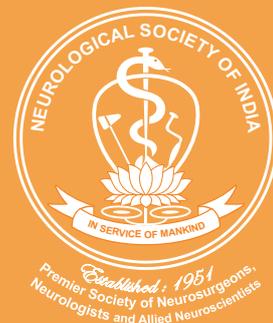


NSI Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

Our society has bestowed upon us neurosurgeons a “God like aura” or a “superhuman status” due to the uniqueness of the organ we handle. This respect and endearment that has been conferred upon us along with our skills, technological gizmos and exhilarating surgery makes us view ourselves as Herculean personalities. We walk a thin line balancing our confidence on one side and our egos on the other. It is imperative to maintain this balance and avoid veering too much on either side. No complex neurosurgery is possible without self-belief and confidence and even a simple neurosurgical procedure can sometimes vex a big ego. “Confidence is essential for the task at hand but ego is not”. Our

neurosurgery should be “patient-centric”. Treat every patient that visits you as your nearest relation and you will never go wrong.

Whilst you scan through the current issue of the newsletter, I attach for you a few of my favorite sentences (to ponder and enjoy) from the following article: Goel A, Kothari M. Academics and Indian neurosurgery. *World Neurosurg.* 2013 May-Jun;79(5-6):632-5.

The focus of our neurosurgical life is the patient, towards whose welfare and benefit we all neurosurgeons should strive. Such an approach cuts down on individual ego trips, which in any case are an anathema to academic advancement. For our neurosurgery to grow technically, conceptually and philosophically, it is the persona of the neurosurgeon and not the walls or machines that matters.

All in all, neurosurgery in India has come of age and promises to do progressively better. India's unity in diversity of caste, creed, religions, and culture is a panorama to behold, and a positive strength for the whole nation. Petty parochialism seems to give way to widening democracy of intellect, permitting progressive growth of academics.

It is a journey toward excellence, not a destination. With all the gloss and glitter of the most sophisticated, highly technicized and greatly revered discipline of neurosurgery, a cardinal note of humility appears imperative. A sense of humility is not a badge of honor or flaunted at meets but is a trait that must be cultivated from the very teething young to the acme of academic laurels and achievements. The least modest practitioners of the least modest discipline should logically and philosophically exercise in their thoughts and action, the wisdom that accrues from rational humility. Once rationalized, humility no longer remains a virtue but turns into an ingrained habit or a trait. It is sacrosanct, and all that neurosurgery excels in, is the trio of imagery, access, and procedure; having done that, the neurosurgeon is left to ponder and pray much like *Ambroise Pare*: “I dressed the wound, God healed the wound”.

With my best wishes to one and all,

Prof. Atul Goel,
President, Neurological Society of India



HON SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the second news letter for this calendar year. This news letter has the proceedings of the mid term EC meeting that was conducted on May 25th, 2019 at Kolkata.

As members would be aware, the academic activities of our Society are in full steam.

Both the monthly webinars and the bimonthly Current Practice in Neurosciences have been well received by the members. For the first time this year, the Board of Education of NSI has completely reformatted the NSI Quiz. From this year onwards, the NSI quiz will have three rounds. The first two rounds will be held on line in May and September. Eight candidates, two from each zone, will be shortlisted based on the marks scored by them. These eight candidates will appear for the final round during the Annual conference in December where the session will consist of MCQs, rapid fire rounds etc. Our society's web site is in the process of being revamped and will include a new feature - " case of the month".

From this calendar year onwards, we will be conducting three educational courses. This year's first and second educational courses were conducted in January and May at Cuttack and Thiruvananthapuram respectively. The third educational course will be held in Delhi in September. The NSI Superspeciality CME will be held in Guwahati in the last week of July.

I take this opportunity to welcome our new Editor, Dr. P. Sarat Chandra. On behalf of all the members of our society, I wish him the very best in all his future endeavors. Our outgoing Editor, Dr. Sanjay Behari has done a commendable job of improving the quality of the journal and its impact factor. I am given to understand that more than half of the articles being submitted to the journal are from overseas which itself attests to the quality of our journal.

The organizing committee of the Joint meeting between NSI and AASNS is sparing no efforts to make this joint meeting a grand success. I request all the members to send their abstracts well ahead of time so as to enrich the scientific content of the meeting and to showcase the excellent work that is being done in this country to the rest of the world.

Looking forward to seeing you in Mumbai

Yours,

Dr. N. Muthukumar
Hon. Secretary
Neurological Society of India

NSI Newsletter



NSI EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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Future NSICONS



2019 – Mumbai



2020 – Kolkata

MINUTES OF THE MIDTERM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Members Present: Atul Goel, Lokendra Singh, N Muthukumar, Daljit Singh, Sanjay Behari, **P Sarat Chandra**, Deepu Banerji, Suresh Nair, Dilip Panikar, Girish Menon, K Sridhar, Rakesh Jalali, Sanjay Pandey, Hemant Bhartiya, Ketan Desai

Special Invitees: Basant K Misra, Sandip Chatterjee

NSI Chartered Accountant: Shanta Devi

NSI Central Office: Navneet Arora & Kiran Arora

Dr Atul Goel, President welcomed all the EC members to the midterm EC meeting. He expressed that there are several important issues that are to be deliberated and hoped to have a very fruitful discussion. He then handed over the proceedings to Dr. Muthukumar who also welcomed all the members to the EC meeting and proceeded with the agenda for the meeting.

1. Obituary

At the onset Dr. Muthukumar informed the EC members regarding the sad demise of some of our members. He informed the EC about the sad demise of the following members, Dr. Balaparneswara Rao from Hyderabad, Dr. V. Inbasekaran from Madurai, Dr. Sinha from Ranchi, Dr. Logamuthukrishnan from Chennai, Dr. E. V. Ravishankar from Hyderabad and Dr. V. G. Panchal from Mumbai. The EC members stood in silence for a minute to pay their respects to the departed souls.

2. Minutes of last EC meetings

Dr. Muthukumar informed the EC that the minutes of the 1st annual and the 2nd annual EC meeting have already been circulated and also published in the March edition of the NSI newsletter and asked for the EC's approval in passing of the same. The minutes were passed unanimously being proposed by Dr. K. Sridhar and seconded by Dr. Sanjay Pandey.

3. Secretary's report

Dr. Muthukumar then presented the Secretary's report.

Membership Status: He informed the EC that after the last EC meeting, 55 new associate members were enrolled out of which 47 were for the 3 year membership and 8 were for the 6 year membership. There were 46 new full member applications until May 15th, 2019 and there were 23 conversions from associate to full membership bringing the total membership to 2899 out of which 2170 are full members and 729 are associate members. Among the full members, there are 1587 Neurosurgeons, 501 Neurologists and 82 Neuro Allied Specialists. The email ids of 2443 members are available out of which 1709 are full members and 734 are associate members. The mobile numbers of 2119 members are available out of which 1437 are full members and 682 are associate members.

Educational Courses: He then informed the EC that the first NSI Education Course was held at SCB Medical College, Cuttack on 12th & 13th, January 2019 under the guidance of Dr. Sanjib Mishra who was the convener of the same. There were 19 faculty members from outside Cuttack and 34 delegates for Foundation course, 36 for Instructional course and there were also 13 Observers for the Instructional course. The second NSI Education Course was held in SCTIMST, Thiruvananthapuram and the Course Convener was Dr Mathew Abraham along with the Organizing secretary Dr. George Vilanilam. The dates for the same were May 4th and 5th. There were 33 faculty members including 16 in house faculty members from SCTIMST. There were 79 delegates from all over the country - 34 for foundation course, 45 for instructional

course and 9 observers. He further informed that as decided in the last year's general body meeting, from this year onwards there would be 3 education courses and the 3rd NSI Educational course 2019 would be held at GB Pant Hospital, New Delhi on September 27- 28, 2019 with Convener being Dr. Anita Jagetia. Regarding the Super Specialty CME for the year, Dr. Muthukumar informed that the 4th Superspeciality CME would be held on the topic - Adult Degenerative Scoliosis & Peripheral nerves with Guwahati as the venue for the same. The dates of the CME would be 27th and 28th July and there would be 10 faculty members including one overseas faculty. The registration process for this CME is already underway.

Dr. Muthukumar informed the EC that as decided in the last meeting of BOE, from this year, the NSI MCQ Quiz will be named as NSI Brainbuzz with a new format. There will be two online rounds conducted in May and September in the four zones of the country and eight candidates will be selected from the 4 zones. These 8 will participate in the final round during the annual meeting at Mumbai and there would also be a new format for the same. He informed that there were a record number of registrations for this quiz with the total registered as on 22nd May being 247 with 18 from East zone, 54 from North zone, 115 from south zone and 60 from west zone. He informed Dr. Ketan Desai, organizing secretary for this year's conference regarding the conduct of the final round during the annual conference at Mumbai and requested him to make the necessary arrangements for the same.

Monthly Webinars: Dr. Muthukumar then informed the EC regarding the monthly webinars of the society which were well received. He informed that the topic for January 2019 was Epilepsy Surgery, for February 2019 it was Cervical Spondylotic Myelopathy, for March 2019 it was Lateral Skull Base, for April 2019 it was Deep Brain Stimulation for Movement Disorders and for May 2019 it was Changing Colours of Adult Diffuse low grade gliomas.

Current Practice in Neurosciences: Dr. Muthukumar further informed that the issues of the Current Practice in Neurosciences have been received well by the members. He informed that January 2019 issue was on Management of brain AVMs in the post-ARUBA era, March 2019 issue was on Low grade degenerative spondylolisthesis – to fuse or not to fuse? and for May 2019 the title was Perioperative management of patients on anti-platelet agents and anti-coagulants and prophylaxis for venous thromboembolism in the neurosurgical setting – summary of evidence and practice guidelines. There would be six issues published per year and the core committee in- charge of the same has already decided on the topics for the next issues for the year.

Traveling Fellowships: Dr. Muthukumar further appraised the EC regarding the international travel fellowship applications received for this year. He informed that till now he had received only one application that fulfills the criteria laid down for granting the fellowship and the same would be awarded to Dr. Tushar Borde. He further informed the EC that he had circulated the information regarding grants for international travel fellowships so that the members are aware of the same. He further informed that he had received four applications for national fellowships which are awarded by NSI. The applicants were 4 residents from SCB Medical College, Cuttack for attending AIIMS training workshop, New Delhi – Dr. Debadutta Senapati, Dr. Nishant Kumar Shukhla, Dr. Sanatan Satapathy and Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Meher who would each be granted Rs. 25,000/-.

Bids for NSICON 2022: Dr. Muthukumar further informed the EC that there were 2 bids received by him for NSICON 2022. The first one was by Bangalore and the second was from Cuttack. He expressed that the Cuttack bid was by Neurological Society of Odisha with the proposed organizing secretary as Dr MK Dhir

and the Bangalore bid was by NIMHANS and Bangalore Neurological society with the proposed organizing secretary as Dr. Dwarakanath Srinivas. He further appraised the EC regarding the details sent by the proposed organizers for the conference. The members were of the view that both the organizers can be called to present their bid during the annual EC meeting to be held during NSICON at Mumbai.

Six year Neurosurgery Course: The next matter brought to the notice of the EC by Dr. Muthukumar was regarding the matter brought to our notice by Prof AK Banerji that the MCI is in the process of trying to do away with the 6 years MCh Neurosurgery course. Dr. Muthukumar expressed that it was felt that a letter should be sent by NSI regarding the matter to the MCI and National Board. Letters were obtained from HODs of Departments running 6 years course requesting the continuation of the course and on the basis of the same a letter was sent to the Secretary General of MCI requesting the continuation of the course but there was no reply received from them. He further informed that during the same time Dr. V. P Singh had informed the Secretary that there was meeting of the national board in March 2019 and one of the main items of the agenda was abolition of 6 years DNB Neurosurgery course and Drs VP Singh & Malla Baskara Rao, who were members of the Board were contacted and the move to abolish the 6 years DNB course was eventually dropped by the National Board.

Friendship Society for NSICON 2021: Dr Muthukumar informed that as already decided both by the EC and the General Body, the NSICON 2021 would be held at Agra and the Japanese Neurosurgical Society will be the friendship society for the conference. An invitation letter to Prof Hajime Arai, President of the Japanese Society was sent by NSI President, Prof. Atul Goel which was accepted by the Japanese Society.

WFNS Membership of NSI: Dr. Muthukumar further informed the EC that the dues towards WFNS membership for the neurosurgeons of NSI for this year are yet to be paid as the invoice for the same is yet to be received from them. The Secretary has written to WFNS requesting an invoice and as soon as the invoice is received, the requisite payment would be made to WFNS.

Membership Certificates: Lastly, Dr. Muthukumar informed the EC that many new members have been requesting the Society to issue membership certificates and a model for the membership certificates for both full and associate members has been made. He then requested for EC's acceptance for the same. The EC discussed the matter and accepted the same. It was also decided that the format of the membership certificate can be placed in the member's area of the NSI Website and any member can download a soft copy of the same.

Dr. Atul Goel expressed that there are now a lot of educational activities taking place for the new generation of members be it the instructional and foundation courses for the students, the monthly webinars, the super specialty CMEs and the Current Practices articles. He wanted more academic activities to involve the younger members. Dr. Lokendra Singh expressed that he had already prepared a vision document and will be presenting the same later in the meeting.

Dr. Daljit Singh expressed that the matter of abolition of 6 year course is very important and the same needs to be taken up. The matter was discussed by the EC members in detail. Dr. Atul Goel expressed that more details regarding the same can be collected and then a plan of action can be formulated on the basis of the same. EC then authorized Dr Sanjay Behari and Dr. Sarat Chandra to find out further details regarding the same and bring the same to the notice of EC during its next meeting.

The EC accepted the Secretary's Report.

4. Editor's Report

Dr Sanjay Behari, Editor, Neurology India presented his report. At the onset he expressed that it was an honour to be the Editor of the society's journal.

He then informed the EC regarding the journal's figures for the year till April 2019. He informed that 4 issues of the journal are online including two supplements. The first supplement was on Peripheral nerve ailments edited by Dr. B Indira Devi and the second Extra-terrestrial Neurosciences edited by Dr. K Ganapathy. He further informed that this is the only journal that has increased its number of articles by 15% and total number of pages from 1458 in 2017 to 1876 in 2018 and yet has increased its impact factor. He then also informed the EC regarding the various features of the journal.

He informed that as accepted earlier by the EC from the current issue onwards all the issues of the journal would be sent to the members by courier rather than post so as to ensure that the journal reaches all the members. He further informed that he had tried to update the addresses of the members and now there are only a few addresses that are not updated.

Dr Sanjay Behari then informed the EC members regarding the Progress in clinical neurosciences issues. He informed that the annual issues of the last decade are now exhibited in pdf format on the Neurology India website and downloadable from it free of cost except the latest issue which will be available after a period of one year. He further informed the EC members regarding the Current practice in neurosciences issues that has now been started bimonthly. He also informed the EC that the journal is now on social media and is available on Twitter, LinkedIn, Face book, Instagram. Dr. Harsh Deora, Assistant Professor, NIMHANS, is in charge of handling the social media aspects of the journal.

Dr Sanjay Behari then informed the EC regarding the development of the Neurology India app which would be sponsored by Lupin through a grant of Rs 7 lacs and Lupin Labs would also sponsor the maintenance of the app for a period of two years.

He further informed the EC that he had asked the journal publishers for a detailed statement of finances and they have now started sending the same. He informed the EC regarding the revenues earned and expenses of the journal.

He then informed the EC regarding the future plans of the journal. He informed that a complete overhaul of the website and the instructions to authors is being taken up. There were also plans to introduce new books linked to Neurology India: Timeless reverberations and 'Citadels sculpting future' section to be converted to books to be distributed to all members of NSI and Dr PN Tandon and Dr Sunil Pandya would be the editors of the same. Dr. Behari further informed that plans have been made to make article online as soon as it is accepted and for faster reviews of articles.

Dr. Atul Goel enquired regarding the status of sponsorships being received from the pharma companies. He expressed that there needs to be some action to increase the self-sustainability of the journal. The EC deliberated on the issue and decided that efforts should be made to increase the advertisement revenue for the journal.

There was also a discussion on the role of NSI in publishing guidelines for the management of common neurosurgical conditions. However, several members raised objections to this proposal as this will have far

reaching medicolegal implications in view of the wide variations in infrastructure availability in different places in the country.

Dr. Sarat Chandra, Editor-Elect for Neurology India expressed that he is thankful to Dr Sanjay Behari to make the transition smooth and for his guidance. He also informed the EC that he had contacted a team from IIT Delhi for the journal's app development and hoped to have the same ready soon. He requested the EC for conducting an editorial board meeting during the annual conference. The EC accepted the same. The EC applauded the efforts of Dr Sanjay Behari in taking the journal to newer heights and accepted his report.

5. Legal Cell Report

Dr Girish Menon presented the legal cell report. He informed that he had not received any complaints in the last six months. He further detailed that he was entrusted with the task to develop information sheets regarding various diseases. He informed that the work is almost done and after the approval of the EC members they can be put up on the NSI Website so that the same can be used by NSI members to be passed on to the patients along with informed consent forms. The second task assigned to him was regarding professional indemnity policies for our members. He informed that he had researched regarding the same. He detailed regarding his recommendation which was the IMA National Professional Protection Scheme. He informed that the idea of protecting professionals from litigations in medical practice was mooted first in Kerala State in the Year 1992. Later it was adopted by other states. The IMA National PPS was launched in the year 2002. IMA National Professional Protection Scheme helps IMA members by providing legal aid. It provides an atmosphere to practice without fear and gives sufficient security to its members. The scheme contests civil, criminal, consumer or similar cases arising out of medical practice.

To avail this scheme, our members need to become members of the IMA. This scheme provides not only insurance but also legal aid in case of disputes and is run by doctors.

The legal cell report was then accepted by the EC

6. Treasurer's Report

Dr. Daljit Singh presented the Treasurer's report. He detailed the EC regarding the bank accounts of the society as well as the revenues and expenses of the society. He informed the EC regarding the incomes and expenditures during the first half of the year. He also informed the EC regarding the travelling fellowships awarded during the year. He also provided details about the incomes and surplus from our annual conferences of 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

He expressed that the organizing secretary of the next conference needs to be informed regarding the various rules and regulations for opening of the conference account. He reiterated that the instructions include opening the conference a/c by the local organizing body using the NSI Pan No., the signatories of the a/c, appointing a CA who has to coordinate with Central CA, taking the State GST No., paying the GST every 3 months and finally preserving all vouchers for 7 years.

The EC then discussed regarding where to preserve the vouchers for a later period. It was decided that the organizing secretary has to hand over all the books of accounts to the Treasurer who can then handover the same to the Central Office for safe keeping.

The EC also deliberated regarding the expenses of the NSI Midterm EC meeting. It was resolved that the expenses of the EC meeting should be borne directly by the society and not by the conference organizers.

The same was accepted by the EC members unanimously. It was also resolved to reimburse the bills of the current Mid Term EC meeting, Kolkata to Dr. Sandip Chatterjee after he hands over the bills.

Dr. Daljit Singh then requested clarification from the EC members regarding the NSICON 2019, Mumbai conference. He enquired regarding the accounting procedures being followed for the same. Dr. Basant Misra clarified that as this year's annual conference is a joint meeting of AASNS, NSI & IMS, the account was not opened with the Pan Card of NSI and is a separate account. He further clarified that all the surplus of the conference would be transferred to NSI after finalizing all the accounts and expenses were paid. The NSI CA, Mrs. Shanta Devi, proposed to draft a MoU with the organizing society wherein it would be detailed that NSI is holding the conference along with other societies and the accounts of the conference would be incorporated into NSI accounts. The EC authorized the NSI auditor, Mrs. Shantha Devi to prepare the MOU. The EC then accepted the Treasurer Report and thanked Mrs. Shanta Devi, CA for our Society for her inputs and clarifications.

7. Private Practitioners' Forum Report

In the absence of Dr JKBC Partibhan, Dr. Muthukumar presented the Private Practitioner's forum report on his behalf. He informed that the report had already being circulated to all council members. The report was accepted by the EC.

8. Head Injury Initiative

Dr K Sridhar presented the Head Injury Initiative report. He informed the EC that as already decided earlier to start commemorating March 20th each year as Head Injury Awareness Day by the NSI and accordingly different activities were organized across the country on that day. He requested for a page in the NSI website for uploading activities of the Brain injury Initiative and asked the EC's permission for the same. Dr. Muthukumar informed the EC that the agenda for the web master would be coming up later and the same can be discussed then.

Dr Sridhar further informed the EC that there is now a need to look into the various initiatives of Head and Brain Injury and for the same there needs to be committee formed. He suggested the following names along with himself: Dr Suresh Sankhla, Dr.Sandip Chaterjee, Dr V D Sinha, Dr V Sundar, Dr Deepak Gupta, Dr Anil Peethambaram, Dr. Lakshminarashimhan, Dr. Achal Srivatsava, Dr Sanjay Pandey along with Secretary NSI, President NSI, President elect, NSI and Treasurer NSI. He asked the EC's permission for the same. Dr Suresh Nair expressed that the central zone has also to be represented and suggested the name of Dr.Adesh Srivastava from AIIMS, Bhopal. Dr Sanjay Behari also suggested Dr. Vasant Dakwale for the same. The EC accepted these proposals.

The next matter was regarding the Joint meeting with NTSI. He informed the EC that he had received a proposal from the Secretary of the NTSI, Dr. Sumit Sinha to have a joint meeting with NSI this year. EC decided that this meeting should be termed as "friendly meeting with NSI" and not as Joint meeting.

9. Special report by President-Elect

Dr. Lokendra Singh, President Elect NSI presented a proposal about working of NSI. He informed that his report is based upon feedback from young Neurosurgeons and cross section of senior neurosurgeons. He mentioned that a total fifteen seniors have given their suggestions. He expressed his thanks to members who had helped him in this cause mainly Dr. JKBC Parthiban, Dr. Dilip Panikar, Prof VG Ramesh, Dr. Paritosh Pandey, Prof. Daljit Singh. Dr. Deepu Banerji, Dr. Girish Menon, Dr BK Misra, Dr RC Mishra, Prof Anil

Karapurkar, Dr K Sridhar, Dr. Manas Panigrahi, Dr Sanjay Behari and Dr. Pavitra Patnaik. He explained the similarities and dissimilarities between the suggestions of juniors and seniors. He informed that the basic concerns were inadequate training, clinical, surgical, research, scientific writing, and lack of overall mentorship. The council discussed his report. Dr Suresh Nair, Dr. Sarat Chandra, Dr. Sanjay Behari, Dr. Rakesh Jalali and Dr. Girish Menon also expressed their thoughts on the issue. The council advised Dr. Lokendra Singh to take help of other council members and formulate a report and submit it to EC during its next meeting.

10. Young Neuroscientists forum report

In the absence of Dr YR Yadav, convener of the Young Neuroscientists Forum, Dr N Muthukumar presented his report to the EC members. He informed the EC that Dr. Yadav had detailed regarding the problems being highlighted by the younger generation in relation to exposure to various subspecialties, work experience, cases assisted / performed under supervision and also Post residency training / Fellowships (Inadequate training in Endoscopy, Spine, Epilepsy, Endovascular, Stereotactic and Functional, Vascular and skull base). He had also suggested some activities that can be taken up by NSI to rectify the same. The EC accepted his report.

11. Charities Commissioner Issue

Dr Atul Goel briefed the EC regarding the charity commissioner issue. He mentioned that the NSI advocate had informed him that whenever elections are held the change in the office bearers should be informed to the Charity Commissioner, Mumbai. Every year, the minutes of the EC and GB meetings should also be sent to the Charities Commissioner. These procedures were not being followed for more than two decades hence, according to the advocate this involves filing of 30 rectification appeals and 30 condonation appeals to be done sequentially year by year. The cost involved will be around Rupees four lakhs. Dr. Daljit Singh mentioned that an amount of Rupees fifty thousand has been paid to the advocate towards legal expenses and the rest of the amount will be paid as and when required. Dr. Deepu Banerji enquired whether the Society should be registered under the Societies act separately. The EC decided to clarify the issue with NSI advocate, Ms. Sujatha.

12. Life time achievement awards

Dr. Muthukumar informed that here were 5 nominations for lifetime achievement awards received within the due date. The names proposed were that of Dr K V R Sastry, Dr Mathew Chandy, Dr. Sushil Kumar, Dr. Damodar Rout and Dr. Sarosh Katrak. It was resolved to present the lifetime achievement award to all the 5 candidates.

13. NSICON 2019 Orators / Scientific Program

Dr. Atul Goel informed that Dr James Rutka editor of Journal of Neurosurgery and Dr. Michael Lawton will be the orators for NSICON 2019 Mumbai. The council accepted the same for Dr. B Ramamurthi oration and Dr P N Tandon oration. Dr. Atul Goel also mentioned that the honorarium of USD 2500 has to be given at the time of felicitation of the orator. Dr. Daljit Singh informed that there cannot be any cash transaction and only bank transfer is allowed. Therefore, it was decided that the details of the bank accounts of the orators will be obtained and NSI Treasurer can transfer the amount electronically. The same was accepted.

The issue of evaluation of abstracts for the Joint meeting in December, 2019 was then discussed. The EC advised Dr. Ketan Desai and Dr. Basant Misra to send all the abstracts meant for the NSI portion of the meeting to Central Office for further processing as per routine established guidelines.

14. NSI Elections 2019 – Posts, Procedures & Notifications

Dr. Lokendra Singh President Elect and Election Officer informed that this year there will be elections for one post of President Elect and notification will be published along with all the protocols as per the constitution.

15. Report - NSICON 2018, Jaipur

Dr. Hemant Bhartiya presented the NSICON 2018 Jaipur report. He informed that they had received INR 10 lakhs as seed money from NSI. They were able to generate receipts of around 3.49 crores from sponsorship, stalls, and 1.49 crores as registration fees. He presented the details of the expenses and total did an expenditure of around 2.61 crores. Till 31st March the surplus was around 2.4 crores. Dr. Daljit Singh commented on the interest received. The council was very appreciative of the conference and applauded the efforts of Dr. Hemant Bhartiya and his team. He was advised to clear all the pending transactions at the earliest by June and submit the accounts to the treasurer.

16. Report - NSICON 2019, Mumbai

Dr. Ketan Desai detailed the preparations for NSICON 2019. He informed that there will be no CME this year. He informed that the preparations for the meeting are in full swing. The website is working and abstracts are being received. The SINNCON registrations are also active and functioning. On 4th of December 6 preconference workshops are also being organized. He presented the details of the workshops. The conference brochures have already been dispatched to all the members. The venue hotel is Renaissance and accommodation for the faculty and council has been made in the venue itself. The other hotel is Leela which is very near to the international airport. Another budgetary accommodation MTNL guest house has been taken for the neuro-nurses and PGs. Ministry permissions are taken and uploaded on the website. 150 registrations have already come and the last date for early bird registration is 30th June. The head injury public awareness programme will be on the 4th of December. The EC appreciated the efforts of the organizing committee and approved the same.

17. Report - NSICON 2020, Kolkata

Dr. Sandip Chatterjee, organizing secretary for NSICON 2020 presented the details of preparations for NSICON 2020. He informed that due to some unforeseen circumstances the venue for the conference has now being changed to ITC Royal Bengal. He then presented to the EC the details of the organizing committee of the conference and the details and features of the venue hotel which the EC found adequate. He informed that he had booked all the rooms in the venue itself. Dr. Atul Goel enquired regarding the cost implications of switching from a government auditorium to a 5 star property. Dr. Sandip Chatterjee agreed that there would indeed be a cost escalation in this case but this could not be avoided for logistical reasons.

The EC discussed regarding the preparations for the conference and gave various suggestions to Dr. Sandip Chatterjee. Dr. Sandip Chatterjee then enquired regarding who would be deciding on the final registration fees for the delegates. He was informed that the organizing committee should present to the EC the proposed registration fees for each category which will then be approved / ratified by the EC after discussion. He also enquired regarding the logo of the conference. The EC advised that the organizers can design the conference logo but the NSI Logo has to be placed prominently in all the publications and other areas. He also enquired regarding the website and seed money and other details. He also inquired regarding the signatories of the conference account. The EC decided that Dr. Manoj Bhattacharya would be the local signatory on behalf of NSI. Dr. Sandip Chatterjee was advised regarding applying for a state GST and was also advised that the duty of filing all the GST Returns would be his responsibility till the conference account is

closed.

After the EC meeting was over, a team comprising of Dr. Muthukumar, Dr. Lokendra Singh, Dr. Daljit Singh, Dr. Suresh Nair, Dr. Sridhar and Dr. Hemant Bhartiya along with the Organizing Secretary of NSICON 2021, Dr. Sandip Chatterjee visited the venue for NSICON 2021 viz: ITC Royal Bengal and found the facilities to be adequate to conduct the conference.

18 NSICON 2022 Bid

Dr Muthukumar informed the EC that he has received two bids for holding the NSICON 2022. The first bid was from Bangalore and the second was from Cuttack. He expressed that he was of the view that as there is sufficient time, both the bidders can attend the annual EC meeting to be held at Mumbai and present their bids then. The EC accepted the same and advised Dr. Muthukumar to communicate with the bidders to make presentations during the EC meeting to be held in Mumbai during NSICON.

19. Webmaster for NSI website

Dr. Muthukumar informed the EC that there is now a need to revamp the NSI website and he proposed that a team comprising of Dr. Majul Tripathi, Dr. Paritosh Pandey, Dr. Harsh Deora and Dr. Nishant Yagnick will be the web masters and this team be working in co-ordination with the Secretary in revamping the web site. As a part of this exercise, a new feature “case of the month” will be introduced in the web site and members can contribute to this section and send their cases for inclusion in the web site to the email address: nsicase@gmail.com. A blast mail regarding the “case of the month” will be sent to all members in June 2019.

20. Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Dr. Muthukumar informed the EC that he had received some proposals for constitutional amendments. He informed that the first amendment proposed was from Dr Sanjay Behari and it was as follows:

Proposed Amendment

Any MCh/DNB student who is eligible to become an Associate member of NSI should be permitted to become a non-voting full member, if he/she so desires, and pay the full life membership fees and submits a signed recommendation from his guide who is a full voting member of NSI. His/her full membership with full voting rights will be restored when he/she submits his/her MCh/DNB completion certificate.

Justification

There are several societies who are recruiting young assistant professors at inception of their training program. Once a candidate becomes member of one society then he is often reluctant to spend a nearly similar amount as registration fees, to become a member of another neuroscience society. This is responsible for the significant drop out rate of our associate members who only enroll to attend the teaching courses and then drop out once their training is over.

The EC members discussed the proposal and decided that the residents can be given a choice to apply for full membership *without voting rights* at a concessional fee. The EC also directed Dr. Sanjay Behari to reformat the proposal and then the proposed amendment would be brought to the General Body during NSICON Mumbai.

The next proposed constitutional amendment was from Dr Muthukumar. He informed that at present there are no guidelines for conducting joint meetings with NSI and his proposed amendment addresses the matter.

Proposed Amendment:

Before conducting a joint meeting, the following criteria should be adhered to:

- Prior permission should be obtained from both the Executive committee and the General body well ahead (at least 3 years in case of joint meetings with International societies) of the proposed meeting.

- There should be a clear written agreement between both the societies involved in the joint meeting.
- It should be clearly mentioned in the agreement whose PAN card will be used to generate funds for the joint meeting.
- NSI auditor should be consulted before entering into agreement with overseas and national societies to sort out the income tax/ GST issues that might arise
- Clear and written commitment should be there regarding the sharing of the profit/loss incurred by the joint meeting.
- The bank account for the joint meeting should have NSI office bearers, especially, Treasurer as one of the signatories.
- NSI treasurer / Auditor should be actively involved in the finances for the joint meeting.
- In case of joint meetings, the basic format of NSI meeting should not be altered including the CME programme.
- NSI President Elect will be the scientific chairman of the joint meeting even if it involves overseas societies.
- NSI should be given due importance and prominence during this meeting.
- NSI members should have ample opportunities to present their work in this joint meeting.
- NSI Executive committee should oversee the conduct of this joint meeting.

The EC discussed the same and accepted to present the proposal to the General Body with only a minor change to include 2 years prior permission for international meeting and 6 months for national meeting.

Dr. Muthukumar informed the EC regarding the third proposal for constitutional amendment which was from Dr. Deiveegan Kunjithapatham. He informed the EC regarding the background for the proposal. He informed that during the last election, as is customary, the votes polled for each candidate was not disclosed and hence there was some displeasure among members. The proposed amendment was to be made in the bye laws regarding conduct of elections:

1. Permit one counting agent to be present for each candidate during counting of votes
2. Announce the details of votes polled by each candidate to the EC and GB.

The EC discussed the matter. The EC decided to accept the proposal to have a representative of the candidate during the counting process. The EC decided that the total number of votes polled, the number of votes polled by each candidate would be disclosed by the returning officer to the candidates by email. However, the number of votes polled by each candidate would not be disclosed either in the EC or GB where only the names of the successful candidates will be announced.

21. Representatives for CNS

Dr. Muthukumar informed that he had received a communication from Dr. Paritosh Pandey who had forwarded a mail from Dr. Daniel J. Hoh from CNS requesting him to become NSI representative to CNS. Dr. Muthukumar further informed that Dr. Paritosh Pandey had replied to Congress of Neurological Surgeons that the decision regarding the NSI representative to CNS needs to be taken by the NSI EC and he was not authorized to make a decision regarding the same. Dr. Muthukumar further informed that he had written to Dr. Daniel Hoh directly that the decision regarding NSI representative to CNS would be taken by the EC during its midterm council meeting.

The EC discussed the matter and it was decided that Dr. Muthukumar would inform the CNS officials that henceforth the **incumbent President** would be the NSI representative to the CNS and hence this year, NSI would be represented by Dr. Atul Goel.

At this stage Dr Atul Goel informed the EC that SBNS would be organizing their meeting in September 2020 in Manchester wherein they want NSI to participate as a friendship society and there would also be a meeting in April 2020 in Boston by AANS in a reciprocal manner wherein they would be giving preferred participation to NSI members. Dr. Atul Goel further informed that he had sent a mail to all NSI members in this regard. He expressed that he had received a lot of positive response from the members. He then presented his plans for the NSI participation in the conference and also informed that he has been in communication with the AANS officials.

22. Letters for discussion

Dr Muthukumar informed the EC that the first letter for discussion was from Dr Sanjay Behari who had requested for the following:

In the award paper session, during the annual conference none of the members of the audience who're guides or a coauthors in any of the presentations included in that section of the competition should be allowed to ask a question from his/her protégé and other presenters competing in the same section.

It has been often noticed that senior coauthors and guides of other competing papers in the same section of award papers, very subtly and in the pretext of conducting an academic discussion, ask very penetrating questions that completely compromises the presentation of the young presenter, and enhances the presentation of their own candidate. This is a major conflict of interest and needs to be condemned in the strongest possible terms. The chairpersons of that session should have the list of all the coauthors, and should not allow the coauthors/ guides to ask a question from a competing candidate. In case the coauthor/guide persists in asking the question then his /her candidate should be considered disqualified.

The EC discussed the issue and decided that it would not be practically possible to implement the same.

Dr. Muthukumar then informed the EC regarding the second communication received from Dr AK Banerji who had informed that without the approval from the HODs of institutions, the government and MCI are increasing the M.Ch Neurosurgery seats without corresponding increase in the infrastructure for training the candidates. Hence NSI should write to the government stating that we are not against increasing seats but the infra-structure should also be correspondingly improved.

Dr. Atul Goel expressed that the government is not increasing the same arbitrarily but with some thoughts and it would be a good initiative to increasing the number of neuroscientists in this country. Other members of the EC were concurring with the opinion expressed by Prof. Banerji. However, it was decided not to pursue this matter as the government / MCI is unlikely to take the advice of external agencies in this matter.

23. Any other matters with the permission of the chair

Dr K Sridhar informed the EC that he had been given the responsibility of formulating guidelines and time frames for organizing conferences and he had formulated the same. He requested that the same need to be put up for discussion in the EC and if the same are acceptable they can be distributed to members and placed on the NSI website.

Meeting close

As there were no more agenda and issues to be discussed Dr. Atul Goel thanked all the members for a fruitful meeting and the meeting was adjourned after a group photograph.

Long Live NSI

ELECTION NOTIFICATION

Dear Member,

Greetings from NSI

Please find below the Election Notification for the year 2019. This year the nominations are invited only for the post of **President Elect**.

Please send nominations to the returning officer:

Dr. Lokendra Singh,
Returning Officer and President Elect,
Neurological Society of India

88/2, CIIMS Hospital, Bajaj Nagar,
Nagpur - 440010, Maharashtra
Email: drlokendrasingh@gmail.com
Mobile: 9823042161

Please send your nominations by 30th September 2019, both by post and by email.

Please follow the deadlines:

Last date for filing nominations :	30th September 2019
Intimation to candidates / withdrawal if any :	10th October 2019
Last date for withdrawal of candidature :	22 October 2019

The nomination forms are available on the website : www.neurosocietyindia.org

The constitution reads the following terms in reference to Elections:

9. ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)

9.1. Eligibility

1. Only Life members can contest for any post.
2. For the post of Secretary, Treasurer & Editor a contestant should have been a Life Member of the Society for a continuous period of 5 years.
- 3. For the post of President elect a contestant should have been a Life member for a continuous period of 20 years.**
4. A member to be eligible for election as an EC member should have attended at least 2 of the last 5 annual conferences of the Society. (This clause will be effective from the elections to be held in 2014).
- 9.2. No member of EC can take charge of office of any post of the Society without completing the term of existing post.
- 9.3. No member is eligible to contest for more than one post in the same election.
- 9.4. The President elect shall automatically become President in the following year. There shall be no election for the post of President.
- 9.5. In the event of resignation, demise or insanity of an officer of the Society, the EC is empowered to nominate one of its existing members to the post vacated till the following election.
- 9.6. Elections shall be held by postal ballot and/or electronic ballot prior to the annual conference.
- 9.7. The Executive Committee shall have the right to change the logistics of the election process in the face of exigencies or introduce byelaws for other modes of voting like electronic voting as and when required.

Please revert for any queries.

With Warm Regards

Dr. Lokendra Singh,
Returning Officer and President Elect,
Neurological Society of India

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2019

Eighth Annual World Course in Brain Tumour Surgery

Dates: 18th - 21st July 2019

Venue: London

Website: www.neurosurgery-courses.com

ASRAM NEUROCON 2019

Dates: 09th - 11th August 2019

Venue: Asram Hospital, Eluru, Andhra Pradesh

Email: asramneurocon@gmail.com

Annual Conference of Indian Society of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery (ISSFN) - STEREOCON 2019

Dates: 16th - 18th August 2019

Venue: Kochi Marriott Hotel, Kochi

Website: www.stereocon2019.com

NIMHANS ARPrAN-2019

Dates: 16th - 18th August 2019

Venue: NIMHANS Convention Centre Bangalore

Email: arpran.nimhans@gmail.com

Annual Meeting of Neurotrauma Society of India

Dates: 23rd - 25th August 2019

Venue: Hotel Jaypee Palace and Convention Centre, Agra

Website: www.neurotrauma2019.in

Neurovascon 2019

Dates: 14th - 15th September 2019

Venue: Mayfair Hotel, Bhubaneswar

Website: www.neurovascon2019.com

20th Neuroendoscopy Fellowship Program & Live Neuroendoscopy (Brain & Spine) Workshop

Dates: 17th - 21st September 2019

Venue: Jabalpur

Email: drvijayparihar@gmail.com

3rd International Spine Congress With Live Operative Workshop 'SPINECON2019'

Dates: 21st - 22nd October 2019

Venue: All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi

Website: www.spinecon2019.in

Joint Meeting Of 15th AACNS & 68th Annual Conference of NSI

Dates: 05th - 09th December 2019

Venue: Renaissance Mumbai Convention Centre Hotel, Mumbai

Website: www.aasns.nsi2019.org

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Website www.neurosocietyindia.org

NSI website is in the process of being revamped and made more functional & appealing. All members, institutions may forward their URL identity & emails immediately to centraloffice.nsi@gmail.com so that data may be updated.

Members Username & Password

All members (Full/Life and Associate) are eligible to obtain their Username and Password to access their profile on the NSI website (www.neurosocietyindia.org). Since this is the only Address Database used by all the Officials of the Society (Editor, Secretary, Treasurer, President Elect), it is in your interest to ensure that your address and email address are accurate. All members are requested to obtain the same by writing to the centraloffice.nsi@gmail.com. Details on how to access your personal profile will be mentioned in the letter sent along with the username and password. In case of any difficulty, please contact the Central Office at the email address mentioned above. This is an appeal to all members to provide their email id so that the communications between the Society and the Members will be easy and paperless. You will also benefit by being sent Email Alerts about various activities of and news about the Society. Please cooperate by immediately applying for your username and password.

Officers of Regional Neuroclubs / Societies

The Executive Committee of NSI requests all regional neuro clubs/societies to register with the NSI as being representative of neuroscientists of that region. This registration will become mandatory to be recognized as bona fide representative club/society of that region when bidding for the Annual Conference of NSI. If more than one regional club/society claims representative status then a list of members who are also NSI members with their NSI membership number and signatures will have to be appended with the registration form. Registration form is available on the NSI website (www.neurosocietyindia.org) in the Download forms section.

Pincode Required

This is an appeal to all members to update their full contact address with pincode as it is required for sending the journal Neurology India by post. To access your address on the web based database, please obtain Username and Password by writing to the Central Office.

Tariff for Advertisements in the Newsletter

Back Cover (Last) Coloured Rs. 50,000/-

Any Page Inside (Full) Coloured Rs. 40,000/-

Shared Page Advertisement 2 on 1 Coloured Rs. 30,000/-

Shared Page Advertisement 3 on 1 Coloured Rs. 20,000/-

Associate Members

The associate members who have finished their training should become full members as soon as possible. Please send in your application for conversion to full life membership as soon as possible. There is a special fee for conversion from associate to full member.

Contribution to the Educational Page of the NSI Website

Members are encouraged to visit the site www.neurosocietyindia.org.

Members desirous of submitting academic information in the website may please contact Dr. N. Muthukumar, Hon Secretary, NSI at centraloffice.nsi@gmail.com.

DISCLAIMER

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Secretariat Handling

Event Architects has the reputation of being knowledgeable, experienced, ethical, pioneering and dependable. Our team is fully dedicated to meeting the highest standards in the industry. We have a team of bright young go getters with a singular mission towards commitment for our members.

Having handled thousands of members over a couple of national societies of different specialties, our team offers the members meticulously customized, practical and efficient solutions rather than providing run-of-the-mill/standard services.

Assuring you all of our organization's 100% commitment towards Neurological Society of India.



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