

MINUTES OF THE MIDTERM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT JAIPUR ON MAY 8th, 2010

The meeting was attended by Dr. S. K. Prabhakar, Dr.V.K.Jain, Dr. V. Rajshekhar, Dr. C. E. Deopujari, Dr. J M K Murthy, Dr. Deepu Banerji, Dr. R. C. Mishra, Dr. Apoorva Pauranik, Dr. N. Khandelwal, Dr. B. K. Misra and Dr. V.K.Khosla. Dr. M.A. Aleem did not attend the meeting.

Dr. S. K. Prabhakar, President, Neurological Society of India, chaired the meeting.

2010/May/EC/01. The meeting was called to order by the President.

2010/May/EC/02. **Condolences:** The EC observed a minute's silence in memory of the following two members of the Society who passed away.

Dr. M. Manjunath, Neurologist, Bangalore

Dr. P. P. Vaishnav, Neurosurgeon, Ahmedabad

2010/May/EC/03. **Secretary's Report:** Dr. Rajshekhar presented the Secretary's report.

Action taken:

1. Fees for Jaipur conference was fixed during the Lucknow EC meeting in December 2009. This was conveyed to Dr. Bagaria and is as advertised in the conference brochure.

2010/May/EC/03A. **An Emergency EC meeting** was held in Agra on 13 Feb 2010 to consider the response to Dr. R. S. Mittal's (Jaipur) and Dr. Bhartiya's (Jaipur) letters regarding the allotment of the 2010 Annual Conference. The EC decided that the previous EC decision taken in December 2008 was in order and this was conveyed to Dr. R. S. Mittal. The EC also suggested that all members of the Neurosciences community in Jaipur should work together in an inclusive manner toward the success of the meeting in December 2010. This decision of the EC was conveyed to Dr. Mittal, Dr. Bhartiya and Dr. Dharker (President, Jaipur Neurosciences Society).

2010/May/EC/03B. **Minutes of the Emergency EC meeting** held in Agra in on 13 Feb 2010 were presented as above and passed.

2010/May/EC/03C **Appointment of lawyers by NSI in Mumbai and Jaipur.**

Subsequent to the receipt of the letters from Dr. R. S. Mittal and the legal notice from his lawyer regarding the allotment of the 2010 annual conference of the Society, the EC has appointed the following lawyers to represent it in any legal proceedings in this matter.

Mumbai - Mulla and Mulla Company;

Jaipur - Mr. R. N. Mathur

2010/May/EC/03D

Legal proceedings against NSI

Dr. R. S. Mittal (Jaipur) has sent a legal notice in the last week of March 2010, through his lawyer, to the Society complaining that his application bidding for the 2010 Annual Conference was rejected arbitrarily and unfairly by the EC at its meeting in December 2008 held at Pune and hence the EC should now call for fresh bids for the 2010 Annual Conference. A reply to this notice defending the actions of the EC and explaining that the reason for rejection of his bid was as per the byelaws of the Society was drafted by the Society's lawyers in Mumbai and the reply was sent by Mr. Mathur.

The Secretary's report were passed.

Proposed by: Dr. C.E.Deopujari

Seconded by: Dr.J.M.K.Murthy

2010/May/EC/04

Nominations for Senior Honored Member to be honored during the Jaipur meeting

The EC considered the nominations received and recommended that the following Senior members be honored:

1. Dr. A. K. Banerji
2. Dr. V. S. Dave
3. Dr. J. S. Chopra

2010/May/EC05

Request from Dr. Ashwini Sharan, President, AASAN

Dr. Sharan had requested for subsidies for resident members of the CNS to attend the NSI- CNS meeting in Jaipur in December 2010. The EC has already made these provisions. The EC requested Dr. Bagaria to arrange, if possible, some economical accommodation for these members.

2010/May/EC/06

Treasurer's report

Dr. Deopujari presented the Treasurer's report.

Treasurer's Report for the year 2009 (April 2009 - March 2010)

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	90,00,000
HDFC	15,00,000
IOB, Mumbai	5,00,000

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 and Rs. 3,47,543/- for WFNS subscription apart from salaries, printing and sundries.
4. Over the last year there are 108 new members: 57 associate, 47 life members and 5 full members.
5. Only 1 traveling fellowship was availed last year and young members are encouraged to apply for the same in future.

Treasurer's report was passed.

Proposed by: Dr. Deepu Banerji Seconded by: Dr. R. C. Mishra

2010/May/EC/07

Change in financial management of the Annual Conference of the Society

Dr. Deopujari reported that, based on the advice of the Society's auditor, the financial management of the Annual Conference of the Society being followed at present is not in keeping with the norms of the Income Tax Department rules governing our Society. Hence changes in the present format are inevitable.

Another chartered accountant has confirmed the same and advised that we change the way we run our annual conferences.

The following points were made by the chartered accountant:

1. In the eyes of the law, the Annual Conference of the NSI is held by the NSI and not by the Organiser. Hence all the accounts of the conference (income and expenditure) are the responsibility of the NSI even if its PAN is not used as the funds are collected in the name of NSI. Conference audited statements have to be included in the NSI returns. If profits are made from the conference and these are not disclosed in the returns then the Office Bearers of NSI (not the Organising Committee) may be held liable for concealment of income.
2. In view of the above statement the financial organisation of the Annual Conferences has to be changed.

3. The proposed Organising Secretary should submit a proposed budget in the bid document.
4. An EC resolution should be passed after the conference is awarded to open a "NSI Conference (year)" account in a bank at the venue of the conference. PAN of the NSI has to be used to open this account.
5. This account should be operated by any two of the following:
 - a. Organising Secretary
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Any other EC member.
6. The EC should decide what percentage of the profits (eg. 50%) may be given to the Organisers.

The EC discussed this issue and has suggested the following:

1. The changed format of the financial arrangement be formalized and incorporated as an amendment to the Byelaws to be published in the June 2010 newsletter and presented to the General Body for acceptance in December 2010.
2. 2010 Annual Conference organizer be required to submit all the bank passbooks, account books to the Society auditor.
3. 2011 Annual Conference organizer to be informed of the change in management of accounts and offered the choice of choosing the new system or the old system but with the requirement of submitting bank passbooks, account books to the Society auditor. The same agreement to be signed on stamp paper.
4. 2012 Annual Conference organizer to follow the new system.

This proposal was accepted.

Proposed by: Dr. N. Khandelwal

Seconded by: Dr. B. K. Misra

2010/May/EC/08

Editor's report

Dr. Murthy presented the Editor's report. The journal is making steady progress and being appreciated by the readership for its content and also the get up. Still we have to go a long way to achieve good impact factor and also to bring some radical changes.

Journal Performance

2009

Of the 884 submissions in the year 2009, 288 (32%) articles were accepted for publication, of which 169 (59%) article have been published. The remaining article will be published in the next two issues. The total number of articles published in 2009 was 245. The distribution includes: editorials - 12, Indian perspective - 6, review articles - 12, original articles - 68 (28%), case reports - 52 (21%), letters to editor - 62 (25%), neuroimage section - 14, invited commentary - 7 and correspondence - 12. The ratio between original articles and case reports was 1.3:1. The total number of pages was 838.

2010

As on 7.5.10 the total number of submission was 327, of which 216 (66%) were judged by the peer-reviewers unsuitable for publication. The performance indices have been improved significantly (Enclosure 1). I am confident from the fourth issue of the journal the publication will be well in advance. We are doing formatting and also pagination immediately after accepting the article and also getting proof corrections done.

Finances

The total amount raised from various sources for the financial year April 1, 2009 - March 31, 2010 was Rs 772,663. The amount received from treasurer, NSI was Rs 680,000 and from the previous editor was Rs 186,614. The total amount available with the Editor was Rs 1,639,277 (Enclosure 2).

We paid to the publishers Rs 11,77,114. The other expenditure towards salary to Mr E S S Kiran, Editorial Assistant was Rs. 8,000. We have yet to pay to the publisher Rs. 74,984. The balance of amount available with the Editor is Rs. 12,000. I need liberal assistance from the NSI to maintain as the cost for printing and posting per issue will be about Rs 300,000.

Future Projects

The major project that I will be working is to keep the full text of all the 57 issues of the journal on the journal website. Negotiations are being done with the concerned people regarding the copyright and other issues. The Executive Committee has already given green signal for this project in the last meeting.

Submitted To First Decision for the Year: 2010	
Number of Articles Submitted	374
Days to Suggest Reviewers	2.12 [0 , 38]
Days Taken by Reviewers	16.72 [0 , 59]
Days taken by Editor for Decision	2.77 [0 , 44]
Days until Paper is Under Review	21.61

Revisions for the Year: 2010	
Days from First Decision Until Revision Arrives	11.10 [0 , 44]
Days for Editor To take Decision	7.25 [0 , 62]
Articles Re-Reviewed	31
Days for Re-Review by Reviewers	7.09 [0 , 23]
Days to send Revision Decision by Editors	7.25 [0 , 62]
Days from Revision Receipt to Revision Decision	21.59
Accepted Papers for the Year: 2010	
Days from First Submission to Acceptance	20.89 [5 , 60]
Days from Acceptance to Publication	22.60 [11 , 39]

Editor's report was passed.

Proposed by: Dr. R. C. Mishra Seconded by: Dr. Apoorva Pauranik

2010/May/EC/09

CME Convener's report

Dr. Deepu Banerji presented the CME Convener's report. Dr. Banerji and Dr. Pauranik presented the preliminary program of the CME which will include several US speakers this year.

CME Convener's report was passed.

Proposed by: Dr.C.E.Deopujari Seconded by: Dr. J M K Murthy

2010/May/EC/10

Webmaster's report

Dr. Rajshekhar presented the Webmaster's report. Chimera Technologies, Bangalore has been managing the website and the databases associated with it. The same company has been retained to further improve the functioning of the website at a cost of Rs. 1,25,000 for this year. A platform for electronic voting will also be developed during the year.

Webmaster's report was passed.

Proposed by: Dr. Deepu Banerji Seconded by: Dr.C.E.Deopujari

2010/May/EC/11

Orations in 2010 Annual Conference in Jaipur

The nominating committee has chosen the following speakers for this year's orations:

Dr. Jacob Chandy Oration - to be decided

Dr. P. N. Tandon Oration - Dr. David Adelson, USA

2010/May/EC/12

Symposia for 2010 Annual Conference in Jaipur

The EC discussed the proposals for the symposia for the Annual Conference in December 2010 and decided on the following:

Neurosurgery - Spinal Dysraphism co-ordinated by Dr. C. Deopujari

Neurology - Movement Disorders co-ordinated by Dr. Charulata Sankhla

2010/May/EC/13

2012 Annual Conference bids

Dr. Rajshekhar informed the EC that 3 bids were received for the 2012 Annual Conference through the Neuro Clubs of Ranchi, Hyderabad and Delhi. The EC decided to allocate the 2012 Annual Conference to Delhi. The proposed Organizing Secretary is Dr. Saratchandra of AIIMS, New Delhi.

2010/May/EC/14

Arbitration Committee - Amendment to the Byelaws

Dr. V. S. Mehta had suggested the formation of an arbitration committee to rule on any disputes between the members and the Office Bearers or the EC in May 2009 and this was printed in the June 2009 Newsletter. The same suggestion is being considered as an amendment to the Byelaws. If any member has any comments/suggestions please send them in to the Secretary. The amendment will be presented to the General Body in December 2010 during the Annual Conference of the Society.

Arbitration Committee to interpret rules and regulations of the Society and to arbitrate in case of any grievances of members regarding Society matters:

1. The Arbitration Committee will consist of Two senior past Presidents and One legal person.
 - a. Two past Presidents. The Presidents should have completed their term at least 5 years before the formation of the Committee. The senior of the two Presidents will serve as the Chairman of the Committee. The Presidents should be regular in attending the NSI annual conferences (3 of the last 5 conferences), be in good health, have good administrative experience and stay in India; and
 - b. One legal person. A retired Judge (District/Sessions/High Court) or an Advocate appointed by the Society.
2. The term of the Committee shall be 5 years.
3. The Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee.
4. This committee on receiving any representation from any member of the society will meet personally or electronically and shall give its verdict at the earliest unanimously or by majority and the interpretation of the rules by the committee shall be final. Before reaching a decision the committee shall question/seek clarifications from the member if any and then from the Secretary/President NSI before giving its verdict.

2010/May/EC/15

WFNS President's election

The EC endorses the candidacy of Dr. Hildo Azevedo-Filho of Brazil for the post of President of WFNS.

2010/May/EC/16

Voting members at WFNS

The EC decided that the following members shall represent the NSI at the midterm WFNS meeting in Brazil in 2011

1. Dr. V. K. Khosla - Senior delegate
2. Dr. V. K. Jain - Second delegate
3. Dr. C. Deopujari - Alternate delegate
4. Dr. R. C. Mishra - Observer without voting rights

2010/May/EC/17

WFNS Course in Agra held in February 2010

The EC appreciates the efforts of Dr. R. C. Mishra in the conduct of the WFNS educational course in Agra in February 2010. He is also appreciated for donating Rs. 1 lakh to the WFNS (I) Trust.

2010/May/EC/18

WFNS appreciated WFNS (I) Trust

Dr. B. K. Misra informed the EC that the WFNS at a recent meeting of its Governing Council appreciated the efforts of WFNS (I) Trust in promoting neurosurgical education in the country and in South Asia. The EC is grateful to Dr. Peter Black (President, WFNS) and Dr. H. Azevedo (Secretary) for minuting this note of appreciation of the WFNS (I) Trust.

2010/May/EC/19

WFNS (I) Trust members

The EC nominated Drs. V.K. Jain, V. Rajshekhar and C. E. Deopujari to the board of trustees of the WFNS (I) Trust to replace Drs. K. Ganapathy, Atul Goel and Suresh Nair who have completed their term in office. Their term of office shall be 3 years.

2010/May/EC/20

Organizing Secretary of NSI Annual Conference - Limit of term

Dr. C. Deopujari has proposed an amendment to the Byelaws of the Society regarding the number of occasions on which a member can be Organizing Secretary of the NSI Annual Conference.

Proposed amendment:

A member can be the Organizing Secretary of the NSI Annual Conference only once.

2010/May/EC/21

Recording of EC meeting minutes

The EC discussed and approved the proposal of some members of the EC that the Hon. Secretary's secretary be present during the EC meetings to record the proceedings.

2010/May/EC/22

Financial arrangements for the Jaipur meeting

It was decided that Dr. Bagaria will collect the membership amount due from the CNS members attending the Jaipur conference through the payment gateway and transfer the amount to the Treasurer by 30 September 2010. If the amount is not transferred by that deadline, then the scientific program will not be released.

As there were no other matters, the meeting concluded with a note of appreciation to Dr. Bagaria and his team members for the excellent arrangements made for the EC meeting.