

**MINUTES**  
**American Association of Clinical Anatomists (AACA)**  
**Annual Business Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 10, 2004**  
**Moraga Room, Soda Center, St. Mary's College**  
**Moraga, California**

President Carol Scott-Conner called the Annual AACA Business meeting to order at 1:32pm.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting held on July 8, 2003 at the Institute of Anatomy at Karl-Franzens University in Graz, Austria. The motion was passed unanimously. The agenda was altered to allow the Editor's Report to be given first.

**EDITOR'S REPORT** (Stephen Carmichael)

Stephen began his report by announcing that the new Editor of SURGICAL and RADIOLOGIC ANATOMY (SRA), the official journal of the European Association of Clinical Anatomist, Fabrice Duparc, had been appointed to the editorial board of CLINICAL ANATOMY (CA). The former editor of SRA, Christian Fontaine remains on CA's editorial board. A plan to exchange Tables of Contents between the two journals is being discussed. An exchange of Tables of Contents between our journal and THE NEW ANATOMIST will occur. Other additions to the editorial board are: Bob Leonard, Pasuk Mahakkanukrauh, Joel Vilenski, and David Bernanke, the Managing Editor of ANATOMICAL RECORD. He noted the first meeting of the Australasian Clinical Anatomy Association (ACAA) will take place in early October, and if the ACAA appears to be a viable organization, Council had approved offering our journal to them as their official journal, pending BACA's approval.

Stephen noted that on-line manuscript submission and review capabilities had been in place since around January 2003, and has worked better than he had imagined, and that a newer version of the software Manuscript Central, would soon be in place. It has speeded manuscript turn around, and expanded the pool of international reviewers by reducing the cost and time factors inherent with mailings. This has also reduced manuscript review by a given reviewer to approximately one per year. He next reviewed an array of figures concerning manuscripts, noting that 241 manuscripts had been submitted in the previous 12 month period, an increase of 62 manuscripts over the previous 12 month period. Approximately 75% of manuscripts pass through the AACA office, while 25% pass through the BACA office of Stuart McDonald. He also called attention to the 59% rejection rate, indicating that many editors consider a 50% or higher rejection rate is the hallmark of a quality journal. Stephen reviewed the data on the country of origin of received manuscripts, noting that 5 had been received from China with its very large number of approximately 360 medical schools, and that he hoped this figure would continue to increase. To that end, he had asked the AACA to sponsor his invitation of Dr. Wenqin Cai, President of the Anatomy Society of China, to attend our meeting, who he then introduced to the members. He also pointed out the 42 manuscripts received from Turkey. Stephen next noted the requirement of a manuscript for a platform presentation at this meeting had worked well, and that he had received 19 excellent manuscripts. He announced that the requirement had been modified by Council for our 2005 meeting. A potential presenter must indicate his/her desire to present from the platform at the time of abstract submission, and then provide the platform session moderator with a manuscript hardcopy and a disc, at the time of presentation. The objective of this change is to provide authors with additional time in which to polish their manuscripts.

Stephen next reported that the journal's manuscript backlog had been reduced significantly, from 6.5 issues to 2.9 issues. This is in part due to an increase in the page budget of 10%, and permission to increase it by 10% each year if we wish to do so. Also in 2004, CLINICAL ANATOMY will increase from 6 to 8 issues. Our Impact Factor has stayed stable, in the middle of other morphologically oriented journals. An increase in the Impact Factor would be desirable, and may be achieved by publishing definitive review articles, and special issue on specific topics. He reported on a meeting of the editorial staff (Mark Seifert, Rob Spinner, Beverly Northouse, and himself), plus Journal Committee Chair Tom Quinn and Treasurer Todd Olson, had with key Wiley-Liss personnel in early May in Hoboken, NJ. One of the topics discussed was the adoption of Early View, which allows the author of an accepted manuscript with submitted galley proofs, to cite that article as published. He indicated the AACA or the BACA would receive 50% of any advertising revenues that organization generated. He described the subscription inquiry process in which Todd Olson as Treasurer will verify dues payment, and then notify Ms. Lucy Woo of Wiley to activate a journal subscription. Stephen emphasized the outstanding contributions of Beverly Northouse in the manuscript review process, as well as those of AACA Editors Mark Seifert and Rob Spinner, and BACA Editor Stuart McDonald. He reminded the members that former AACA Editor, Robert Leonard would be the first recipient of The Benton R. Adkins, Jr. Distinguished Service Award, at that evening's banquet, in recognition of outstanding service to the Association, and to CLINICAL ANATOMY. Stephen concluded his remarks by noting his 5 year term of office as Editor-in-Chief would end in 2005, and that his performance would be reviewed by a committee chaired by Tom Quinn, chair of the Journal Committee.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** (Carol Scott-Conner)

Carol announced the following individuals had been elected: Todd Olson, Treasurer; Mark Holterman, Clinician Councilor; and Jennifer Brueckner and John Hansen, Councilors-at-Large. Carol next discussed the media attention concerning abuses in human tissue usage. She reminded the membership that the AACA had published a policy statement in CLINICAL ANATOMY in 1991, and in the same year, a Letter to the Editor on related issues. The Anatomical Services Committee would revisit these statements at its meeting the following day, but that she was very pleased that our Association had in fact addressed this most important issue almost 15 years previously. She indicated the hope that the 2005 Meeting would indeed be a Joint AACA/BACA Meeting, and that issues of miscommunication between the two associations would be resolved. Stephen Carmichael would be attending the BACA's summer meeting, and she would attend their winter meeting, and the AACA was planning for a joint meeting to meeting the 5 year cycle that was traditional. She reinforced the points made by Stephen Carmichael related to the revision of the manuscript requirement. Council had been reluctant to abandon the requirement, but recognized some of the logistical complexities, and had hopefully eliminated many of these by now requiring a manuscript and disc be given to the platform moderator at the time of presentation. Carol ended her report by indicating there was a need to increase the involvement and participation of clinicians, such as herself. She proposed the AACA make overtures to other associations, such as the Association of Program Directors in Surgery (APDS) and the Association for Surgical Education (ASE), and other subspecialty groups, and to offer to partner with them on educational issues and programs. Thus our visibility would be increased with these groups and their members. Program director groups have a vested interest in anatomy for many reasons, not the least of which is accreditation. Anatomical

educational programs may or may not be embedded in many residency programs, and an excellent opportunity exists for the AACCA to become involved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Tom Quinn and Todd Olson)

Tom reviewed his distributed report which covered the final six months prior to the completed transfer of the books from Omaha to New York. He noted under Cash Receipts the item of refunds should be listed under Other Income. He called attention to the phenomenal amount of over \$19,000 produced by the Graz meeting in 2003, and acknowledged Andreas Weiglein's responsibility for this accomplishment. Total Cash Receipts were \$144,799. He pointed out several typographical errors in Cash Disbursements categories, but that the total of \$123,587 was correct. At the end of 2003, the Association had an Ending Cash Balance of \$123,318. Todd thanked Tom for his outstanding efforts in facilitating a smooth and efficient transition of the Association's finances.

Todd referred to his distributed report ending May 31, 2004 in which a balance of \$253,036.84 was indicated. He called the members attention to credit card (\$860.07) and annual meeting (\$11,782.72) expenses, and 2004 meeting registration fees income of \$95,758 as of June 1<sup>st</sup>. A final accounting for the 2004 meeting would take about a week. He next discussed dues income, that was summarized on his report, noting \$39,138.75 had been collected in 2004 dues, plus \$4,437 in back dues, and \$1,140 in dues for 2005. An addition amount of \$482 in donations had been received, for a total of Dues Income for 2004 of \$45,492.75. He then reviewed the various membership categories, and reported we had as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 410 Active members, 98 Inactive members, 55 Discontinued members, and with 4 member resignations, a total database membership of 567. He emphasized the impact of being an Active member regarding receipt of the journal and reduced registration fees for the annual meeting. Todd noted that Council members were contacting Inactive and Discontinued members to encourage them to pay their dues and to become Active again. He concluded by assuring the members that steps were being taken to resolve any problems with journal subscriptions.

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORT** (Greg Smith)

Greg reported that 212 people had registered for the Moraga meeting, of which 198 were paid registrants. The previous largest meeting had been the Hawaii meeting with 179 registrants. There a attendees from 18 foreign countries, 20 students, and 27 accompanying persons, and 60 registrants for the postgraduate course. He concluded his report by reviewing transportation arrangements for the postgraduate course.

**4<sup>th</sup> JOINT AACCA/BACA MEETING, 2005, NEW YORK CITY** (Todd Olson)

Todd indicated the 2005 Joint Meeting would be co-hosted by Albert Einstein COM and Cornell University Medical College, with Estomih Mtui assisting him as local hosts, and noted a meeting website had already been created. Online registration will be available, and alerted the members that changes in the phasing of the registration fees would occur. This is necessitated by deadlines for committing blocks of rooms in the hotel. The meeting will be held in the Marriott Financial Center, in downtown New York, one block from 9-11 ground zero. The nightly rate for the meeting will be \$179, and he indicated he had secured a rate of \$149 for the weekends

prior to and following the meeting. It is accessible from all 3 airports. The Accompany Persons program would likely include a Wednesday morning boat tour, and a Thursday morning doubledecker bus tours of the city, and the afternoons will be free for shopping and individual excursions. Todd indicated he was planning to have 3 Saturday postgraduate courses. Two would be hotel based courses on ultrasound use, one designed for anatomists' use in teaching, the other for clinician use at the bedside, and would generate CME credit. The third program will be for technical personnel involved with willed body programs, and will include didactic presentations and hands-on sessions of embalming techniques. This course would likely take place at Cornell.

#### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT (Tom Quinn)**

Tom briefly reported that 28 new members had been approved and accepted since the Graz 2003 meeting, and that he would post their names. He asked that if any were present, to please stand to be recognized and welcomed. He concluded by indicating that in the future, a rolling application and review process would be initiated.

#### **ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES**

Carol called the members attention to the Agenda on which it was indicated that Members-at-Large, and the specified number were specified for the Bylaws (2), Financial Affairs (1) and Nominating (2) Committees. She called for nominations and seconds for each of these committees. The following were elected: Bylaws Committee-Len Cleary and Cristan Stefan; Financial Affairs Committee-David Porta; Nominating Committee-Anne Agur and Neil Norton. It was also noted that the Educational Affairs, Career Development and Anatomical Services SIG's would be electing 2 individuals each during the 2004 meeting.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Andreas Weiglein invited the AACA membership to attend the 2005 Meeting of the EACA, which would be held in Palermo from June 30-July 3, 2005.

Anne Gilroy presented Certificates of Appreciation to the presenters at the CDC Symposium. These were presented to: Don Jenkins, Ph.D., Victor Spitzer, Ph.D., John Boker, Ph.D. and Elizabeth Lockett from the HDAC.

There being no further new business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lawrence M. Ross, M.D., Ph.D.  
Secretary