

WNAR 2010 Meeting Minutes

WNAR Regional Committee Meeting June 20, 2010

Seattle, WA

The Regional Committee convened at 3:45 pm.

Attendance: Peter (Tony) Lachenbruch, Dan Gillen, Mary Redman, Antje Hoering, John Boscardin, Gary Chan, Carolyn Rutter, Elizabeth Thompson, Christine McLaren

AGENDA

1. Introductions

Peter (Tony) Lachenbruch (OSU) – president, Dan Gillen (UCI) – president elect, chair of WNAR advisory committee, Mary Redman (FHCRC) – treasurer, Antje Hoering (CRAB)– secretary, John Boscardin (UCSF)– representative at large, Gary Chan (UW) - 2010 WNAR local organizer, Carolyn Rutter (GHC) – 2010 WNAR program chair, Elizabeth Thompson (UW) - IBS council representative and 2010 WNAR student paper competition chair (in for Sandra Catlin (UNLV) who was not able to attend the meeting), Christine McLaren (UCI) - IBS council representative

2. **Introductions of IBS Executive Committee.** The IBS Executive Committee had their IBS Executive Committee meeting at the same time as the WNAR meeting and came by to introduce themselves. Kaye Basford - IBS president, Andrew Mead – IBS vice president, Linda Young - IBS treasurer, Urania Dafni – IBS editorial representative, Peter Njuho – IBS editorial representative, Dee Ann Walker – IBS executive director.

Kaye Basford gave a bit of IBS history. For many years the IBS consisted of five regions. It currently consists of regions and groups with a total of approximately 4,500 members. Kaye Basford also reported that the IBS is intending to change the procedure for voting for counsel members. Groups within regions will vote for representatives; the number of representatives will depend on the size of the group and region.

3. **Announcements:** Tony Lachenbruch made the following announcements for COPSS Nominations: Chair: Xihong Liu (Harvard) IMS Secretary: Bhramar Mukherjee (Michigan); Fisher Award Chair: Scott Emerson (University of Washington), President's Award: John Boyer (KU) – not WNAR, Elizabeth Scott Award: Elizabeth Thompson (University of Washington), Awards Committee: Adam Branscum (Oregon State University). Dan Gillen made the following announcements in terms of WNAR nominations: Wes Johnson from UC Irvine – WNAR program chair, Rebecca Hubbard from the Group Health Research Institute - JSM program chair, regional advisory board: (3 year term, starting in 2011): Li Hong Qi from UC Davis, Marc Suchard from UCLA, Babak Shahbaba from UC Irvine; chair of the 2011 WNAR student paper competition – John Kittleson from UC Colorado, Denver; judges of the 2011 WNAR student paper competition: Babak Shahbaba from UC Irvine, Vladimir Minin from the University of Washington.

4. **Approval of Minutes of the 2009 WNAR regional committee meeting.** The 2009 minutes were unanimously approved.
5. **Future WNAR meetings:** The 2011 WNAR meeting will be held in San Luis Obispo June 19-22; local arrangement contact is Jimmy Doi. Possible 2012 locations were discussed, among them Stanford, BYU, UC Berkeley, UC San Diego, RAND.
6. **Business Office report.** Mary Redman reported that there are a total of 215 WNAR members in 2010; 53 members from last year did not renew their membership. Carolyn Rutter mentioned that some places don't cover memberships; Elizabeth Thompson said that in academia memberships are not covered. Antje Hoering (FHCRC) will ask the WNAR book keeper, Ronna White, to send more reminders by e-mails. We discussed other payment options; an on-line payment option would be helpful, possibly using pay-pal. Antje Hoering will bring this up with our book keeper, Ronna White. John Boscardin suggested allowing for a link on the meeting web-page to become a member.
7. **2010 WNAR meeting report:** Gary Chan reported that a total of 205 people have registered to the 2010 WNAR meeting, approximately 30% of participants are local; approximately 20% - 30% of participants are students. There were 20 participants in this year's short course. Gary Chan and Carolyn Rutter reported that the on-line registration process and web page worked well. Carolyn Rutter had talked with Kaye Basford suggesting that the IBS should think about providing web page support for future WNAR meetings; this would also make the IBS more visible; the IBS was amenable to the suggestion.
8. **2010 WNAR student paper competition:** Elizabeth Thompson reported on the 2010 WNAR student paper competition. She agreed to take over chairing the oral competition. There were 16 written submissions (one of the students opted out of the oral presentation; thus there is now a total of 15 students participating in this year's competition). Two people volunteered to judge for the oral competitions: Todd Alonzo (USC) and Lisa Ganio (OSU).
9. **Sponsorship of new investigators luncheon:** Dan Gillen suggested that if there is a possibility for sponsorship for young investigator's luncheon it's good to ask that party, but it shouldn't be an obligation.
10. **Suggestions for future WNAR meetings:** Dan Gillen suggested for WNAR to offer money to the local organizers to help cover costs. Tony suggested a down payment of up to \$5000. The regional committee unanimously approved the motion. Tony suggested giving local arrangement chairs a list of helpful hints. Carolyn Rutter and Gary Chan made such a list and will send to Antje Hoering who will then send to the rest of the executive committee. This list will be added to the local arrangement chair's responsibility manual. Carolyn Rutter suggested to have longer invited sessions (30-35 minutes per talk). Elizabeth Thompson said that we need to be careful not to have too many parallel sessions. Carolyn Rutter suggested not accepting some abstracts (odd-balls) to improve quality of meeting. Christine McLaren said if we reject abstracts we turn away people. Carolyn Rutter suggested maybe having a poster session instead. Christine McLaren said that giving a talk is a great way for junior people to get practice. Carolyn Rutter suggested a student-organized session. Tony Lachenbruch suggested that this year's program chair should act as an advisor to next year's chair. Dan Gillen said that program chair for the next year should be invited to

current WNAR meeting Potential topics for next year's short course were discussed. Dan Gillen suggested a course on clinical trials; Carolyn Rutter suggested for Adrian Raftery to give a course on spatial statistics; Christine McLaren suggested a course on statistical genetics.

The regional committee adjourned at 5:50PM.

WNAR Regional Committee Luncheon June 22, 2010

Seattle, WA

The WNAR Regional Committee convened at 12:30 pm.

Attendance: Tony Lachenbruch, Todd Alonzo, Dan Gillen, Antje Hoering, Elizabeth Thompson, Mary Redman, Andrea Cook, Walter Piegorsch, Christine, Andrew Mead, Kaye Basford

AGENDA

1. **Introductions:**

Tony Lachenbruch – president, Todd Alonzo – past president, Dan Gillen – president elect, Mary Redman – treasurer, Antje Hoering – secretary, Andrea Cook – representative at-large, Walter Piegorsch – representative at-large, Elizabeth Thompson - IBS council representative and 2010 WNAR student paper competition chair (in for Sandra Catlin who was not able to attend the meeting), Christine McLaren - IBS council representative, Andrew Mead – IBS vice president, Kaye Basford – IBS president.

2. **Report of RAB:** Dan Gillen reported that the new RAB chair will be Diana Miglioretti from the Group Health Institute. The RAB discussed how to best increase WNAR membership and decided to introduce a student-organized invited session in which a student would be responsible for inviting speakers. Past themes of the new investigator luncheons included the promotion process, the grant review process and the review process of statistical manuscripts. Walter Piegorsch suggested reviewing the agenda of the ASA committee of advancement luncheons to gather ideas for future new investigator luncheons and possible people to lead those.

3. **Future WNAR meetings:** Tony Lachenbruch suggested checking the dates with ASA to make sure that there are no conflicts. Elizabeth Thompson followed up on Sunday's discussion with regards to the invited sessions. She recommended that it be suggested to the organizer of an invited session that the session include 3 speakers or 3 speakers and a discussant to allow for enough time for each presentation. Dan Gillen suggested that the sponsorship for new investigator luncheon should be optional.

4. **Treasurer's report.** Mary Redman reported that she did not receive any information on dues from the IBS. That information was accidentally sent to the book keeper. Mary Redman said that there is approximately \$120,000 in the

- WNAR bank account and that WNAR owes approximately \$20,000 to the IBS. Mary will send out an updated treasurer's report after those payments have been made. Kaye Basford mentioned that the IBS is working on standardizing and documenting payments between groups.
5. **WNAR Board Nominations:** Todd Alonzo reported on the nominations for the 2010 WNAR Board members: Mary Redman has agreed to run unopposed for another term as treasurer. Loki Natarajan (UC San Diego) and John Kittelson (University of Colorado, Denver) have agreed to run for President-elect. Brad Biggerstaff (CDC), Chi-hong Tseng (UCLA), and Joan Hu (Simon Fraser Univ) have agreed to be candidates for rep-at-large. One more candidate is needed for rep-at-large.
 6. **Student Paper Competition:** Elizabeth Thompson reported that the winners had been determined and will be presented at the banquet. She expressed her thanks to Sandra Catlin who had worked hard on reviewing all the papers and was sorry to have to miss the WNAR meeting. The motion that each participant will receive \$100 was voted upon and unanimously accepted. Elizabeth Thompson reported on a few suggestions of Sandra Catlin: Validate the applicants PhD date or expected date at registration to make sure the applicant is eligible; make sure the local arrangement chair knows about the fact that WNAR pays for all student paper participants' banquet; this should be in the responsibilities manual. Some of the instructions to students are conflicting. Sandra Catlin will send updates to Antje Hoering who will then pass those on to Dan Gillen so that next year's chair of the student paper competition is properly informed.

The regional committee adjourned at 2PM.

Antje Hoering