

Minutes

2021 AACBNC Business Meeting

Date, Time & Location of Meeting

February 19, 2021 • 2:40PM ET (11:40PM Pacific) • Zoom

Opperman (President) attended by phone but connection failed. Menko (President-elect) chaired the meeting. Meeting started 2:54PM Eastern.

Order of Business

1. **Approval of minutes** The 2020 business meeting minutes were approved.
2. **Current office holders** were reviewed.

President: Lynne Opperman (terms ends Feb 2021 meeting)
President-elect: Sue Menko (will run 2022 meeting)
Past President: Sylvia Smith
Secretary-Treasurer: Raj Ettarh (2020-2023)

Councilors, 2019-2021
Sally Moody • Gary Bassell (2019-2021)
Carol Gregorio • Wendy Macklin (2020-2022)
Representative CFAS: Jeff Laitman 2019-2022

3. **President's Report:** President Opperman's report was presented.
 - a. FASEB Hill Day attendee for 2020 was Sylvia Smith. There was no Hill Day for 2020 due to the pandemic.
 - b. CFAS Rep report: Jeff Laitman summarized his detailed written report as the CFAS representative.
 - c. Memberships: Sue Menko and Lynne Opperman described our memberships.
 - i. Research!America is very active with seminars/webinars.
 - ii. AAMC (CFAS) - Jeff Laitman is the AACBNC representative
 - iii. Members interested in being AACBNC rep to Societies Consortium were asked to email Raj Ettarh or America.
 - d. Sign-on letters. Sue Menko described the 4 sign-on letters which the AACBNC supported in 2020.
 - i. Research!America calling on the House Speaker and Senate Leader to pass the FY21 appropriations bill that bolsters the budgets of such COVID-relevant and strategically pivotal agencies as the NIH, the CDC, and FDA
 - ii. Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research to President-elect Joseph Biden urging emergency supplemental funding to allow the NIH to continue to make progress against COVID-19 and to resume pre-pandemic research
 - iii. AAMC-sponsored letter to thank members of Congress for investing in physician training by adding 1,000 new Medicare-supported graduate medical education (GME) positions in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (the first increase in nearly 25 years).
 - iv. Friends of VA Medical Care and Health Research (FOVA) letter to endorse FY 2022 recommendation of \$902 million for the VA Medical and Prosthetic Research program, an \$87 million (10.7%) increase above the FY 2021 program level.
 - e. Elections & Amendment to Constitution and Bylaws: Sue Menko presented two proposals.2020.
 - i. Amendment to constitution and bylaws that allows an extension of executive committee terms in exceptional circumstances was approved unanimously by membership. Both documents will be updated on the website.
 - ii. Proposal to hold off on elections for one year and extend the term of the Executive Committee for one year was approved unanimously by membership. Term dates for office holders were accordingly adjusted to reflect the extension for one year.

President: Lynne Opperman (terms ends Feb 2022 meeting)
President-elect: Sue Menko (will run 2023 meeting)
Past President: Sylvia Smith
Secretary-Treasurer: Raj Ettarh (2020-2024)

Councilors, 2019-2023
Sally Moody • Gary Bassell (2019-2022)
Carol Gregorio • Wendy Macklin (2020-2023)
Representative CFAS: Jeff Laitman 2019-2023

4. **New Chairs:** New chairs attending the meeting were introduced to membership.
 - a. Alexander Robling (Indiana)
 - b. Teresita M Bellido (Arkansas)
5. **Candidates for Emeritus Membership Status** were approved.
 - a. Judi Venuti (Oakland)
 - b. Kimberly Topp (UCSF)
6. **In memoriam:** Jeff Laitman and Kathryn Jones commemorated Michael Shipley and his contributions to the association.
7. **Financial Report:** Raj Ettarh presented the Financial report which was approved. Lynne Opperman and Sue Menko to discuss with AMSNDC to maintain the joint-meeting agreement for 2022. Lynne Opperman will run the 2022 meeting.
8. **Auditors' Report:** Sylvia Smith, and Sue Menko presented the auditors report which was approved.
9. **Proposed Budget:** Raj Ettarh presented the budget which was approved.
10. **Membership & Asset history:** The membership and asset history was reviewed in the context of decision-making for the next annual meeting.
11. **Updates:** Raj Ettarh asked for interest among members in the possibility of a quarterly newsletter. Members were favorably inclined towards the suggested association logo, with some concern over the red-green colors.
12. No new or other business was introduced. Meeting adjourned at 3:14pm Eastern.

[Minutes submitted by Raj Ettarh on 2/19/2021](#)
