

MINUTES
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS RESEARCH CONFERENCE
General Business Meeting, July 16, 2009
Benson Hotel Meeting Room, Portland, OR, USA

INRC Executive Committee Members present: Lakshmi Devi (LD; President), Mary Jeane Kreek (Past-President); Jean Bidlack (JB; Treasurer); Ivy Carroll, John Traynor, Lei Yu (N. America reps.); Christoph Stein and Fred Nyberg (European reps.); Minoru Narita, Mac Christie, Pao-Luh Tao (Rest-of-World reps.) and Craig W. Stevens (CWS; INRC Information Officer, *ex officio*).

Also present: Approximately 100 attendees of the INRC 2008 conference (Open Meeting).

Lakshmi Devi, INRC President, presided over the General Business Meeting which commenced at 3:15pm. LD started the meeting by thanking the local organizers, Susan Ingram and John Williams, and the attendees. Especially thanks to John and Susan for getting funds to sponsor the Data Blitz session at OHSU and showed to the younger INRCers that we are thinking of them and hope that they will come back again and again. She added a special thanks to Susan Ingram. She also thanked the Executive Committee members and Tina Haslett from SAILAIR travel and the hotel staff for their help and the wonderful food. She also thanked the people that came to the business meeting and requested input on how the meeting went and how the meeting could be improved. Also requested their help in the nominations to follow. She added that everyone who comes to the INRC is a member, that there is no dues or membership fees, so they can all vote on the elections of officers and suggest names. She announced that the main agenda items were the election of the new Executive Committee members, and highlights of the next meetings to be held in Portland OR, USA (2009) and Malmö, Sweden (2010).

I. Election of President-Elect

LD proceeded to list the nominations for President-Elect and tell a little about the candidates. She introduced Chris Evans, John Traynor, and Fred Nyberg. Additional nominations from the floor were sought and Christoph Stein was nominated and accepted the nomination. The members were instructed to circle their choice and to use the write-in space for Christoph Stein if they choose him. The candidates were instructed to leave the room and paper ballots were passed out, filled in by the members and collected. Counting of ballots was done twice by JB and CWS and John Traynor won. Candidates were called back in and John Traynor was announced as the President-Elect to a round of applause. He will begin his duties as President of the INRC following at the end of the next meeting in Sweden for a four-year term.

II. Election of Executive Committee (EC) Members

LD thanked the three members who are coming off the Executive Committee this year; Ivy Carroll, Fred Nyberg, and Minoru Narita and thanked them for their three years of service. A hearty round of applause followed.

North American representative

LD listed the nominees for the N. American representative position; Jay McLaughlin, Jane Aldrich, Cathy Cahill, and Louis Gendron. She called for nominations from the floor and Chris McCurdy was nominated and accepted. These candidates were asked to leave the room and voting was done by a show of hands. Candidates were brought back into the room. LD announced that Louis Gendron was elected as the new North American representative on the Executive Committee. An applause followed.

European representative

LD showed the nominees for the European position: Andreas Zimmer, Graeme Milligan, Vanna Zachariou, and Chris Bailey. These candidates were asked to leave the room and voting was done by a show of hands. Candidates were brought back into the room. LD announced that Graeme Milligan was elected as the new European representative on the Executive Committee. An applause followed.

Rest-of-the-World representative

LD showed the nominees for the Rest-of-the-World position: Shiro Kishioka and Ichiro Sora. Calls for additional floor nominations yielded Mac Christie who accepted. These candidates were asked to leave the room and voting was done by a show of hands. Candidates were brought back into the room. LD announced that Shiro Kishioka from Japan was elected as the new Rest-of-the-World representative on the Executive Committee. An applause followed.

III. Treasurer's Report

LD welcomed JB up to the podium to deliver this year's financial report. JB started by showing the financial report. She continued that the treasury is in good position, the annual report goes from May 1st to April 30th for reasons that May 1 is before the conference meeting activities have started and April 30th because it has ended by then from last year. She continued that as of last May, we had \$115,000 in the treasury. She gave a 'big thanks' to NIDA which has funded travel awards that makes possible the attendance of young investigators, to the amount of \$60,000. Each year NIDA gives the INRC \$2,000 USD to support international young investigators to come and present a poster at the NIDA satellite meeting held the Friday before the Society for Neuroscience conference. NIDA also expects the INRC to add an additional \$1,000 USD to support 3 awards total for international young scientist to attend the NIDA satellite meeting. Other expenses are those needed to run the organization, like the accountant each year as we are a non-profit, 501c organization under the US tax laws, incorporated in the state of New Jersey. This is thanks to Eric Simon and Charlie Chavkin that got the INRC incorporated in 1999. We made \$6900 USD net on the meeting last year. For people to understand why do we need a treasury, and she explained that when she heard of the swine flu the first thing she thought of was the INRC meeting. If the swine flu had prevented people from coming to the meeting, the treasury would have been depleted as we have contracts with the hotels and food catering for the meeting that we would lose money on. This is why it is recommended that organizations have a couple of year's meeting expenses saved in reserve. But we are in good financial shape and she expressed gratitude to John Williams and NIDA and all the companies that donated to support this meeting. She is very grateful to the attendees and last number she saw was 254 registrants. An applause followed. George Wilcox asked if the \$115,000 balance has been the same over the last few years. JB stated that it has been about the same and that some meetings have a zero balance on the spreadsheets, like the Berlin meeting.

LD thanked JB for the financial report and added that NIDA wants them to submit a multi-year conference support grant as we have scored well and will help them and us by submitting a multi-year grant. LD called FN up to the podium to tell the members about the INRC 2010 meeting.

IV. Upcoming Meetings**a. 2010 Meeting (July 11 to July 16, 2010, Malmö, Sweden)**

FN mentioned that the noted that 2010 meeting is being planned as a satellite to the IUPHAR meeting being held in Copenhagen and will be held in Malmö, Sweden. He also mentioned the FENS (European

Neuroscience Meeting) meeting in Amsterdam is before the INRC and the ICRS in Lund, Sweden just after the INRC meeting ends. The last day of the INRC will have some overlap with the ICRS meeting. He presented a slide show of the meeting locale and Malmö. He started by welcoming all attendees to the 2010 meeting and noted that it is in between the European Neurosciences Meeting and the IUPHAR meeting. Copenhagen is only a bridge away and about a 25 min train ride to Malmö. Then can walk to the Hilton hotel or take a short cab ride from the train station. He continued to show slides of the Hilton and the beaches along the 'Swedish Riviera'. Rooms are reasonable and breakfast as usual in Sweden is included. There are also other hotels that are cheaper nearby. He also showed a slide of the HSB Turning Torso, a new internationally famous building in Malmö. He ended with a slide of the conference banquet site, near the beach and at the base of the bridge.

b. 2011 Meeting (June 22 to June 27, 2011 in Hollywood, FL, USA)

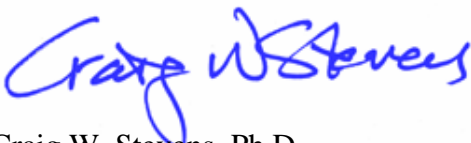
LD stated that this will be a joint meeting with CPDD with Sari Izenwasser and Ellen Unterwald as the organizers. This location is close to both Miami and Fort Lauderdale. It is only about 15 min from South Beach in Miami and from Fort Lauderdale. She emphasized that NIDA is interested for the two organizations to meet together; people save money because CPDD can get good deals due to their size and also people would not have to fly to two different places. Also NIDA recognizes there is quite a bit of scientific overlap and common interest. She noted that the meeting in June means that INRCers will have to register earlier than usual to put together the joint meeting. CPDD runs from Saturday night until Thursday afternoon; the plan is to shift INRC to run Tuesday night through Saturday. Hopefully Nora Volkow will speak to both meetings on Wednesday. Thursday would be simultaneous sessions so could go to either meetings talks. Some ideas were to have the last banquet night of CPDD be also the opening night reception for INRC; in that way there would be an opportunity for networking between the two groups. Then INRC would have its own closing banquet on Friday or Saturday night. The venue is the Westin Diplomat Hotel which has the best conference facilities she has ever seen. It is right on the beach and really fabulous. LD ended by saying that your comments on the survey, which will be put online by CWS, so that attendees can contribute their ideas.

c. 2012 Meeting (venue to be determined)

LD stated we are still in the planning stages. One might be in Ann Arbor at the University of Michigan, John Traynor is looking into it. Louis Gendron and Cathy Cahill are interested in hosting a meeting in Montreal, Canada. This will be worked on more at the interim meeting held during the SFN conference in Chicago in October.

LD stated one last thing was the traditional passing of the bell from Susan Ingram to Fred Nyberg, which occurred with a big applause. LD adjourned the meeting at 4:05pm.

Respectfully submitted July 24, 2009, by



Craig W. Stevens, Ph.D.
INRC Information Officer