

**SCT 2010 Business Meeting
May 18, 2010, 12 Noon
Meeting Minutes**

Opening

Colin Begg called the 31st Annual Business Meeting to order and thanked the Executive Committee and Committee chairs for their efforts on behalf of the Society over the past year. Colin thanked the outgoing members of the Board of Directors and welcomed the incoming Board members: Sara Pressel, Ted Colton and Christoph Seiler and the President for 2011-2012, Rick Chappell. Colin announced the Sylvan Green award would be initiated in 2011 and encouraged physicians in training to submit abstracts to be considered for the award. Clinical Research Management, Inc has donated money to support this award for 2011. Colin gave a special thanks to Rob Califf who has generously supported SCT CTTI membership over the last two years.

Approval of 2009 Business Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2009 Business Meeting minutes. Following the motion the minutes were approved.

Remarks

Dr Begg reflected on the value that membership in the Society has to offer including its multidisciplinary nature, its emphasis on clinical trials, its international membership base and the diversity of membership disciplines. This year the Society has tried to encourage networking by creating affinity groups to better understand the needs of different membership constituents. Special social gatherings are planned for each of these groups to encourage further discussions. The SCT website has undergone a transformation with the intention of becoming a more valuable resource from the membership. The past two years have been difficult financial years for the Society. The Society must take steps to restore financial stability and as a result will be raising membership dues from \$120 per year to \$160 per year. This raise, in conjunction with an increase in overall membership and an excellent meeting attendance, will help sustain the Society for another year.

Colin noted that SCT has an opportunity to hold a joint meeting with the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics in Munich in 2013. However given the current state of SCT finances this meeting would only be viable if most of the membership would be able to attend. Colin asked for a raise of hands of members who could attend. Only about one third of those at the Business meeting believed they would be able to attend a meeting in Munich.

Treasurer's Report

Dr Begg introduced Joe Collins the new SCT Treasurer. The Society's net assets have decreased due to net losses over the past two years. These losses are in part due to a steady decline in membership, economic difficulties likely impacting attendance at last year's meeting, and extra operating expenses resulting from the transition of the office of the secretariat and investment in the web. Continued growth in membership and meeting participation as well as donations will be needed in future years to rebuild the Society's cash reserves. The 2010 membership drive has been successful with an increase in membership for the first time since 1993. Attendance at workshops also increased dramatically this year compared to last year and management expenses have now stabilized. Increases in dues and meeting registrations for next year will further

offset prior year losses. All members were encouraged to speak with their fellow researchers about the benefits of SCT membership including the journal, the meetings and workshops, and the opportunities for networking.

Journal Report

Steve Goodman noted that the Journal has received 180 new submissions and 100 resubmissions over the past year. Steve attributed the success of the Journal to the submitters, reviewers and associate editors and gave special recognition to Barbara Hawkins, Deputy Editor, and Bobbie Scherer Managing Editor. The journal has focused on encouraging the publication of conference proceedings and is exploring new sections for MD clinical trialists and perhaps a student's journal club. Links to journal articles on the SCT website are in development. Facebook presence and blogs also are under consideration.

Student Scholarship

Students from any discipline are invited to submit abstracts and a three-page manuscript describing their talk to SCT for consideration of the Scholarship award. The three winners this year were:

Emily Van Meter (medical University of South Carolina).- *Proportional odds model for dose finding clinical trial designs with ordinal toxicity grading.*

Seungbong Han (University of Wisconsin Madison)- *A novel semiparametric method for modeling interval-censored data.*

Michael Walsh (McMaster University). *The Fragility index: a metric to describe the reliability of clinical trial results.*

Michael Walsh was selected as the winner of the Thomas C Chalmers Student Scholarship award.

In-coming President

Colin Begg introduced the in-coming president Bob Byington. Bob thanked Colin for his leadership over the past year and invited all to attend the next annual meeting in Vancouver.

Bob encouraged every attendee to invite their colleagues to join the Society and attend its meetings. The SCT is a great forum to discuss controversies and network and has an excellent Journal that covers diverse topics of interest to all disciplines supporting clinical trials. This year SCT was videotaping some of the presentations and hopes to link these videos on the membership area of the website.

Bob announced that Chris Coffey would continue to chair the Education Committee and Dean Fergusson would serve as Program Chair. All ideas for workshops and Invited sessions should be forwarded to the Chairs and Bob. Bob ended the meeting asking all current attendees to come to the SCT meeting in Vancouver next year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Lindblad, SCT Secretary