

MINUTES OF NSI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> 2009 AT SGPGI, LUCKNOW

The meeting was attended by Dr. V. K. Khosla, Dr. S. K. Prabhakar, Dr. V. Rajshekhar, Dr. C. E. Deopujari, Dr. J M K Murthy, Dr. Deepu Banerji, Dr. R. C. Mishra, Dr. Apoorva Pauranik, Dr. M. A. Aleem, Dr. V. S. Mehta, and Dr. B. K. Misra. Dr. N. Khandelwal was absent.

Dr. V. K. Khosla, President, Neurological Society of India, chaired the meeting.

- 2009/Dec/EC/01 The meeting was called to order by the President.
- 2009/Dec/EC/02 The EC expressed its condolences at the passing away of a senior member of the NSI, Dr. R.S. Dharker
- 2009/Dec/EC/03 **Secretary's report** and action taken on minutes of last executive committee meeting.
- 2009/Dec/EC/03 A **CME credit** for Lucknow meeting. The Secretary informed the EC that CME credit for CME program of the NSI has to be obtained from the State Medical Council in which the program is held. Therefore, the Organising Secretary of the NSI Annual Meeting has to coordinate with the respective State Medical Council to obtain this credit. Accordingly, Dr. Rajkumar was requested by the Secretary to obtain the credit from the UP State Medical Council for the Lucknow meeting.
- 2009/Dec/EC/03 B **Notice inviting nominations to honor senior members of NSI members above 75 years of age** was published in the July 2009 Newsletter. There were two nominations - Drs. Krishnamurthy Srinivas and Sanatan Rath, both of whom were honored on 17<sup>th</sup> December during the Inaugural Function of the Annual Meeting.
- 2009/Dec/EC/03C **HH Dalai Lama's program** was coordinated by the Secretary through correspondence with His Holiness' Secretary. The function was successfully concluded on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009.
- 2009/Dec/EC/03 D **Amendments to the Constitution and Byelaws of the Society** - Notices were published in the July 2009 Newsletter. No objections or suggestions for changes were received by the Secretary.
- 2009/Dec/EC/03 D **WFNS meeting in Boston**. The Secretary requested Dr. B. K. Misra, NSI delegate to the WFNS EC to mention the highlights of the WFNS EC decisions. Dr. Misra mentioned that the WFNS EC decided to have a differential membership fees for countries with different levels of economic development. Therefore, NSI will not have to pay the increased fee per member. Dr. Misra was elected as the Assistant Secretary of the WFNS EC. The mid term WFNS meeting will be held in Brazil in 2011.
- 2009/Dec/EC/03 D **Making Neurosurgery Dept mandatory for new Medical Colleges** - The Secretary informed the EC that a letter was sent to the Secretary of the MCI in November 2009 regarding this issue but there was no acknowledgement. The EC members suggested that letters be sent again to the Secretary, MCI along with copies to the Health Secretary Government of India) and the Health Minister (Government of India).

2009/Dec/EC/03 E **Enhancement of fees for Members' address database** - The EC decided that non-members/commercial organizations will have to pay Rs. 5000 to obtain the database. Members will continue to pay Rs. 500 for the same.

2009/Dec/EC/03 F **Deadlines for Abstract submission and finalizing the scientific program** - The Secretary suggested that because of the recurring delay in finalizing the Scientific Meeting Program of the Annual Meetings of the NSI, the dates for Abstract Submission and finalizing the Scientific Program be advanced. Accordingly, the final date of Abstract Submission is advanced to July 31 and the date for finalizing the Scientific Meeting Program will be 15 October of every year.

2009/Dec/EC/04 **Treasurer's report** was presented by Dr. Deopujari

- 1) The Income tax return was filed in Mumbai last year and we did not have to pay any tax because the NSI had spent more than 85% of income
- 2) The Society funds at present are as under
  - a) Corpus fund

RBI Bonds	90,00000
HDFC	15,00000
IOB, Mumbai	5,00000
  - b) Current account balance  
The balance on 15/12/09 is Rs.1,79,292.17 only (Treasurer A/c)
- 3) The main expenditure has been Rs.4,80,000/- given to Neurology India and Rs.1,53,000/- for website development apart from salaries, printing and sundries.  
Over the last year there are 108 new members: 57 associate, 47 life members and 5 full members.  
Only 1 traveling fellowship was availed last year and young members are encouraged to apply for the same in future.

2009/Dec/EC/05 **Editor's report**

#### Performance

The performance of Neurology India has been impressive for the year 2009.

1. The journal is now bi-monthly, six issues in a year.
2. The impact factor of the journal has gone up to 1.09. The journal is among the top few Indian scientific journals with good impact factor and among the three top Indian medical journals.
3. As on 16.12.09, the number of submissions to Neurology India has gone up to 840. The growth in the number of submissions is 59% more when compared to the previous year.
4. The ratio between original articles and case reports in this year is 1:1.3
5. Of the 840 articles submitted, a decision was taken on 751 (90%), [acceptance: 234 (31%); rejection: 517 (69%)] and 89 (10%) of articles are under review [with reviewers 63; with authors for revision 27].
6. The time period between the submitted to first decisions has been considerably reduced.
  - Days taken by reviewers for sending comments: 13.12 [0, 40]
  - Days until paper is under review: 19.76
  - Days taken by Editor for Decision: 4.21 [0.79]

7. The total number of articles published in the year are 236, 90% more articles have been published in 2009 when compare to 2008. The ratio between original articles and case reports is 1.3:1

Editorials	Indian Perspective	Reviews	Original Articles	Case Reports	Letters	Neuro-image	Correspondence	Total
12	6	13	68	53	60	15	9	236

8. There is a bit delay in bring out each issue. We are able to place the journal on the website by a delay of 10 days. The reasons are many fold, mainly concerns scientific editing and also to some extent backlog work. But I assure you from the next year we will be able to bring out each issue 15 - 20 days earlier. We now have enough number of accepted articles to go for advanced e-publication, which we should start in the year 2010.

## Finances

The total earnings from all the sources are Rs. 1,132,291 and the total payment are Rs 1,050,821 (this includes excess of payment of Rs 109,596 to the publishers). The left over is Rs 79,470. We have to pay to the publishers the costs for 5th and 6th issues.

I need a good financial support from the Society. I have already started charging for the color pictures from the authors. I also wish to charge for images if the number exceeds six.

## Future Plans

Full text of the articles published in Neurology India is available from 1999 (Volume 47) onwards. As mentioned in my first Editor's report in the midterm Executive Meeting, I wish to place all the articles published in Neurology India from its inception on the journal website. Prof M Gourie-Devi has brought out the articles, full text till 1997 on a CD. I will be soliciting her help in this regard. I need financial assistance for this project.

### 2009/Dec/EC/06 *CME convener's report*

CME - Conveners Report presented by Drs. Deepu Banerji and A. Pauranik.

We have continued with the tradition of theme based CME. This years theme have been - Evidenced based neuro-oncology, Clinical Neurology, neurotrauma and some selected topics for neurology .

We have printed 500 copies of "Progress in Clinical Neurosciences" for the Lucknow conference and they were delivered three days before the conference for distribution with the conference bag.

We have for the first time printed colored pictures in the book to enhance the quality of our publication. The previous two editions are available on the internet and the current one will be made available soon.

The cost of printing has gone up. The publisher has provided us the book at a discount of Rs. 472.00.

Our request for increasing the financial support for printing the book from Rs250.00 to Rs. 400.00 has been accepted by the EC and we thank the EC for the

appreciation. We would like to thank the authors for their time and well researched manuscript. Also would like to thank the publisher - Bywords for the excellent editorial work and bringing out the book in time despite delays.

**2009/Dec/EC/07**

***Webmaster's report***

Dr. Rajshekhar presented the report. The website has seen a complete makeover and is now central to the activities of the Society. The website features an address database which can be accessed by the members after obtaining a username and password from the Webmaster. All abstracts have to be submitted online as was done this year. The website is also current with display of conferences, workshops and fellowship notices as and when they are received by the Webmaster. Dr. Rajshekhar requested the EC to permit him to use professional help to further improve the Abstract Centre and to maintain the website by paying annual maintenance costs. This was approved by the EC.

**2009/Dec/EC/08**

***NSI - CNS meeting in Jaipur - changes in scientific program schedule-*** Dr. B. K. Misra presented a report on the CNS - NSI meeting in New Orleans which featured around 50 NSI members as faculty and another 40 or more NSI members attended the meeting as delegates. CNS and AASAN (American Association of South Asian Neurosurgeons) played a major role in facilitating the participation of NSI members and presenting of papers by them at this meeting by making changes to their program.

Dr. Rajshekhar suggested that the EC permit some changes to our rules to allow for CNS members to participate fully in the Scientific Program of the 2010 NSI meeting in Jaipur. These rules include restrictions on foreign speakers at CME program (2 per Neurology and Neurosurgery each). He presented a preliminary plan which would facilitate the presentation of invited papers by around 36 CNS members and around 30 free papers by their members.

The EC has proposed that CNS members wishing to present papers at the NSI meeting in Jaipur register themselves as Associate Members of the NSI for a fee and then they can participate in all the activities of the Conference on par with NSI members.

A committee of the EC with President-Elect, Dr. B. K. Misra and Dr. V. Rajshekhar as members was formed to coordinate with the CNS and AASAN representatives to finalise the Scientific Program of the Jaipur meeting.

**2009/Dec/EC/09**

***Venue for 2011 NSI conference.*** Dr. Rajshekhar received only one bid for the 2011 conference from Bangalore. The EC accepted this bid. The 2011 NSI conference has been awarded to Bangalore. The Organising Secretary for the conference is Dr. S. Sampath from NIMHANS, Bangalore. Dr. Sampath was invited to the EC meeting to present the highlights of the facilities available for the conference. He informed the EC that the conference venue will be NIMHANS Convention Centre which has hosted several conferences in the past and has excellent infrastructure. Dr. Sampath was reminded by the EC of the financial and other obligations of the Organising Committee of the conference towards the Society. The NSI Secretary will be sending a document listing these commitments for the signature of Dr. Sampath in January 2010.

- 2009/Dec/EC/10 ***Financial and other obligations of the Organising Committee of the Annual Conferences of NSI.*** The EC deliberated on the issue of non compliance of the Organising Committee of the annual conferences of NSI with the terms and conditions for holding the meeting. The EC discussed ways and means of avoiding this recurring problem. Dr. V. S. Mehta pointed out that the most practical method of avoiding this problem was for the NSI Treasurer to collect the Registration fees of the delegates of the Annual meeting and hand over 75% of the fees in instalments to the Organizing Secretary based on the compliance with the terms and conditions. Although this was accepted in principle as the best method, no final decision was taken on the date of implementation of this new scheme.
- 2009/Dec/EC/11 The following orations will be held during the Jaipur conference: Dr. Jacob Chandy Oration and Dr. P. N. Tandon Oration. The nominating committee will inform the EC of their choice during the mid term EC meeting in May 2010.
- 2009/Dec/EC/12 ***Advocacy Committee*** - Report by Dr. Pauranik. Dr. Pauranik informed the EC that the committee formed at the mid term EC meeting (Drs. S. P. Agarwal, V. S. Mehta and himself) could not meet as scheduled and this was rescheduled for early 2010.
- 2009/Dec/EC/13 ***Joint meeting with Italian Society of Neurosurgery*** - Dr. B. K. Misra informed the EC that the Italian Society of Neurosurgery has finalized the dates of their conference in Milan in October 2010 and their website is online. The last date for submission of abstracts is 30 April 2010. The topics suggested by the NSI (Aneurysms and Infections) have been featured by the Italian Society as main topics for the meeting.
- 2009/Dec/EC/14 ***Attracting Neurologists to NSI activities*** - letter from Dr. Pauranik. The EC discussed the suggestions of Dr. Pauranik but did not approve of most of them. It was suggested that senior neurologists should encourage the junior neurologists and their students to become members of NSI and whole heartedly participate in its activities.
- 2009/Dec/EC/15 ***Routing of invitations for all speakers through Secretary/President Elect*** - Dr. V. Rajshekhar. The Secretary pointed out that speakers for the Annual Meeting are now being invited by several members of the Organising Committee and others which is leading to confusion. It is suggested that all such invitations be routed through the President Elect (Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the Annual Meeting) and/or the Secretary. This does not take away the rights of the Organising Committee in deciding the speakers for the Breakfast Symposia but only streamlines the process so that these speakers can be properly accommodated in the Scientific Program and avoid last minute changes in the program due to mis-communication.
- 2009/Dec/EC/16 ***Archival section of NSI:*** letter from Dr. Pranesh  
Dr. M. B. Pranesh volunteered his services to start an archival section of the Society. He would approach members to collect and collate archival

materials such as letters, photographs, programs of scientific meetings of the Society etc. and send them to the Society to display on the website. The EC accepted his proposal in principle without any financial commitments on the part of the Society.

**MINUTES OF NSI GENERAL BODY MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 19<sup>th</sup> 2009 AT SGPGI, LUCKNOW**

Dr. V. K. Khosla, President, Neurological Society of India, chaired the meeting.

- 2009/Dec/GB/01** The meeting was called to order by the President.
- 2009/Dec/GB/02** The GB expressed its condolences at the passing away of a senior member of the NSI, Dr. R.S. Dharker
- 2009/Dec/GB/03** **Secretary's report** - Dr. Rajshekhar pointed out the salient points of EC meeting held the day before.
- 2009/Dec/GB/03A** Amendments to the Constitution and Byelaws of the Society - Notices were published in the July 2009 Newsletter. No objections or suggestions for changes were received by the Secretary. The Secretary read out each of the following amendments to the Constitution and Byelaws.

**Clause: 11. Election of Office Bearers.**

*11.3 A new Editor shall be elected in the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the tenure of the Incumbent Editor. The Editor-elect shall function as a Deputy Editor for a period of one year and then take over as the Editor without a fresh election.*

**Seating on the Dais during the Annual Conference Inauguration**

*Clause: 12.16 Dais seating arrangement during the Inaugural Function of the annual conference will be as follows: a. Guest of Honour, NSI President, NSI President Elect, NSI Secretary, Chairman - Organizing Committee, Secretary of the Organizing Committee, Joint Secretary of the Organizing Committee, and Treasurer of the Organizing Committee.*

**Invitation for bids for the Annual Conference**

*Clause: 12.2 The EC would decide location of the conference by inviting bids on prescribed form 3 years in advance.*

All the amendments were passed without dissent.

**2009/Dec/GB/04.** Treasurer's Report - Dr. Deopujari presented the Treasurer's report and this was accepted.

**2009/Dec/GB/05** **Editor's Report** - Dr. Murthy presented the Editor's report which was accepted.

**2009/Dec/GB/06** **CME Convener's Report** - Dr. Banerji presented the CME Convener's report and this was accepted.

**2009/Dec/GB/07** **Webmaster's Report** - Dr. Rajshekhar presented the Webmaster's report which was accepted.

**2009/Dec/GB/08** **Results of elections** - Dr. Prabhakar, Returning Officer reported the results of the election for the post of President Elect. There were three candidates (Dr. V. K. Jain, Dr. A. K. Mahapatra and Dr. K. E. Turel). Dr. V. K. Jain was declared elected as President Elect.