



**2008 WSPR Business Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday – January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008, 4:45 p.m.**  
**Golden Bough Room, Pacific Repertory Theater, Carmel, CA**

**Present:**

President H. Eugene Hoyme, M.D.  
Secretary/Treasurer Robin K. Ohls, M.D.  
President Elect. F. Curt Bennett, M.D.  
Past President Andrew Macnab, M.D.  
Of Counsel Marilyn C. Jones, M.D.  
2008-2009 Council Members: Chris Cunniff, M.D., Heidi Marsha Feldman, M.D., Ph.D.,  
Colin White, M.D., Lawrence S. Friedman, M.D., David A. Gremse, M.D.,  
William W. Hay, Jr., M.D., Daniel M. Marks, M.D., Ph.D., Anne M. Moon, M.D.,  
Ph.D., Randal Kai Wada, M.D.

1. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Eugene Hoyme, WSPR President, at 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, January 31, 2008 in the Golden Bough Room in the Pacific Repertory in Carmel, CA. The minutes of the 2007 Business meeting were read during the Council Meeting and approved as written.
2. Thanks were expressed to the outgoing 2007-2008 WSPR Council Members, Robert W. Armstrong, M.D., Istvan Seri, M.D., Eric Vilain, M.D.
3. The WSPR Membership and Council thanked Dr. H. Eugene Hoyme for his dedication and support as 2007-2008 WSPR President. Dr. Hoyme was presented with a print from Carmel watercolor artist Gordon Mortensen with the WSPR Officers, Council Members and membership's thanks.
4. The announcement of the slate of nominees was presented for the year 2008:  
President-Elect: De-Ann M. Pillers, M.D., Ph.D. (Oregon Health Sciences University)  
Council Members: Chris Cunniff, M.D. (University of Arizona), Heidi Feldman (Stanford), Colin White (University of British Columbia)
5. The Council approved the nominees and they were forwarded to the membership at the Business Meeting for approval. The membership voted on and approved the WSPR candidates for President-Elect (Pillers) and Council (Cunniff, Feldman, White).
6. The 2008 Abbott Nutritionals Award in Research by a Young Investigator, David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award and Lowell Glasgow Student Research Award Winners were announced. The 2008 Travel Award winners were announced.

**2008 Ross Award Recipients are:**

**Abbott Nutritionals Young Investigator Award: \$1,250 award and plaque**

Vedang Londhe, M.D., David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

**8:30am, Joint Plenary Session I, Thursday, January 31, 2008 in the Pacific Repertory Theater – Golden Bough -**

Nominator: Sherin U. Devaskar, M.D.

**David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award: \$750 honorarium and plaque, sponsored by Abbott Nutritionals**

Shrena Patel, M.D., University of Utah

**1:45pm, Joint Plenary Session II, Thursday, February 1, 2007 in the Pacific Repertory Theater – Golden Bough - EXPRESSION AND FUNCTION OF ERYTHROPOIETIN AND VASCULAR ENDOTHELIAL GROWTH FACTOR INCREASED IN OXYGEN INDUCED RETINOPATHY**  
 Nominators: Kang Zhang, M.D., Ph. D., Robert lane, M.D.

**Lowell Glasgow Student Research Award**

**Based on most outstanding abstract submitted to WSPR meeting by a student: \$500 honorarium sponsored by Abbott Nutritionals**

Jeffrey Meyrowitz, M.D. - Michigan State University

**2:00pm, Joint Plenary Session II, Thursday, January 31, 2007 in the Pacific Repertory Theater – Golden Bough - NEUTRALIZATION OF IL-17 WITH POLYCLONAL ANTI-IL-17 ANTIBODY ATTENUATES DEXTRAN SULFATE SODIUM-INDUCED COLITIS IN MICE.**

**2008 WSPR Mead Johnson \$500 Travel Award Winners List is as follows:**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>University</b>
Anna Morgan	Stanford
Mariana Baserga	University of Utah
Mamata Sivagnanam	University of California, San Diego
John Zupancic	Harvard
Shannon O’Grady	University of Utah
Kathleen Angkustsiri	University of California, Davis
<b>WSPR Resident Award Winner: Jeffrey Meyrowitz</b>	Michigan State University

**2008 WSMRF WSPR \$300 Subspecialty Award Winners**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>University</b>
Ann Tumsatan	University of Utah
Brian Chiong	University of California, Davis
Deependra Mahato	Western U. of Health Sciences
Jennifer Lo	Loma Linda University
John Newman	U. of Washington
Jessica Valentine	U. of Washington
Lindsay Bautista	Loma Linda University

7. A total of 10 new applicants were reviewed for membership and a brief summary of each individual's qualifications was presented to the Council. The Council accepted all 10 candidates for membership. These recommendations were forwarded and approved by the membership at the Business Meeting. In addition, 13 new trainee members were enthusiastically approved by the membership.
8. The income and expenses of the Society were reviewed and discussed in detail. The WSPR account balance as of January 30, 2008 was \$48,250 with \$24,000 in reserve. \$27,650 were awarded to the WSPR through several grants (Abbott Nutritionals, Mead Johnson, Sanford healthcare and Genzyme). Total income amounts to \$42,650 (up from \$23,300 last year). Meeting expenses this year will amount to an estimated \$22,000. Electronic mailing saved an approximate 43,000 to the Society this year. The Council discussed other avenues of increasing funding for our Annual Meeting in order to have enough in reserve to cover 2 meetings. One idea was for each WSPR Council Member to find one funding source to present the Council, coordinate the leads to avoid duplicate requests and apply for funding.
9. Current membership statistics were presented and reviewed. We have 546 active members, up from 514 members last year. We have 99 emeritus, up from 88 emeritus last year, and 19 fellows/trainees. Currently 184 members paid their dues compared to 280 members last year.
10. The Council proposed to the membership to lower the 3 year dues payment prerequisite to 2 years. Bylaws currently read as follows: Article V., 3. titled: Miscellaneous Provisions in the WSPR By-laws currently states that "individuals who have not paid their dues for 3 consecutive years shall, after proper notification, be suspended automatically from membership in the Society. All privileges of their membership shall remain in suspension until dues are paid in full." The motion was approved by the membership during the Business meeting. Bylaws will be changed to **2 consecutive years** to reflect the change. Members will be required to pay back dues to keep their good standing.
11. Carmel Scholar Program. The Council discussed increasing its involvement in the Carmel Scholar Program. It was proposed that each council member try to find a source of funding capable of supporting the program. The motion was proposed and seconded by the membership.
12. Secretary/Treasurer Ohls proposed that membership fees for active members only be raised to \$80 to cover Paypal payment credit card fees. The motion was approved by the membership and 2008-09 fees will be raised to **\$80**.
13. The motion approved last year to go paperless for our newsletter and other communications saved the Society about \$2,500.  
All newsletters are currently posted on the WSPR website located at: **[http://www.aps-spr.org/Regional\\_Societies/WSPR/2008/](http://www.aps-spr.org/Regional_Societies/WSPR/2008/)**, and anyone may access them at any time.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin K. Ohls, M.D.  
Secretary/Treasurer