

## IIS Board of Trustees Meeting June 14th 2009

**Present:** John Allen, Crist Filer, Dave Hesk, Brad Maxwell, Alex Susan, Bill Wheeler.

**Also Present:** Gary Rotert, John Kennington, Eric Solon, Alfred Lordi

**Apologies for absence:** Scott Landvatter

### 1. Chicago Update

BM and JK updated the Board on the status of the Chicago meeting. A total of 234 have registered as attendees and an additional 14 registered as guests. This is lower than the 300+ who attended Edinburgh and the number the organizers originally hoped would attend when planning began three years ago. The reduced attendance is likely due to the poor state of the world economy and the continuation of consolidation in the Pharmaceutical industry. Of the total attendees 112 are IIS members, 19 from the Society of Whole Body Autoradiography (SWBA), and 66 are non IIS members. JK noted that this represents a great membership opportunity for the IIS. DH added that he will add these non-members to the autumn membership renewal mailing on receipt of the contact information. It was also generally agreed that as the non IIS members paid an additional \$100 to register, they be offered a three year membership in the IIS on the basis of the additional \$100 payment. DH stated he will follow this up when he receives the contact information from Cvent. JK also reported that there are 35 attendees from Vendors and 3 students, who will be the recipients of the JLCR awards.

JK also reported that 12 last minute cancellations were received either due to Visa issues or company travel restrictions due to the recent Swine Flu outbreak. GR noted that in all 23 countries are represented with 168 from the US being the largest, followed by 31 from the UK.

107 attendees have signed up for the IIS banquet and 36 for the SWBA banquet.

In terms of financials, JK stated that a total of about \$250,750 has been ordered through the Cvent registration process with about \$238,225 received 'on line' through credit card payment and offline through checks and bank transfers. The \$12,525 amount due includes waived registrations and miscellaneous accounting adjustments etc. All the registration money collected through Cvent was paid into the Synergy account through the merchant account originally set up by DH for membership payments. Checks were sent to BM and ultimately sent to DH for deposit into the Synergy account. DH periodically transferred the collected funds to SL for payment into the symposium account.

BM then updated the board on the budget. A total of \$280,063 has been collected for the Symposium, which can be broken down into \$165,400 from 192 registrations, \$71,725 from 17 vendor registrations and \$42,938 from 21 sponsors.

In terms of expenses BM reported that total expenses to date are \$229,870. The most significant expenses were with the hotel for food (\$154,963) and audio visual (\$28,286). Other significant expenses were for Plenary Speakers (\$17,150) and for the web page expenses with Cvent (\$14,038). This figure also includes credit card transaction fees. BM cautioned the BoT that although this budget projects a surplus of \$50,193, because the 300 room block was not met, most if not all of this surplus may go towards paying the penalty as outlined in the contract with the hotel. The exact amount to be charged by the hotel is still uncertain and subject to factors under negotiation between the organizers and the hotel.

BM reported that the IIS banquet generated income of \$14,500 v. \$14,419 in expenses. The SWBA banquet generated \$4,500 in income v. \$3,780 in expenses.

BM stated that the organizers have put together a list of suggestions for the next symposium organizers. He also thanked Eric Solon and Alfred Lordi for their help in organizing the symposium and for the participation of the SWBA in the meeting.

BW then proposed a vote of thanks from the BoT to the organizers of the Symposium for all the work they have put in towards making the event a success.

## **2. Cvent Process Review**

BM gave a live demonstration of the Cvent process to members of the BoT. BM stated that the current one year contract with Cvent expires at the end of July, but the Cvent process could potentially be used by the organizers of future meetings. This would have the advantage of bringing some continuity to the organization process. JK noted that one drawback of the Cvent process is that in many cases company firewalls blocked the Cvent emailings. It was difficult to determine how many of the messages reached the intended recipient. DH suggested that a targeted postal mailing in conjunction with the first emailing would ensure that the meeting announcement would be as widely advertised as possible. JK and BM noted that the Cvent process has far more functionality than the organizers had time to explore given the time constraints they were operating under, but future meeting organizers could make full use of the available features to streamline the organization process. AS also suggested that the IIS webmaster could potentially design a similar system to operate on the IIS webpage.

## **3. Proposal to include future symposium organizers as *ex officio* members of the BoT( G. Ellames, C. Willis)**

Due to time constraints it was decided to defer discussion to the next BoT meeting and invite G. Ellames and C. Willis to present the proposal to the BoT.

## **IIS Board of Trustees and Board of Representatives Joint Meeting, June 14<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Present:** John Allen, Crist Filer, David Hesk, Brad Maxwell, Alex Susan, Bill Wheeler, George Ellames, Keith Garnes, Raymond Oekonomopulos, Corina Simion, Frank White

**Also Present:** Jens Atzrodt, Carlo Chemaly, Ken Lawrie, Volker Derdau,

**Apologies for absence:** Scott Landvatter, Darren Brown, Yaer Hu, Nikolay Mysasoedov, Yves Nadeau.

### **1. 2012 IIS Symposium Proposal**

Jens Atzrodt, Volker Derdau and John Allen made a proposal to the joint BoT/BoR to host the 2012 IIS symposium in Heidelberg, Germany. Heidelberg is a University town with a population of 143,000 and is located about 40 miles from Frankfurt. There is a shuttle bus link between Heidelberg and the international airport at Frankfurt.

The organizers are considering two possible venues in Heidelberg to hold the meeting, either the Heidelberg Convention Centre or the University. The convention centre has 14 conference rooms with a great hall that can hold up to 1,200. Approximate pricing, per delegate would be in the range of €450. Heidelberg University has sufficient space to hold the symposium and could seat up to 600 delegates in the main hall. Approximate pricing per delegate would be €120. Both price estimates are based on 300 registrants. In terms of timing, if the University was chosen as the venue, the symposium would have to be held between July and October, when the University is not in session. There are other potential venues under consideration.

In terms of accommodation, Heidelberg has about 1,300 double rooms with a range of pricing to suit most budgets.

The presenters also discussed potential venues for the Symposium banquet.

The presenters stated that they would hire a Conference Organizer to help run the administrative aspects of the symposium, with pricing on a per delegate basis. Ken Lawrie added that the Edinburgh meeting used a Conference Organizer in this role.

An organization committee has been set up and the proposal has the full support of the IIS Central European Division. John Allen also stated that both Jens and Volker have been active in the CED and have organized CED meetings.

After the proposers fielded a number of questions from the BoT/BoR members, and following a brief discussion, the members of the joint BoT/ BoR unanimously accepted the proposal to hold the 2012 IIS symposium in Heidelberg.

## **2. ICI/WCI Collaboration discussions**

Carlo Chemaly started the discussion by updating the BoT/BoR on the status of the World Council on Isotopes (WCI). He stated that the WCI was formed in 2008 out of a desire by participants in the ICI conference series to organize on a more structured basis. He also stated that WCI is planning to build its membership base over the next several years and over this time period develop its relationship with the IIS. The next ICI conference is due to be held in Moscow in 2011.

Ken Lawrie raised the point that IIS should also consider other isotope groups, such as those in nuclear imaging, for potential for closer cooperation with the IIS.

Brad Maxwell stated that one of the obstacles to holding a joint WCI/IIS conference is the fact that the next scheduled symposia are one year apart, Moscow 2011 and Heidelberg 2012. He added if this issue was resolved for future meetings, the exact format of such a joint meeting would need to be carefully thought out.

At this point of the discussion, the joint BoT/BoR meeting was joined by several members of the WCI. After a round of introductions, the President of the WCI, Chang Sun Kang stated that the main objective in forming the WCI was to set up a formal structure to manage the ICI symposium series. He added that while the WCI is interested in forging closer cooperation with the IIS, it wishes to retain its separate identity. AS noted that it would still be possible for the WCI to retain its identity even if it joined the IIS as a division as is allowed under the IIS constitution.

After an extensive discussion, it was agreed that a joint committee be set up to examine the possibility of enhanced cooperation for future meetings. At the suggestion of BM it was agreed that this committee should be formed by early September and consist of three representatives each from the WCI and IIS BoT.

David Hesk  
IIS Executive Secretary