

ISPN Business Meeting - Minutes

Saturday 6 November 2021 17:00-18:00CET (GMT+1)
ISPN 2021 virtual meeting, virtual Business Meeting

1. President & Secretary welcome

Secretary Anthony Figaji (AF) welcomed the members to the 2021 annual Business Meeting (BM) and thanked all for their participation in this important meeting. ISPN President José Francisco Salomão (JFS) opened the 2021 virtual Business Meeting and shared in thanking all who made this meeting in to a success.

2. Nominating Committee – Candidates from the floor for nominating committee

Immediate Past President Wolfgang Wagner (WW) introduced the nominating subcommittee, which consists of 5 members: the Immediate Past President & the 2 preceding. In addition, 2 members are elected from the floor.

There was a call to nominate candidates from the floor, who need to be ISPN members in good standing, members cannot be re-elected. Nominations were to be submitted through the chat functionality. From the nominations received during the EB report, a poll will follow, where the 2 preferred candidates will be selected.

3. Executive Board report on recent activities

AF provided a report on the EB activities.

The ISPN EB is generally quite busy, however much more so during the pandemic than ever before. AF took the opportunity to officially thank the EB members for their participation over the past 2 years in regular meetings – Both scheduled and at times at short notice and ad hoc.

There has been an increase in activity in response to the evolving pandemic, in many ways:

- Maintaining the EB composition last year to maintain continuity; however this year the EB will rotate to allow for new people to enter
- Education – Incredible job by the Education Committee, in developing successful regional online courses & continuing the clash of the titans series
- Virtual meeting – Despite the hope of physical meeting, for this year it was again needed to revert to virtual meeting
- Knock on effects on future physical meetings – All scheduled meetings are again moved to the next year. In addition, the site selection process, which was previously done 5 years in advance of the meeting, will from now on be done 3 years in advance of the proposed meeting year. Therefore site selection for ISPN 2027 will be re-opened by the end of 2023, for a decision to be made during ISPN 2024 Toronto.

Other activities the ISPN EB has spent time on:

- Develop a guideline / rules and regulations of ISPN-endorsed activities – to try and protect use of the ISPN name
- Negotiating a new PCO contract – The contract is based on a new model that will work better for ISPN moving forward
- Considering the future directions of the ISPN and incorporating these into the strategy.

4. Treasurer's report

Adrian Caceres (AC), ISPN Treasurer, presented ISPN's financial status which has remained stable despite the pandemic. The current assets (one checking account & two certificate



deposits) totalling USD 1.138,044.87 and 2021 income, mainly from membership & the Journal (USD 156,261) and expenses, main expenditures Kenes, Novogram & educational courses (USD >61,000).

AC commented that the ISPN economic situation remains stable, despite the global impact of COVID-19. An increase in expenses is expected with the return of face-to-face activities. However, increased workload and restrictions in travel and leave permits, will need to be observed as a factor that will impact the participation in the 2022 meeting.

The membership approved the balance, income & expenses of 2021.

5. Update on Annual Meetings

AF presented the new dates for the future meetings, that were also moved with a year:

- 49th Annual Meeting, ISPN 2023 – Vina del Mar, Chile – 15-19 October 2023
- 50th Annual Meeting, ISPN 2024 – Toronto, Canada - 12-16 October 2024
- 51st Annual Meeting, ISPN 2025 – Lyon, France – 26-30 October 2025

Wan Tew Seow (WTS), ISPN 2022 Annual Meeting Chair, presented the update on the rescheduled meeting.

The initially scheduled collaboration with IFNE for 2021 did not move ahead, as they moved their meeting to 2023.

The 48th Annual Meeting is now confirmed for 6-10 December 2022, the venue remains the Marina Bay Sands, Singapore. The meeting will be scheduled as a fully in person meeting

6. Committee reports

a. Education committee

Sandip Chatterjee (SC), ISPN Education Committee Chair, presented the overview of educational activities in pandemic times.

The ISPN organised virtual education courses throughout the year:

- Moscow, Russia - 1-3 March - 300 registrants
- Vietnam, South East Asia - 8-9 May - 90 registrants
- India - 3-4 July - 110 registrants
- Bangladesh - 9-10 July - 88 registrants
- Brazil - 24-25 September - 110 registrants
- Africa - 16-17 October - 79 registrants

A total budget of USD 9,000 was used for these courses.

The ISPN Clash of the Titans webinar series was continued in 2021, with a webinar taking place now on a monthly basis; to date 38 titans from 16 countries have taken part. No budget was used to conduct these webinars.

Finally, an ISPN e-book with power point slides to supplement the ISPN Guide should be ready by March 2022.

b. Scientific committee

Francesco Sala (FS), ISPN Scientific Committee Chair, provided details on the decision making process for the ISPN 2021 virtual meeting; the decision was taken at the end of June, to again proceed with a 3-day virtual meeting, with around 4 hours per day. This meeting to have a limited number of invited lectures and to include the abstracts from the



2020 & 2021 abstract rounds, that are also published in Child's Nervous System. The 2021 meeting also includes a Presidential address as well as a poncho ceremony. The meeting is made available free of charge to all pediatric neurosurgeons.

FS thanked all for their participation in the meeting: Abhaya Kulkarni, the Kenes team, ISPN EB, invited lecturers & chairs, and all that submitted their work.

c. Membership committee

Shlomi Constantini (SCo), Membership Chair, presented the results of the ongoing membership campaign. Despite COVID-19, membership has still grown to 540 members to date. 52 new members joined in 2021 from 25 countries.

SC emphasized that members are the heart & soul of ISPN, and the membership potential is at least 1,000. Members are asked to support the membership efforts by talking to and bringing forward new members.

The 61 new ISPN members that joined since the last BM (8 Nov 2020) were presented and approved by the active members.

d. Nominating committee

Wolfgang Wagner introduced the elections poll, allowed members to vote, and shared the voting results from the elections poll for the nominating subcommittee:

From the 5 proposed candidates - Ricardo Santos de Oliveira (Brazil), Sandrine de Ribaupierre (Canada), Frank van Calenbergh (Belgium) Robert Keating (United States) and Tenoch Herrada (Mexico) - **Robert Keating (United States) & Ricardo Santos de Oliveira (Brazil)** were the 2 candidates receiving the most votes.

WW also shared the slate of ISPN officers 2021-2022, with the remark that Wan Tew Seow will serve in a dual role, which was caused by the dual postponement of the Singapore meeting:

- President Rick Boop (USA)
- President elect Wan Tew Seow (Singapore)
- Past President J. Francisco Salomão (Brazil)
- Annual Meeting Chair 2022 Wan Tew Seow (Singapore)
- Secretary Anthony Figaji (South Africa)
- Assistant Secretary Federico Di Rocco (France)
- Treasurer Adrián Cáceres (Costa Rica)
- Scientific Chair Abhaya Kulkarni (Canada)
 - Co-Chair Benedetta Pettorini (UK)
- Education Chair Nelci Zanon (Brazil)
 - Co-Chair Jeffrey Blount (USA)
- Audit Chair John Kestle (USA)
 - Co-Chair Niina Salokorpi (Finland)
- By-Laws Chair Sandip Chatterjee (India)
 - Co-Chair Eylem Öcal (USA)
- Communication Chair Llewellyn Padayachy (South Africa)
 - Co-Chair Ramiro del Río (Argentina)
 - App + Social media Luca Massimi (Italy)
 - Industry liaison Liana Beni Adani (Israel)
- Ethics & Morals Chair Farideh Nejat (Iran)
 - Co-Chair Ulrich Thomale (Germany)
- Liaison Chair Martina Messing-Jünger (Germany)
 - Co-Chair Hideki Ogiwara (Japan)





- Membership Chair Shlomi Constantini (Israel)
 - Co-Chair Suchanda Bhattacharjee (India)
- Ways & Means Chair Meng-Fai Kuo (Taiwan)
 - Co-Chair Miroslav Gjurasin (Croatia)
- Allied Health Professionals Jenny Sacree (Qatar)
- Historian Jack Walker (USA)
- CNS Ezio Di Rocco (Germany)
- The Guide Rick Abbott (USA)

The chairs of the upcoming meetings are not part of the EB, but are invited to participate in the EB meeting.

The membership approved the proposed slate of ISPN Officers 2021-2022.

7. Close

JFS thanked the EB members for their pro-longed term and the members for their attendance during the ISPN virtual (Business) Meeting and hopes to see everyone again in 2022 in Singapore.

The meeting was closed at 18:20.

