Chapter Advisory Committee Report to APS Summer 2014 Council
6/20/2014
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Condensed Summary for The Physiologist
The local APS Chapters continue to promote the future of physiological sciences overall and the APS as more grassroots involvement at the graduate, undergraduate, and high school levels. An overall goal is for the activities of the Chapters to further influence public policy. The number of Chapters in good standing is currently 13 and one Chapter is typically added per year. A main activity is the annual meetings typically, which typically have ~60-120 participants in a 1-2 day meeting. Novel methods for promoting poster attendance, etc. have been used. There is an increasing emphasis on career development in the changing research and education environment. A major emphasis is on trainee involvement in running meetings. The Chapter program had 4 of 13 active chapters involved in outreach / advocacy activities in the past year, so this essential function will be improved in the coming year. Involvement of smaller colleges in the Chapter activities greatly improves outreach to undergraduates.

Current Chapter Advisory Committee Members
Chair: Michael Sturek, PhD, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN
Past Chair: Harald Stauss, MD, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Chapter Presidents:
Arizona: Kiisa Nishikawa, PhD, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ
DC-Chapter: Dexter Lee, PhD, Howard University, Washington, DC
Gulf Coast: Jason Gardner, PhD, Louisiana State University, New Orleans, LA
Indiana: Mari Hopper, PhD, University University, Evansville, IN
Iowa: Jacqueline Brittingham, PhD, Simpson College, Indianola, IA
Kentucky: Suresh Tyagi, PhD, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY
Michigan: Greg Fink, PhD, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Midwest: No Chapter President named
Missouri: Marco Brotto, PhD, Univ. Missouri School of Nursing, Kansas City, MO
Nebraska: Carol Fassbinder, PhD, Creighton University, Omaha, NE
Ohio: Paul Schaeffer, PhD, Miami University, Oxford, OH
Oklahoma: Jyoti Abraham, Bascone College, Muskogee, OK
Pennsylvania: Donna H Korzick, PhD, Pennsylvania State U, University Park, PA
Puerto Rico: Guido Santacana, PhD, University Puerto Rico Sch. Med., San Juan, PR
Tennessee: Nick Ragsdale, PhD, Belmont University, Nashville, TN

Chapter Representatives:
Arizona: Layla Al-Nakkash, PhD, Midwestern University, Tucson, AZ
DC-Chapter: Rupa Lalchandari, MD, Georgetown University, Washington, DC
Gulf Coast: Michael J. Ryan, PhD, University of Mississipi, Jackson, MS
Indiana: Michael Sturek, PhD, Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN
Iowa: Julia Moffitt, PhD, Des Moines University, Des Moines, IA
Kentucky: Robin L. Cooper, PhD, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
Michigan: Jason Carter, PhD, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI
Midwest: No Chapter Representative named
Missouri: Marco Brotto, PhD, Univ. Missouri School of Nursing, Kansas City, MO
Nebraska: Harold D Schultz, PhD, University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE
Ohio: Lynn Hartzler, PhD, Wright State University, Dayton, OH
Oklahoma: Alexander J Rouch, PhD, Oklahoma State University, Tulsa, OK
Pennsylvania: Donna H Korzick, PhD, Pennsylvania State U, University Park, PA
Puerto Rico: Caroline B Appleyard, PhD, Ponce School of Medicine Ponce, PR
Tennessee: Zhong Mao Guo, MD, PhD, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN
Duties of the Chapter Advisory Committee

- Elect a chairperson, who is a member of the committee.
- Meet annually at the spring meeting of the Society.
- Review and update the Chapter Bylaws.
- Maintain a user’s Manual.
- Assist Chapters with their local community outreach activities.
- Present an annual report to Council at the Summer Council meeting.
- Interface Chapter missions with relevant activities of APS Council and/or APS Committees by updating Chapter members in each State on current issues, such as animal rights, ethics in science publication, public policy issues, women in science issues, career opportunities in academia and industry.
- Make recommendations to Council regarding strengthening of the Chapters’ role in programs, publication, public affairs, and governance of the Society.

Summary of Chapter Advisory Committee Business Meeting

The Chapter Advisory Committee (CAC) met on April 28, 2014 at the Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego, CA. The minutes of this meeting are attached to this report (Linda, I so not have your minutes). The following are the most important topics addressed at the business meeting.

1. New Chair

Past Chair Dr. Harald Stauss introduced Dr. Michael Sturek as the incoming Chair of the CAC. Dr. Sturek thanked Dr. Stauss for his outstanding service to the CAC. Sturek then gave an overview of the importance of the Chapters in public policy and influencing the future of physiological sciences overall and the APS specifically. Sturek emphasized the need for advocacy and outreach programs. Two themes encouraged were encouraged. 1) “Take Action!” can be achieved by connecting with lay public with a personal connection regarding the need for increased research funding. 2) “There’s No Free Lunch” can be used to require meeting participants to contact their congressional representatives and senators before their “free lunch” for the meeting.

2. Chapter Advocacy Outreach Program

Alice Ra’an, Director of Government Relations and Science Policy, presented in place of Dr. G.L. Edwards, Chair of the Animal Care and Experimentation (ACE), on the need for more outreach and advocacy. An example is the “Stand up for Science” video about donating to diabetes treatment and research. Speakers, 3/year, are funded by APS for Chapter presentations.

3. Interaction and Communication with Trainee Advisory Committee

Dr. Jessica Bradley, LSU Health Science Center, Trainee Advisory Committee Liaison.

There is now a trainee representative for each chapter. A trainee survey is being conducted. There was a lengthy discussion of the necessity for using social media to reach out to trainees. Multiple media should be considered, e.g. Twitter, LinkedIn, MySpace, ResearchGate, InstaGram, Facebook.

4. Annual reports from the Chapter Representatives

These were the major part of the meeting. The detailed reports are included in the attached minutes. Summary of key points:

- Attendance at annual meetings typically is ~60-120.
- Typically 1-2 day meeting
- Novel methods for promoting poster attendance, etc.
- Increasing emphasis on career development.
- Strive for trainee involvement, running meetings
- Just 4 of 13 active chapters conducted outreach / advocacy activities
- Strongest, most outreach occurs when smaller colleges are involved.

Arizona – Dr. Layla Al-Hakkash

2 day meeting; ~100 attended
Outreach / advocacy presentation by Dr. Kevin Kregel on NIH funding, effects of sequestration.
1 minute poster advertisement on microphone; in auditorium, before poster session

Washington, D.C. – Dr. Naz Moaddab, Dr. Dexter Lee
New; 2013 meeting 63 attendees; expanding; need assistance for establishing non-profit
Includes DC, Maryland, Virginia.
Outreach / advocacy – planning to visit Capitol Hill

Gulf Coast – Dr. Michael Ryan; Dr. Jason Gardner presented
Spans Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama.
Trainees run most of the meeting.
Career Development session
Unique in that meet every other year.
Outreach / advocacy – Will include in future meetings
Will seek more participation of University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Indiana – Dr. Mari Hopper presented; Dr. Michael Sturek
A “Phun Bus” was used for transportation of attendees from Indianapolis to Evansville (~3 h drive).
Record Chapter attendance of 190.
Break-out discussion sessions included career paths and teaching methods; involved more discussion and participation.
High school students were ~30% of attendees, which was made possible by significant community involvement with faculty at high school level.
Social media assisted in recruitment of students.
Online registration greatly facilitated running of the meeting. These methods are being shared in the “Operating Manual” of best practices for Chapters.

Iowa – Dr. Jackie Brittingham, Dr. Julia Moffitt, Dr. Josh Selsby
Outreach / advocacy was on research funding.
Trainee involvement in running the annual meeting was emphasized.

Kentucky – Dr. Irving G. Joshua
March meeting “captured” people ready to go to Experimental Biology.
Outreach / advocacy not conducted, but will start at next meeting.
Inadequate funding for the annual meeting was an issue. This prompted a discussion among all participants and included several excellent approaches:
1) corporate sponsors
2) Faculty have higher registration fees than students.
3) Keynote speakers may donate their honorarium to the Chapter, as occurred in the Indiana Chapter.
4) Decrease costs by having the educational institution as the venue.
5) Have an honorary, named lectureship.
6) Make individual donation possible on the registration.
7) Smaller colleges promote such meetings and may provide venue at discounted rate.

Michigan – Dr. Gregory Fink, Dr. Jason R. Carter, Dr. Sue Barman, Erica Wehrwein (not present)
New chapter, having first meeting with 115 participants from 15 different colleges, universities.
Including a social event with the meeting (i.e. attending baseball game) promoted meeting.
Strongly recommended partnering with other Chapters when starting and getting a tutorial on meeting.

Missouri – Dr. Marco Brotto
Harald Stauss and Harold Schultz helped incorporation, etc.
Community colleges showed keen interest in K-12, etc.
Will extend membership to Industry, political policy makers.
Will seek publishers (textbooks) for funds, since this generates revenue for publishers.

Nebraska – Dr. Carol Fassbinder-Orth [not present], Dr. Harold D. Schultz, Dr. Keeshore Bidasee
An exercise theme was very effective in getting involvement.
Outreach / advocacy – Graduate students did physiology demonstrations to high schools.
A speaker from the Omaha Henry Doorley Zoo showed the wide application of physiology to careers not typically considered.
Break-out sessions promoted involvement and active participation.
Expansion more into the high school level is sought for the annual meeting, but the limitation is the Friday meeting date.
The exercise theme enabled a commitment of funds from local exercise clubs.

Ohio – Dr. Paul J. Schaeffer; Dr. Dan Halm
An “oral blitz” accompanied the poster presentation in which the student presented salient features in a limited time.

Oklahoma – Dr. Jyoti Abraham, Dr. Alexander J. Rouch
A main strength of the Chapter is involvement of small colleges, not Oklahoma University and Oklahoma State University.
An “integration” theme of pure physics and biology was promoted more.
Integrating clinical and basic science in medical curriculum makes these activities more important.
Undergraduate discussions with pre-med advisors and medical faculty to discuss curriculum preparation for medical school was well-received.

Pennsylvania – Dr. Donna Korzick
This newest chapter is still working on the bylaws and non-profit status documents.

Puerto Rico – Dr. Caroline B. Appleyard
Outreach / advocacy – Phun week included lots of activities; hands-on, etc.
A website for all preparation greatly facilitated the meeting.
Facebook works when used for the correct purpose.

Tennessee – Dr. Nick Ragsdale, President
Representative was not present.

Review and Update of Chapter Bylaws
Currently, there are 13 active APS Chapters, 1 dormant Chapter (Midwest Chapter). All 13 active Chapters are in good standing. The new Pennsylvania Chapter is still working on the bylaws and non-profit status documents. The DC and Missouri chapters are still seeking tax exempt status.

User’s Manual
Sturek needs to see documents before providing more commentary.

Local Community Outreach Activities
Similar to 2013, the Chapter Activity Grant program further strengthened these activities. Example: Nebraska – A physiology resource kit provided by Chapter grant was very helpful for high school demonstrations, etc. and resulted in outreach to 1200 persons.

Chapter Activity Grant Program
Four applications are being considered for funding in 2014 (Arizona, Washington DC, Indiana, Nebraska). See attached applications.

Interface Chapter missions with relevant activities of APS
The major interface is in education of trainees. A greater emphasis on grass roots outreach and advocacy will further promote physiological sciences and the APS.

Recommendations to Council
1. Chapter Activity Grants for 2014

Attachments (Chapter Activity Grant Applications)