



2008 WSPR Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday - January 30, 2008, 4:30 - 6:30pm
Garden Room – La Playa Hotel, 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.
2007-2008 Council Members: Robin K. Ohls, M.D., Istvan Seri, M.D., Ph.D., William W. Hay, Jr., M.D., Daniel M. Marks, M.D., Ph.D.

1. The meeting was convened by Dr. H. Eugene Hoyme at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 in the Garden Room at the La Playa Hotel in Carmel, CA. The minutes of the 2007 Council Meeting were read and unanimously approved.
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 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)
The Council approved the nominees and they were forwarded to the membership at the Business Meeting for approval.
4. The 2008 Abbott Nutritionals Award in Research by a Young Investigator, David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award, Lowell Glasgow Student Research winners were announced. The 2008 Travel Award winners were announced.

2008 Abbott Nutritionals 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:

Recipient	University
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
WSPR Resident Award Winner: Jeffrey Meyrowitz	Michigan State University

2008 WSPR \$300 Subspecialty Award Winners

Recipient	University
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

5. 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 to the membership at the Business Meeting. In addition, 13 new trainee members were enthusiastically approved and sent to membership.

6. Current membership statistics were presented and reviewed. We have 546 active members. We have 99 emeritus, and 19 fellows/trainees. Currently 184 members paid their dues compared to 280 members last year. The Council discussed the criteria to become a WSPR member. Emphasis was placed on the requirement, after nomination to remain actively involved in research. It was also decided that each new member should attend/participate in the WSPR yearly meeting, and bring his/her trainees.
7. The Council discussed changing the 3 year dues payment requirement to **2 years** in order to encourage members to keep current with their dues. 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 council which will refer it to its membership for a vote.
8. Dr. Ohls asked the Council about the idea of having another category for membership, such as “affiliate” as a possible way to increase our revenue. The WSPR society was approached this year by nurses, paramedics, etc. asking if they could receive a lower registration fee, or be allowed to have membership at a reduced fee. After much discussion, it was decided to table this issue as the WSPR membership fee is currently \$75. The meeting registration fee is not collected by WSPR and therefore the issue of affiliate membership should be brought up during the Societies luncheon.
9. The Council discussed increasing its participation in the Carmel Scholars Program by trying to obtain funding leads. The Council discussed the possibility of creating a committee composed of each society to raise money. It was decided that every council member should try to find funding for the Carmel Scholars Program.
7. 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. The Council reviewed cost savings due to the switch to electronic mailing. About \$2,500 was saved this year.

All newsletters are currently posted on the WSPR website located at: [http://www.aps-spr.org/Regional Societies/WSPR/2008/newsletter.htm](http://www.aps-spr.org/Regional_Societies/WSPR/2008/newsletter.htm), and anyone may access them at any time.

10. The Council discussed changing the names of the Abbott Nutritionals Awards to the Abbott Nutritionals Awards, since we now have to apply for a grant from Abbott Nutritionals in order to receive an monies from them.

The meeting was adjourned at 6.20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Ohls MD

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