

Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting held on 16th December , 2002 during the 51st Annual Conference of the Neurological Society India at the Gafar Convention Center Kochi.

- 2002/GB/01:** The President Dr. Mathew J. Chandy called the meeting to order and welcomed all the members.
- 2002/GB/02:** The minutes of the Last Annual General Body Meeting held at Mumbai on 17th December,2002 (published in the March,2002 Newsletter page no. 16 Of vol . II No.3(revised numbering) was accepted (proposed by Dr. M. Sambasivan and Seconded by Dr. S. Venkatraman).
- 2002/GB/03:** The minutes of the last executives Committee held at Mumbai on 16th December, 2002 (published in the March, 2002 Newsletter page No. 8 of Vol. II No.3 revised) was accepted (proposed by Dr. V .S. Mehta and Seconded by Dr. Chopra).
- 2002/GB/04:** The minutes of the executives Committee meeting held at Kochi on 15th December 2002 was presented. Following the announcement of the election results a large number of members communicated their resentment at being denied their right to vote. Many Members including some of the contestants pointed out that they had not received the ballot papers or had received it after the date. Dr. Chopra the Returning Officer pointed out that though 1147 ballot papers had been posted only 437 (37.5%) had been returned. Dr. Mohan Sampath Kumar Pointed out that he had been denied a duplicate ballot paper in spite of asking for it. It was also pointed out that some had received more than one ballot paper. Dr. Sreekumar, Dr. Khosla and Dr. Taori were of the opinion that sending ballot papers by registered post was not practicable. After hearing the Various Views It was decided

that more time should be given for the entire electoral process, duplicate ballot papers could be issued on confirmation of non receipt and that a trial electronic voting should be experimented with.

2002/GB/04: The Secretary presented the Secretary's Report and the Webmaster's Report. (published as Annexure I and v).(proposed by Dr. S.R. Dharker and Seconded by Dr. Mohan Sampath Kumar).

2002/GB/05: The Treasurer's Report (Annexure III) was presented by Dr. V.K. Khosla. Dr. Sreekumar wanted to know the specific stipulations regarding sharing of profits with NSI by the organizing committee of national conferences and why no action had been taken against previous defaulters. He reiterated that building a corpus should not be the only aim and pointed out that one should be aware of IT rules. The treasurer replied that the manner in which reserve funds should be used should be decided by the general body. Following repeated queries from the floor the treasurer and the president outlined the steps so far taken for recovering dues from the organizing committee of Neurocon 2000. There was considerable discussion regarding the propriety of the EC take major decisions regarding the modus operandi of organizing national conferences without threadbare discussion in the general body. Dr. V.S. Mehta pointed out that these proposed changes had been circulated to all members through the newsletters and had been passed during the GB meeting at Mumbai. These byelaws had subsequently been sent to the Registrar of Cooperative societies. However many members including Dr. Sreekumar strongly felt that these new rules should have been discussed point by point in the GB rather than just circulate them and ask for objections. It was therefore decided that the byelaws relevant to the conduct of annual conferences be kept

in abeyance. A committee consisting of Dr. J.S. Chopra, their recommendations to the EC and this would be discussed in the next general body meeting. Answering to the several comments regarding the organization of Neurocon 2000 Dr. G. Arjundas apologized for “ the mishaps from the South” . He mentioned that he was personally not aware of the committee made. He undertook to send the audited accounts of the conference and the dues to the NSI.

2002/GB/06: The Editor’s Report (Annexure III) was not presented due to the absence of the editor.

2002/GB/07: Dr. V.S. Mehta presented the CME convenors report (Annexure Iv)- proposed by Dr. Arjun D. Sehgal and seconded by Dr. V.K. Kak.

2002/GB/08: The Awards obtained during the conferences was communicated to the General Body:-

- A. Neurology Awards Paper- Dr. Shylaja
- B. Poster Presentation – Dr. Ashish Suri and Dr. Samson
- C. MCQ Award – Dr. Kumar – Chennai

2002/GB/09: Dr. Prof S.K. Shankar Neuropathologist from Nimhans was chosen as the Ramamurthi orator and Dr. Raj Narayan Neurosurgeon Temple University USA as the Glnde orator.

2002/GB/10: Symposium for 2003 conference. Dr. Bakshi’s Proposal “Stem cell in Neurosciences” was accepted Dr. P.N. Tandon of the NBRC would be requested to convene the symposium with Dr. Bakshi as co convenor.

2002/GB/11: There was considerable discussion regarding the selection of award papers for the conference. Dr. Shastri pointed out that abstracts sent for the award paper session from NIMHANS and CMC vellore had not been accepted. Dr. V. Rajshekar also

pointed out that no reasons were given for the rejection of the abstracts. Dr. Chopra chairman Scientific committee pointed out that the rules regarding awards papers had been published in the July newsletter and that the last date was 31st August. Many abstracts had been received far beyond the last date and they were incomplete without HOD signature etc. Dr. rajshekar mentioned that the abstracts had been submitted online on 30th August. Dr. Chopra pointed out that the abstracts had been sent to the organizing committee chairman and to him. Dr. Taori and Dr. Sreekumar strongly felt that reasons for not accepting an abstract in the award paper session should be communicated. The President noted the concern of the general body regarding non consideration of number of papers for the award session. It was decided that award papers should be sent by post and not online.

2002/GB/12: The general Body placed on record its appreciation to the organizing Committee at Kochi and concluded the meeting with a vote of thanks from the Secretary.

CME convenor's Report (Annexure IV)

The 1st Mid term CME was held on 23rd August 2002. It was a great success and 357 members participated in the 1st Mid-term CME. This was started to benefit the NSI Members who because of some or other reasons cannot attend the Annual NSI CME. The Mid-term CME had 1 ½ hrs. of common session which included topics of common interest and included tele medicine,

Neuro-aids and Drug interaction in Neurological Practice by eminent speakers. The concurrent Session in Neurology was dedicated to movement Disorders whereas in Neurosurgery the pre lunch session included, Lipomyelomeningocele, Animal models in ischaemia, Brain abscess, Cervical spinal and Growing skull # and post lunch session was dedicated to how I Do it Session and included jugular foramen tumour, Modified transpetrosal approach, Intramedullary tumour, C.P. angle tumour were presented by experienced Neurosurgeons of the country. The Annual CME will also have the common Session followed by Concurrent session. The common session would again have lectures of common interests on Neuro- Rehabilitation, Bio-informatics and recent advances in epilepsy surgery by the eminent speakers in their respective fields. The concurrent session in Neurology is theme based and this time it is on Neuro-Immunology. In Neurosurgery the pre lunch session lectures has been delivered on Frameless stereotaxy/ Stryngomyelia / Cerebral and spinal AVM and on spasticity whereas post lunch session in how I do It session on various aspects of aneurysm and on Trigeminal neuralgia. This year XVII volume of Progress in Clinical Neurosciences shall have compilation of lectures delivered at the Mid term and the Annual NSI meeting which consists of twenty seven articles. It is unfortunate that some of the speakers inspite of several reminders have not been able to send their write-up latest by 20th November hence could not be published. Request from the Organizing secretary of the NSI has been received for 400copies of CME books. However, as decided last time some extra copies will be published which can be made available to the members on payment and shall be sent by post to them only.

Webmaster Report (Annexurer V)

The NSI website reflects the contents of the newsletters and is updated on a regular basis as and when the newsletter is released. In addition, it provides a membership directory, message board, and a forum of case discussions.

Hosting and maintenance

The site was hosted by indigene, Bangalore at a cost of Rs. 20,000 per year, for hosting alone. The updation was being done by me since they wanted addition charges for doing it. The site has now been shifted to Asianet, who are hosting it at Rs. 2000 per year. The domain www.neurosocietyindia.com has been paid for till November 2005, when it would have to be renewed. I have requested a local software professional to help me with the maintenance of the site. His charges would depend on the number of times his services would be required during the year.

Funding

Aventis has been sponsoring the site, and in return have a logo on the home page. They have agreed to continue the sponsorship for another year on the same term, after which they would review the arrangement. I am in the process of looking for other sponsors. Advertising logos can be put up on the home page for the main sponsor, and on the inner pages for other sponsors. We can also have a separate page for advertisers, if more come forward.

For this year, funds from Aventis should cover expenses towards hosting, and engaging some one for the technical work on the site. I had requested additional funds to be released from the NSI, which was put up the last EC meeting and sanctioned. However, given the present circumstances, I may not require any additional funds at the moment.

Plans

We have the capability to offer a large number of services from the site.

These include conference management, development of an abstract centre (which can be utilized by the organizers of any neuro conference in the country for a fee paid to the society).

A demo for an online election process was demonstrated at mid-term EC meeting at Mumbai.

The forum for case discussions could be strengthened, and if there are sufficient numbers of contributors, develop an electronic Journal, along the lines of Neurosurgical Focus.

Two Engineers applied for one job at a computer company. They had identical qualification, so to determine which one to hire, the firm gave them a test. Each missed only one question.

A manager called the first candidate and said, "we 're going with the other applicant."

"Why ? We both got nine questions right," said the reject.

" Our choice isn't based on the correct answers, but on the question you both missed," said the manager.

"How would one incorrect answer be better than the other.?" The applicant inquired.

"simple," said the manager.

"For question No. 5, the other guy put down, I don't know. You wrote, Neither do I."