the annual membership registration form was discussed. **Update:** This item is **completed**; this will be added to the 2016 SIVB Membership renewal form.
20. To promote contributions to the IVACS activity fund, the possibility of sending a letter to the IVACS membership was discussed. **Update:** This item is **ongoing**, a letter will be drafted to be included with the 2016 SIVB membership renewal.

21. Send a letter to the IAPB members to promote the 2016 meeting in San Diego. Update: **Ongoing**, the SIVB Business Office will include this information in the hard copy of the journal that is sent to IAPB members.
22. Marietta and Sarah should pursue negotiations with the Marriott (Raleigh, NC), and the two venues in Atlanta (Hyatt Regency, Renaissance Atlanta Waverly Hotel and convention Center) as possible locations for the 2017 Meeting. We will look into the possibility of the Tampa, FL region for a future SIVB Meeting. **Update:** This is **completed** and will be discussed at the 2015 Board Meeting.
23. The Business Office and Barbara Reed will be going back to Dr. Trigiano with questions concerning the writing workshop. The questions concern scheduling, cost, and financial responsibility for the SIVB if there are not enough participants. **Update: Completed**, this will be discussed during the 2015 Board Meeting.
24. Send a letter to everyone who submits an abstract for the 2015 meeting to invite them to consider publishing in our journals. **Update: Completed**, The Business Office has worked with David Duncan to prepare a letter that was included in the meeting packet for all plant speakers. David Duncan will also provide a hard copy of the letter to authors of worthy oral and poster presentations.
25. To have a full slate of candidates for the election for the Board positions and for the Section Officer positions. **Update:** This is **completed**.
26. The Public Policy Committee will draft a policy statement on genome editing, and this statement will be reviewed by the SIVB board prior to posting on the SIVB website. **Update:** This item is **ongoing**.
27. Marietta to send letters out to international students, concerning the acceptance of their abstract, so that they can apply for travel VISAs to attend the SIVB meeting. **Update:** This item is **completed**.
28. Barbara Doonan will organize an ad hoc committee to develop an SIVB exhibit for the 2016 USA Science & Engineering Festival Meeting (April 16 & 17, 2016) in Washington, DC; and the display should be designed to attract the attention of an 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> grader. The ad hoc committee will provide an update at the June Board meeting. Update: This item is **ongoing**. We are included as an exhibitor for the meeting, and now the ad hoc committee needs to design a display for the booth at the meeting that is designed to attract the attention of an 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grader. This will be good exposure for the SIVB and it might be a good idea to include the Education Committee and some of our student members. Barbara Doonan asked the Board members/ad hoc Committee to review the USA Science & Engineering Festival Meeting website.

## **2.0 2015 In Vitro Biology Meeting Update**

### **2.1 2015 Meeting Update**

John Harbell (2015 Program Chair) provided the 2015 Meeting update. John indicated that the Section Chairs did a good job of planning the 2015 Meeting. He mentioned that it is important to make sure that the Keynote Speaker arrives at the meeting well in advance of the Keynote address. He also indicated that it is important to have more communication

throughout the year, especially in regard to the plenary sessions, and that our program planning efforts at the 2015 meeting should include both the 2016 and 2017 meeting. Marietta Ellis mentioned that it is hard to publicize the meeting when we have not identified the session titles and speakers. We need to stress to the Program Planning Committee that the plenary sessions need to be agreed upon early in the planning process so that we can adequately publicize the meeting.

## **2.2 Meeting Statistics/Meeting Update**

Marietta Ellis provided the Meeting Statistics and update. For the 2015 Meeting we have 187 abstracts, and for 2014 we had 235 abstracts. For the 2015 Meeting we had 144 paid registrations versus 163 for the 2014 meeting. For the 2015 Meeting we had 115 free registrations versus 153 for the 2014 Meeting. The total meeting registrations for 2015 were 259 compared to 314 for the 2014 meeting. The number of exhibitors remained the same for the 2014 and 2015 meetings at 15. We did make our room block for the 2015 meeting, and we also met our food and beverage minimum. We have 69 people pre-registered for the dinner at the Sonoran Desert Museum and should have no problem making the minimum number of 75. We also had 34 people pre-register for the Biosphere 2 tour, and still have some spots left as we can accommodate ~50 people. Even though some of the numbers are lower than what we had for the 2014 meeting in Savannah, GA the 2015 meeting in Tucson, AZ is still a solid meeting. It does not appear that the drop in abstracts was due to a substantial decrease in the number of student abstracts, as we are now charging a \$25 student abstract fee; and students still gets free registration with the abstract submission. If we think the student abstract fee is deterring students from attending, we could have a \$25 student registration fee and free abstract submission with a paid registration.

For the 2015 Meeting we will be having a workshop titled “Good Teaching Is?” facilitated by Vivian Dayeh. We were anticipating having an Advanced Tissue Culture Workshop; however, this did happen for the 2015 Meeting. Vivian did a good job of organizing the interactive teaching workshop, which can accommodate up to 10 participants.

Both of the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award recipients, Gertrude Buehring and Delia Bethell, will be at the meeting to receive their awards. Previously the Board had agreed that \$3,000 must be raised for each Lifetime Achievement Award recipient to support both travel and the reception at the meeting. At this point in time we are \$325 short in fundraising for the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Awards. The Board discussed several options to guarantee that the full amount of funds are raised to support the Lifetime Achievement Awards for future recipients. One option is to have the Sections agree to pay the difference if the full funding level is not reached. Another option is to wait a year after the nomination is made before the award is granted, and this should give more time to adequately raise the money. Another possibility is that fundraising for the award would be continued by the nominator after the award was given if the full funding did not come through. The Board agreed that the issue of fundraising for the Lifetime Achievement Award should be brought to the Awards Committee for further discussion.

The first Distinguished Scientist Award will be made at the 2015 meeting, and Zeng-Yu Wang is the recipient. We will also be presenting Harold Trick with a Fellow Award, and Distinguished Service and Student Awards will also be presented at the 2015 Meeting. We have a lot of student events scheduled for the 2015 Meeting. There is a student poster competition, a student symposium on interviewing, and a student networking lunch. The meeting app will be used at the 2015 Meeting and 40-50 people have already signed up to use the app. The resort fee is included in our registration so participants should take advantage on all of the activities at the resort (e.g. rental bikes, tennis, golf, and spa). There is also a complimentary shuttle that will bring people to a shopping center that has additional restaurant and shopping options. The silent auction will also be occurring at the 2015 meeting.

### **2.3 Fundraising**

Allan Wenck provided the fundraising update for the 2015 meeting. The Development Committee did a great job and we have raised ~\$16,000 more than last year. The amount raised for the 2015 Meeting is \$86,310. The amount of \$41,660 was raised for the Plant activity fund and \$11,300 was raised for the IVACS activity fund. The following amounts were also raised: \$8,000 for the Meeting fund, \$11,750 for the Student initiative, ~6,000 for the Keynote speaker, \$3,000 for the registration bag, and \$5,675 for the Lifetime Achievement Award. We identified new funding sources and had a good fundraising effort in a year when fundraising has been a challenge for everyone.

## **3.0 2016/2017 Meeting Updates**

### **3.1 2016 World Congress Update (San Diego, CA)**

Marietta Ellis provided the 2016 Meeting update. The 2016 World Congress will take place at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina from June 11 – June 15, 2016. The room rate is \$175 for single/double occupancy, and we will be required to meet 80% of the room block (880 rooms) which is 704 room nights. The food and beverage minimum is \$45,000. The hotel is providing reasonable concessions and we are still pursuing off site events such as a dinner cruise or an event at Old Town. David Songstad is Chair of the Local Organizing Committee.

### **3.2 2017 In Vitro Biology Meeting Update**

Sarah Blazewicz presented to the Board information concerning possible venues for the 2017 meeting. The properties that were discussed included the Hyatt Regency (Atlanta, GA), Renaissance Waverly (Atlanta, GA), Grand Hyatt (Tampa Bay, FL), and the Marriott City Center (Raleigh, NC).

The Board also discussed the option of having a group registration discount for Companies/Universities that send multiple employees to the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31pm on May 29, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 8:02am on May 30, 2015

Elizabeth Roemer joined the meeting via teleconference.

The Board discussed the advantages of having the meeting at Raleigh, NC. These benefits include: strong local support for the meeting, a proven track record for a successful meeting, and the potential to obtain a grant to support the meeting through the North Carolina Biotechnology Center. **Motion:** A motion was made to hold the 2017 Meeting in Raleigh, NC, and the motion was seconded and passed.

The Board continued their discussion of a discounted group registration rate. **Motion:** A motion was made to offer a discounted group registration rate of \$5,000 for 20 people, and we will implement this for the 2016 Meeting in San Diego on a trial basis; the motion was seconded and passed.

#### **4.0 Treasurer's Report**

##### **4.1 Year End Finances**

Barbara Doonan provided the financial update. The Board reviewed the provided financial statement. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year where our finances have been in the black, and our assets and investments are increasing. Although there were concerns about the profitability of the 2014 joint meeting with the Society for Cryobiology, we came away from the meeting with a profit. We still need to focus on increasing membership and meeting attendance to continue to build on our positive financial foundation. We will be talking with our investment counselor at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney to determine if any changes in our investment strategy are warranted at this time. We have used the same auditing company for a number of years and it was discussed that some non-for-profit companies change auditing companies every 10 years as a part of best recommended practices. This is something that we can consider in the future, although we have not had any issues with our current auditing company.

##### **4.2. IVACS and PBS Financial Statements**

Marietta Ellis asked the Board to review the financial information for the PBS and IVACS sections with regard to the registration fees for the invited speakers and the 10% administrative fee for the money raised for the section activity funds. Marietta Ellis will provide this information to the Sections for verification and the Sections will be charged accordingly.

#### **5.0 Publications Update**

##### **5.1 Publications Update**

Michele Schultz provided the Publications update to the Board. The Animal journal is doing extremely well and our copy flow is above average; we are expected to have 80 pages per issue and we have been publishing 100-120 pages per issue. With the Plant journal we are starting to see some improvement, especially with the SIVB issues. We were able to get the current Plant issue out on time, and with the current flow we should also be able to get the next issue out on time. IAPB has seen a slight drop in papers; however, we are starting to see some new papers now that there is a new Editor. The Editors have reviewed the instructions for authors and they suggested some changes that went to the Publications Committee; and the Publications Committee made some suggestions that were forwarded to Springer. Springer reviewed the information and made some additional changes, that

were approved, and the revised instructions for authors will be included in the next Journal issue and also on the SIVB and Springer websites. We received \$950 from the sales of David Songstad's and Dwight Tomes' Biofuels book. Jacco Flipsen from Springer will be participating in the 2015 meeting this year as Eric Stannard is on medical leave. We have a new Plant Editorial manager contact at Springer, due to recurring issues with the previous contact. The In Vitro Report is going smoothly and the last issue was published on time with the Annual Report. We do need to collect new membership testimonials for the In Vitro Report that highlight the benefits of our student initiatives and the importance of membership.

With regard to social media marketing and Facebook, the images that we post are getting the highest engagement; and the posts from the World Congress received the most attention. We started participating with "Throw Back Thursday" on Facebook, and these have been four of our five highest engagement posts. We are also marketing the Society using Twitter and LinkedIn.

Items that the Publications Committee will be discussing at their meeting include: changes to authenticate in Editorial Manager, the writing workshop, changes in the paper /print quality of the journals, and formatting changes to the journals.

The use of Altmetrics was discussed as a means to increase visibility and impact of a publication in Social media using a program called Kudos.

#### **5.1.1 Website Update**

The new Website went live on May 5, 2015. If you see any issues with the new website please contact Michele Schultz or Marietta Ellis. We still need to adjust the secure certificate to facilitate secure on-line transactions, and this is in the process of being finalized. The five films from the film library that are available at other locations on the internet have been linked to our website. The next step with the film library archive, according to the History and Records Committee, is to preserve the remaining content. Once we identify the best method to preserve the film library, we will also need to pursue the issue of obtaining the necessary permissions to put the films online. We will need to determine the cost of archiving the film library and we will need to evaluate the copyright status of the films to determine if we have permission to use them; the Board will revisit this issue once the necessary information is obtained.

#### **5.2 Springer Update**

We just received the royalty information for the Journals for 2014. The Plant journal royalties for 2014 were \$13,035, and this was increased compared to 2013 when we received \$12,808. The Animal journal royalties for 2014 were \$55,878, and this was increased compared to 2013 when we received \$45,391. The royalty is based on content and since the Animal journal has been publishing more pages we are seeing a higher payment. For the Animal journal the number of days from submission to first



decision is 32 days, and the time from acceptance to going online is 37 days. The number of submissions to the Animal journal has increased and last year we received 290 submissions; while the rejection rate has remained constant at ~50%. The highest numbers of manuscript submissions were from China, Korea, India and USA. The production volume for the Animal journal in 2014 was higher than planned; the goal for the year was 88 articles and we actually published 127. In 2015, the goal for the Animal journal is 9 articles per issue and we are publishing 13 articles per issue. The institutional subscriptions have dropped to 36 from 39 the previous year. The number of institutions with exposure to online deals has also dropped from 9,481 in 2013 to 8,814 in 2014. Even though our subscriptions have decreased we have not seen a drop in income because of our increased page numbers. The Board reviewed the top 10 article downloads for the Animal Journal, and the top referrals were from PubMed, Google, and Google Scholar. The 2013 impact factor for the Animal Journal was a 1.00, and the impact factor has decreased from the previous year. The board reviewed the highest cited articles for the Animal Journal from 2011 and 2012 which contributed to the 2013 impact factor. The Social Impact for the Animal Journal, as determined by article mentions, increased from 20 in 2013 to 3,257 in 2014; and the board reviewed the top 10 Altmetric papers from the Animal Journal. The overall satisfaction of authors with the Animal journal was good, as 91% indicated they were satisfied with the publication process and 97% would consider publishing with the journal again. For the Plant journal the number of days from submission to first decision is 51 days, and the time from acceptance to going online is 32 days. The paper flow for the Plant journal in Editorial Manager has decreased from 458 in 2012 to 388, and the rejection rate has remained similar. The highest number of manuscripts for the Plant journal are coming from China, India, USA, Canada, and Poland. We are looking into a campaign to try and get more authors from other countries to become SIVB members. The production volume for the Plant journal was planned for 840 pages but we only published 796 pages. In 2015, we are also planned for 140 pages per issue, and the first couple of issues are below this goal; however, the upcoming issue should reach the goal. The upcoming issue is all SIVB submissions and we have not had to borrow from IAPB. The Institutional subscriptions for the Plant journal decreased from 49 in 2013 to 38 in 2014. The number of institutions with exposure to online deals for the Plant journal also decreased from 9,489 in 2013 to 8,795 in 2014. The Board reviewed the top 10 downloaded articles for the Plant journal. The visitor referral for the Plant journal was mostly from Google, Google Scholar, and direct access. The Plant journal impact factor increased to 1.162 for 2013, and the 2014 impact factor will be released soon. The Board reviewed the highest cited articles from 2011 and 2012 that contributed to the 2013 impact factor; many of the articles were review articles from special issues. The article mentions on Social media for the Plant journal were 14 in 2013 and 23 in 2014. The Board reviewed the top Altmetric papers for the Plant journal. The overall satisfaction of authors with the Plant journal was good, as 88% indicated they were satisfied with the publication process, and 92% would consider publishing with the journal again.

The board reviewed some of the online initiatives that Springer participates with and these include: COPE, CrossCheck, ORCID, and CLOCKSS. The Board discussed the issue of authorship contributions and concerns over paid authorship.

At this time, Michele left the meeting.

## **6.0 Committee Reports**

### **6.1 Membership Statistics/Updates**

Marietta Ellis provided an update on the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee will be meeting at the 2015 Meeting and they will go over some of the action items that Greg Phillips wanted the Committee to review. The Board reviewed the membership totals according to where the meeting is held, and the year we held the meeting in Raleigh, NC we had a strong membership total. When we pick meeting locations we need to think about returning to locations that promote membership. The Board reviewed some of the membership initiatives that the Membership Committee will be discussing. These initiatives include: Social media marketing and expert marketing advice; personal email/text/phone contact with members who do not renew; extended membership discount for 2 years post-graduation; recruiting journal authors to consider membership; recruiting using existing listservs; and the member-get-a-member initiatives. We are also continuing our sponsor a student buddy program, and the Student Affairs Committee will be using a student survey to get feedback from students attending the meeting. The regular membership total last year was 275 and for the Tucson meeting we are at ~254; however, with the onsite registration we should reach last year's membership number. There was some success with the Board calling non-renewed members to encourage them to renew, and the Board agreed to continue to do this. The Board discussed the possibility of a reduced membership with online journal access for third World countries.

### **6.2 Constitution and Bylaws Update**

Marietta Ellis provided the update for the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. The Committee has been active in the past 6 month reviewing the Strategic Plan from the Long Range Planning Committee. The Strategic Plan was sent back to the Board for approval. At this point in time the Strategic Plan has been sent back to the Long Range Planning Committee so that the necessary Committees can get involved to implement the Strategic Plan.

### **6.3 Long Range Planning Committee Update**

Dwight Tomes and Marietta Ellis provided the update on the Long Range Planning Committee. As mentioned above, the Long Range Planning Committee needs to communicate with the Education, Fundraising, Publications and Membership Committees to work with these Committees to implement and assess the Strategic Plan.

### **6.4 Student Affairs Committee Update**

#### **6.4.1 Student Awards**

Marietta Ellis provided the update on the student awards. Pam Weathers will be facilitating the student awards. There was an issue with a lost student award application, and because of this, we should review the submission process. The

Board agreed that we should pursue an online application process for student awards to prevent the applications from being lost.

#### **6.4.2 Student Update**

Marietta Ellis provided the Student Affairs Committee update. The Board reviewed the activities planned by the Student Affairs Committee for the 2015 Meeting. These activities include: a non-competitive oral presentation session, the student symposium, the Student luncheon and breakfast, a student survey, and student video shoots. Both Shaimar Gonzalez and Ningning Zhang have been active with the Board, and they have created the survey that will be included in the student registration packet.

#### **6.5 Nominating Committee Update: 2016-2018 Election**

David Songstad presented the slate of candidates for the 2016-2018 elections. The Board thanked David for his hard work in contacting all of the candidates. Mary Welter asked that her name be removed from PBS Program Chair, and Kolla Kristjansdottir's name was added as a second candidate for IVACS Co-Chair Membership.

### **7.0 Section Updates**

#### **7.1 IVACS Section Update**

Addy Alt-Holland provided the IVACS Section update. We would like to continue our efforts to get student members more involved as co-conveners and co-organizers. IVACS would like to continue to have a workshop/session on the last day of the conference. Kathryn Houk, a librarian at San Diego State University, has facilitated an IVACS session on the last day of the conference, and she will be participating with the 2015 Meeting and will serve as part of the Local Organizing Committee. Kathryn will also be promoting our Society and Meeting through the Library Association. We would like to have an exit survey at the end of sessions to get feedback from the audience. This will help us with our planning efforts for future meetings. This type of exit survey could be performed using the computer, smart phone technology, or the mobile app.

#### **7.2 PBS Section Update**

Joseph Petolino provided the PBS Section update. The fundraising efforts for the PBS activity fund were increased this year, and this is an accomplishment given the current financial situation. The Program Committee did a good job of recruiting some high caliber speakers, and the strong program reflects their efforts. We should let Marietta know when we have high caliber speakers so that she can use this information to market both the Meeting and Society. The technical program at our Meeting is one of our strongest assets and we need to increase our marketing efforts concerning the Meeting. We should also try to get these high caliber speakers to write review articles for our journals. We should also try to get the local news and press more involved with our Meetings to market both the Meeting and the Society. We should also try to get some of our members, who are pioneers, to write historical articles for our Journals, and the History Committee should be part of this initiative. The Society should also work towards having public policy position statements on current issues that involve our Society, and we should try to participate with more public outreach. We could use our website and social media towards this goal.

## **8.0 Other Business**

### **8.1 Annual Reports Approval**

The Board reviewed the Annual Report. **Motion:** A Motion was made to approve the Annual Report, and the motion was seconded and passed.

### **8.2 SIVB Business Meeting Agenda**

The board reviewed the Business Meeting agenda.

### **8.3 Assignments and Review of Action Items**

1. Marietta Ellis and John Harbell will discuss with the Program Committee how we need to more effectively communicate with regard to planning and finalizing the program, especially the plenary sessions, so that we can more effectively advertise the Meeting.
2. Marietta Ellis will ask the Awards Committee to review the process of fundraising for the Lifetime Achievement Awards so that we can ensure adequate funding for these awards.
3. Marietta Ellis and David Songstad will implement a group registration rate (\$5,000 for 20 people) on a trial basis for the 2016 Meeting in San Diego, CA.
4. The Business Office is working on adjusting our secure certificate to facilitate safe online purchases.
5. The Board will help to contact (email/phone) members who do not renew their membership to encourage them to renew. Marietta Ellis will provide the Board members with the names of members who need to be contacted.
6. The Board discussed the issue of a decreased membership fee, with on-line journal access, for individuals from third World countries. Marietta Ellis will bring this to the Membership Committee.
7. The Long Range Planning Committee needs to modify the Strategic Plan as recommended by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. They also need to work with various Committees in the Society to implement the Strategic Plan. Dwight Tomes and Marietta Ellis will work on this action item.
8. To identify a better mechanism for students to submit their award applications to facilitate more effective tracking of the applications. Marietta Ellis will bring this to the Awards Committee.
9. Marietta Ellis will determine if our app has the capability of performing surveys to get feedback on individual sessions. If the app is not compatible for performing surveys we will pursue a paper option.
10. Marietta Ellis will talk to Sandra Schneider and the History Committee, concerning identifying topics and authors for Pioneer articles for our journals.
11. At the February Program Planning Meeting the Program Chair and Section Program Chairs will identify topics and speakers from the upcoming meeting to release to the press to promote the meeting.
12. We will pursue new ways to address public policy issues and promote outreach in regard to these issues. This will involve the Public Policy Committee working with the Education Committee. We will try to utilize our website and social media more towards this goal. We will bring this action item to the Sections to get their input and assistance.

13. Mary Welter discussed the possibility of requesting funding from the Medical Marijuana industry for funding of a Medicinal Plant session that focuses on the medical use of marijuana. Mary will bring this idea to the Program Planning Committee.

#### **8.4 CAST**

David Songstad is the current President of CAST and Nancy Reichert is the SIVB representative for CAST. One of the CAST publications that received a lot of recent attention involves the impact of labeling GM foods. Dr. Alison Van Eenennaan, 2014 Borlaug CAST Communication Award recipient, has been speaking on this issue, and she gave a talk at the CAST Board Meeting in Washington, DC. Also, at the CAST Board Meeting, David announced the recipient of the 2015 Bourlag CAST communication award, and the recipient is Dr. C.S. Prakash from Tuskegee University. Dr. Prakash will be at the World Food Prize in Des Moines, IA to receive the award. We should try to link Dr. Prakash's award to our website. Nancy mentioned that they are developing a Strategic Plan for CAST, and some of the information may be useful for the continuing development of our own Strategic Plan. Both David and Nancy are on the Food Science and Safety Work Group and they have approved a proposal for a CAST publication on Genome Editing. The Board talked about the possibility of Dr. Prakash talking at the 2016 meeting and the possibility of a special issue on Genome Editing for the Plant journal.

#### **8.5 AAAS Call To Action**

Nancy Reichert brought to the Board a Call to Action from the AAAS to bring together American industry, higher education, science, and engineering organizations to urge Congress to enact policies and make investments to help ensure the United States remain the global innovation leader. The seven areas of focus for Congressional action include: renewing the federal commitment to scientific discovery by ending sequestration level spending caps and providing steady and sustained funding growth; permanently strengthening the R&D tax credit; reforming visa policies, improving STEM education, streamlining or eliminating costly and ineffective regulations; reaffirming merit-based peer review; and stimulating improvement in advanced manufacturing. Nancy indicated that the Public Policy Committee was in agreement to the SIVB signing the Call to Action as long as there were no strings attached. **Motion:** A motion was made to sign the AAAS Call to Action, and the motion was seconded and passed.

#### **8.6 Medical Marijuana**

Mary Welter discussed the possibility of approaching the Medical Marijuana industry to obtain funding for a possible Medicinal Plant session that focuses on marijuana. We would need to identify individuals who could organize this session, and this could be a joint session.

### **9.0 Adjournment**

**Motion:** A motion was made to adjourn the Board Meeting, and the motion was seconded and passed. The Meeting was adjourned at 11:59am.

### Action Items from the June 2014 Board Meeting

1. Eugene Elmore needs to contact Paul Price, Dwight Tomes will identify someone from plant, and Denry Sato will contact someone for a special issue on stem cells in In Vitro Cellular & Developmental Biology-Animal. Previously, Dwight had contacted Bill Gordon-Kamm, Eugene had contacted Paul Price, and Denry has been recruiting for the special stem cell issue. **Update: Ongoing**, Both Bill Gordon-Kamm and Paul Price will be at the 2015 Meeting and we can get an update from them concerning writing an article for the special issue. Denry mentioned that the group that participated with the last stem cell special issue is not available since they are working on a similar project with another journal. Denry also indicated that we may not have enough papers for an entire issue; however, we can still publish several stem cell review articles in a regular issue of the journal. Magnolia Ariza indicated that she and her collaborators might be able to contribute to this project.

### Action items from the October 2014 Board Meeting

2. Eugene Elmore to go to Sandra Coecke at the European Union Reference Laboratory-European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods (EURL-ECVAM) in Ispra, Italy, and request that SIVB be able put historical films on the SIVB website or allow links to the materials on the SIVB film library page on the new website. **Update: Ongoing**, Eugene Elmore contacted Sandra Coecke by email and she responded and thought this was a good idea. Sandra mentioned that she would follow up with her colleagues at EURL-ECVAM and with Eugene.
3. Eugene Elmore to contact Yvonne Reid to determine status of a tissue culture workshop at the annual meeting. **Update: Ongoing**, Eugene discussed this issue with Yvonne Reid, and Yvonne can't currently take the lead on the workshop due to an increase in her administrative job responsibilities at ATCC. The workshop is still possible for next year; however, we will need to identify a new person to coordinate the workshop.
4. David Songstad to approach Dannette Ward about the Monsanto fund and support for the SIVB student initiative. **Update: Ongoing**, David did approach Dannette, and will continue to be in communication with her concerning this issue to identify the best time to submit this request.
5. Marietta Ellis and David Songstad to approach the Publications Committee about organizing a potential pre-meeting "Scientific Writing" workshop on Saturday morning for students and other interested participants for which English is not the primary language. This session is being considered for the 2016 World Congress. **Update: Ongoing**, this will be discussed at the Publications Committee meeting at the 2015 annual meeting.
6. Sarah Blazewicz and Marietta Ellis to pursue Tuesday off property events in Old Town San Diego or a cruise for the 2016 World Congress, and pursue a possible Zoo trip for Wednesday afternoon. **Update:** This action item is **ongoing**.
7. Marietta Ellis to mention to the Website Committee the Board's suggestion of adding a list of Lifetime Achievement Awardees on the home page of the new website or as a pop up. **Update: Ongoing**, this will be sent to the ad hoc Website Committee for their review.
8. At the 2015 meeting, find out from students what the best social media options are and encourage students to share information on what they learned at the meeting through those

- venues. **Update:** This item is **ongoing**, Marietta Ellis will ask the Student Officers to add this action item to the agenda of the 2015 Student Affairs Committee meeting.
9. Marietta Ellis will request that the Website Committee provide their thoughts on an online poster event in conjunction with the 2015 meeting. **Update:** This item is **ongoing**, and the possibility of an online poster event will be discussed at the 2015 meetings of the Education Committee and the Student Affairs Committee.
  10. Marietta Ellis to review Endowment information provided by Eugene Elmore. Eugene will adjust information to note money is designated as a gift, and not a donation. **Update:** this item is **ongoing**, and will be discussed at the 2015 Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

#### Action items from the February 2015 Board Meeting

11. To promote contributions to the IVACS activity fund, the possibility of sending a letter to the IVACS membership was discussed. **Update:** This item is **ongoing**, a letter will be drafted to be included with the 2016 SIVB membership renewal.
12. Send a letter to the IAPB members to promote the 2016 meeting in San Diego. **Update:** **Ongoing**, the SIVB Business Office will include this information in the hard copy of the journal that is sent to IAPB members.
13. The Public Policy Committee will draft a policy statement on genome editing, and this statement will be reviewed by the SIVB board prior to posting on the SIVB website. **Update:** This item is **ongoing**.
14. Barbara Doonan will organize an ad hoc committee to develop an SIVB exhibit for the 2016 USA Science & Engineering Festival Meeting (April 16 & 17, 2016) in Washington, DC; and the display should be designed to attract the attention of an 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> grader. The ad hoc committee will provide an update at the June Board meeting. **Update:** This item is **ongoing**. We are included as an exhibitor for the meeting, and now the ad hoc committee needs to design a display for the booth at the meeting that is designed to attract the attention of an 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grader. This will be good exposure for the SIVB and it might be a good idea to include the Education Committee and some of our student members. Barbara Doonan asked the Board members/ad hoc Committee to review the USA Science & Engineering Festival Meeting website.

#### New Action items from the May 2015 Board Meeting

15. Marietta Ellis and John Harbell will discuss with the Program Committee how we need to more effectively communicate with regard to planning and finalizing the program, especially the plenary sessions, so that we can more effectively advertise the Meeting.
16. Marietta Ellis will ask the Awards Committee to review the process of fundraising for the Lifetime Achievement Awards so that we can ensure adequate funding for these awards.
17. Marietta Ellis and David Songstad will implement a group registration rate (\$5,000 for 20 people) on a trial basis for the 2016 Meeting in San Diego, CA.
18. The Business Office is working on adjusting our secure certificate to facilitate safe online purchases.

19. The Board will help to contact (email/phone) members who do not renew their membership to encourage them to renew. Marietta Ellis will provide the Board members with the names of members who need to be contacted.
20. The Board discussed the issue of a decreased membership fee, with on-line journal access, for individuals from third World countries. Marietta Ellis will bring this to the Membership Committee.
21. The Long Range Planning Committee needs to modify the Strategic Plan as recommended by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. They also need to work with various Committees in the Society to implement the Strategic Plan. Dwight Tomes and Marietta Ellis will work on this action item.
22. To identify a better mechanism for students to submit their award applications to facilitate more effective tracking of the applications. Marietta Ellis will bring this to the Awards Committee.
23. Marietta Ellis will determine if our app has the capability of performing surveys to get feedback on individual sessions. If the app is not compatible for performing surveys we will pursue a paper option.
24. Marietta Ellis will talk to Sandra Schneider and the History Committee, concerning identifying topics and authors for Pioneer articles for our journals.
25. At the February Program Planning Meeting the Program Chair and Section Program Charis will identify topics and speakers from the upcoming meeting to release to the press to promote the meeting.
26. We will pursue new ways to address public policy issues and promote outreach in regard to these issues. This will involve the Public Policy Committee working with the Education Committee. We will try to utilize our website and social media more towards this goal. We will bring this action item to the Sections to get their input and assistance.
27. Mary Welters discussed the possibility of requesting funding from the Medical Marijuana industry for funding of a Medicinal Plant session that focuses on the medical use of marijuana. Mary will bring this idea to the Program Planning Committee.

#### New Motions from the May 2015 Board Meeting

**Motion:** A motion was made to adopt the minutes from the February, 2015 Board Meeting; and the motion was seconded and passed.

**Motion:** A motion was made to adopt the modified agenda; and the motion was seconded and passed.

**Motion:** A motion was made to hold the 2017 Meeting in Raleigh, NC, and the motion was seconded and passed.

**Motion:** A motion was made to offer a discounted group registration rate of \$5,000 for 20 people, and we will implement this for the 2016 Meeting in San Diego on a trial basis; the motion was seconded and passed.

**Motion:** A Motion was made to approve the Annual Report, and the motion was seconded and passed.

**Motion:** A motion was made to sign the AAAS Call to Action, and the motion was seconded and passed.



**Motion:** A motion was made to adjourn the Board Meeting, and the motion was seconded and passed. The Meeting was adjourned at 11:59am.