IIS Board of Trustees Meeting December 18th 2009

Present: Crist Filer, Dave Hesk, Ruth Hough-Engel, Brad Maxwell, Alex Susan, Bill Wheeler.
Also Present: Carolee Lavey, Jens Atzrodt, Volker Derdau
Apologies for absence: John Allen

1. Formation of the 2010-2012 BoR

AS reported that Corina Simion and Nikolay Myasoedov have been elected by the respective Romanian and Russian Chapters to serve on the 2010-2012 BoR. AS added he is still waiting for responses from the Central US, Canadian and E. China Chapters. AS stated he plans to write to the new members of the BoR to have them elect a Chairman to serve as the 7th member of the 2010-2012 BoT by the end of January.

Action: AS to contact BoR members to convene a meeting to elect a Chairman.

AS also stated that he has had difficulty obtaining any response from the current Canadian and E. China Chapter BoR reps.

A brief discussion was held regarding the state of the Canadian Chapter. In light of the small Canadian membership base and the difficulty of finding an interested individual to organize the chapter, it was suggested until the Canadian Chapter grows to a sufficient size, that the North East and Central Chapters should reach out to Canadian members to see if they would like to join the US chapter in closest proximity to them.

2. Society of Whole Body Autoradiography Discussion

BW stated that he received a reply from the SWBA declining the offer to join the IIS as a division and stating that the SWBA would like to continue as a separate distinct society. Several members of the BoT suggested that the SWBA be contacted to gauge interest in running joint future symposia along the lines of the Chicago meeting.

3. International Nuclear Target Development Society Discussion

BM stated that he has been in contact with John Greene and Darren Brown regarding the International Nuclear Target Development Society joining the IIS as a division. BM added that the society membership has not yet met to discuss the proposal, but will contact BM again after they have met and considered the proposal.

4. BoT election Proposal

The board held a substantive discussion on the BoT election reform idea, originally proposed by BW and further developed by the BoR. In this proposal, the BoT would be made up of 3 Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, BoR Chairman, and three Regional Representatives from North America, Europe and Asia. It was noted that adoption of

this model would require changing the IIS constitution. DH stated that rather than going through this very large undertaking, a simpler solution may be to limit candidates to running for one BoT office as opposed to the current practice where candidates may simultaneously run for more than one office. DH noted that as a result of this practice, there have been a number of occasions were candidates have been elected to more than one office and in being giving the option of choosing which office to accept, have a significant outcome on the election. DH also noted that the small membership base in Asia may make it impractical to find an individual both qualified and willing to serve on a modified BoT as Regional Representative from that region. In addition, details on how Regional Representatives would be chosen have not been worked out. CL also stated that given that this would be a very significant change to the BoT, there had not been sufficient discussion to this point on alternative proposals to the one presented by BW and the BoR. CL also stated that it is not clear from this proposal how the Regional Representatives would fill the role of the eliminated Vice President position. CF added that in reviewing the constitution, there is no reference to candidates running for multiple offices and thus it would not require a constitutional change to disallow running for multiple offices. BM added his support to this solution and further added that in most other types of elections, candidates only run for one office.

BW also stated that in the BW/ BoR proposal, it was also suggested that each member should only have 2 votes for President rather than 3. DH stated that if the existing structure of the BoT was retained and candidates were restricted to running for a single office, there would be no issue in retaining three votes for President. There is ample precedence for this in elections for ACS offices.

At the request of BW, DH formally proposed a motion that in future elections to the BoT, candidates will be restricted to running for a single office. The motion was seconded by RHE and unanimously approved by the BoT.

RHE noted that this motion could be considered as a first step and a more substantial change to the BoT election process could be made in the future if deemed necessary.

5. BoR proposal on academic grants
The board discussed a proposal from the BoR to increase academic membership of the IIS by setting aside $30,000 for grants to the academic community. There was agreement that increasing membership of the IIS is an important objective for the Society and increasing involvement in the IIS from academia would help meet this objective. Given the losses incurred by the last two International Symposia, concerns were expressed by several members of the BoT about making a financial commitment of $30,000. AS suggested that it may be possible to raise some of the funds through sponsorship, however it was noted that sponsorship funds are much more difficult obtain in the current economic climate, and it would be important to ensure that sponsorship

opportunities are available to support the Heidelberg meeting. DH suggested that setting up funding for travel for academic researchers to attend IIS meetings, along the lines of the Wiley awards could be a less costly alternative until the finances of the society improve. At the suggestion of AS, it was decided to defer any funding decision until after the Heidelberg meeting and it was further agreed that any profit generated from that meeting could be used for grants for the academic community.

6. IIS Fellow Discussion

The Board discussed a proposal to create an IIS fellow programme. There was general consensus that while this proposal has merit, there was concern how this would fit in with the Melvin Calvin and IIS awards, given the relatively small size of the Society. In order to allow further elaboration of this proposal, it was decided to defer further discussion on this proposal to the new BoT.

7. Heidelberg update

Jens Atzrodt (JA) and VD updated the BoT on the initial contract proposal from Heidelberg University to host the IIS symposium. VD stated in response to a question from DH, that although the contract proposal is based on an attendance of 300, the pricing is based per delegate and thus the overall cost would be reduced if attendance was lower than 300. In addition there would be no financial penalties imposed. JA stated in response to a question from CL, that the projected dates would be 9th-13th September 2012. JA and VD added that these dates may move by a week depending on the timing Heidelberg Illumination festival.

JA and VD also stated that as the cost estimates are very reasonable, depending on the overall budget, they hope to be able to reduce the registration fees relative to Chicago and will also examine the exhibitor fee schedule.

In response to a question from JA and VD on signing the contract, BM confirmed that the organizers of the meeting sign the contract and added that it should be made clear to the University that this is an IIS sponsored event and that the organizers' employer is not responsible for the event. VD added that in response to a question from BM about tax exempt status, the IIS CED which is based in Germany has not-for profit status. JA added that the organizers are interested in holding parallel sessions on WBA topics, as per Chicago and will be reaching out to the European group of the SWBA.

The organizers also plan for the banquet to be held at Heidelberg castle. In addition JA stated he planned to contact the exhibitors to see if they planned to organize any evening events in order to avoid them competing with events such as the poster session.

JA and VD plan to forward the final contact proposal, which includes the welcome reception, to the BoT for review.

8. AOB

Financial Update

RHE reported that she will be changing bank accounts to New Century Bank from Sovereign Bank in order to gain more favourable terms, which include a higher interest rate. RHE plans to make this change early in the New Year. DH added that he plans to transfer the bulk of the membership dues collected at Synergy once the new account is open.

Membership update

DH reported that the membership renewal forms were mailed out in mid-November and the response has been encouraging so far. Non-IIS members attending the Chicago meeting were included in the mailing and a few have responded positively by joining the IIS. DH plans to email the non-responders in January with a reminder.

WCI discussion

DH and CF reported that George Ellames has agreed to serve on an IIS committee to contact a similarly formed WCI committee to discuss areas of future co-operation between the IIS and WCI. DH and CF stated that they will move forward and contact the WCI in the New Year to schedule the first meeting.

Chicago Proceedings

BM reported that the proceedings are almost complete, with publication expected in March or April of 2010.

Conclusion

BW concluded the meeting by thanking members of the outgoing BoT for their service over the past three years. DH added that he would like to specially thank Scott Landvatter, John Allen and Bill Wheeler for their service to the IIS.

Next BoT meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the BoT will be in early 2010 and will be arranged by CF.

David Hesk
IIS Executive Secretary