

**Minutes -Meeting of the Bureau of the WASPaLM,
17 October, 2011
Venetian Palazzo Conference Centre, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.**

Dr. Oellerich asked for acceptance of the agenda. Dr. Butany added a few small items to it. The agenda was then accepted.

Dr. Oellerich and Dr. Travers recapitulated the Australian meeting of 2009. Dr. Travers then mentioned that there had been some minor arguments at the ILCP regarding the accreditation of educational activities and laboratories. There is apparently some concern about ILCP competing with WASPaLM. This seems to have been a misunderstanding. It was generally agreed that there should be an attempt to repair relationships with ILCP since it was not appropriate to be working at cross purposes.

Dr. Oellerich presented his report in some detail. The copies of his slides are available. There was discussion about the need to have greater involvement of Constituent Societies and for WASPaLM to be more involved with them. Many ideas were considered. It was suggested that there should be a link on CS websites for WASPaLM. Several ideas were considered.

Action Item #1: Dr. Butany It was agreed that WASPaLM communicate with Constituent Societies and discuss the possibility of the Constituent Societies website having a link for WASPaLM.

The discussion following this centered around what WASPaLM gets in return from its Constituent Societies.

The President then discussed the MOU signed with Abbott regarding Education and travelling lectureships. This was positively commented on by all present and hope was expressed that further, similar arrangements could be worked out with other diagnostic companies. It was suggested that a game plan on what we plan to do and how we plan to do it, in the next few years, would come in handy in approaching other diagnostic companies, when wishing to obtain similar funding.

It was suggested that WASPaLM should ask for a list of member's e-addresses when asked to be a co-sponsor of a National Societies Annual Meeting.

Action Item #2: Dr. Butany to ask for a the list of member's e-addresses

Further discussion pertained around the need to involve young professionals that is the next generation of practicing laboratorians. Consideration was given to the need to develop a Skype culture for the Bureau and to develop some approaches to the use to the social media for involving young professionals. It was urged that in addition to the monthly or six weekly Skype Executive, that a quarterly meeting be held (Skype based) with the entire Bureau to keep the Bureau involved and informed.

Further discussion centered around the need to conserve WASPaLM's limited resources. That the organization was burning funds at a very significant rate without enough income. We are running a deficit of close to \$50,000 annually for the last two

years. This situation can not go on. Several items were considered. The most significant discussion was around:

1. The need to do more of what Dr. Oellerich has achieved with Abbott and for this it was felt that there was a need to have a game plan going forward.
2. The effectiveness and the functioning of the Education Committee, that plans be drawn for the next few years and that these be strictly adhered to.

It was felt that going forward, WASPaLM needed a business plan, needed a Corporate Sponsors Committee. Dr. Travers mentioned the need for a committee to meet over the next six months to draft a proposal for an action plan and to bring it to the Bureau, in May 2012.

Dr. Roberto Verna asked if they could present a report of their activities. It was suggested that each Society's Annual Report could be copied to WASPaLM and perhaps be placed on the website.

Action Item #3: Dr. Butany to follow through and get each Society's Annual Report

The Secretary-Treasurer asked for a motion to:

1. Set up a Corporate Sponsors Subcommittee
2. An Education Subcommittee -, both of which would be tasked to come up with proposals within a short time.

The motion was moved by Dr. Raslavicus and seconded by Dr. Oellerich.

All present were in favor of the motion.

Membership of the Corporate Sponsorship Committee would be:

1. Professor Itoh, Chair
2. Professor Murakami,
3. Dr. Oellerich
4. Dr. Looi
5. Dr. Travers

Its terms of reference would be developed by Dr. Raslavicus.

The effect would be to have a model to show vendors and to keep in front of us as we go forward.

Action Item #4: Dr. Butany to follow through.

Education Committee:

This committee would be tasked with coming up with a model plan for the future. A plan which could be shown to potential sponsors or members of the Corporate Sponsors Committee so that the one committee would be feeding into the other.

The Education Committee would be comprised of representatives from the different continents:

1. Dr. Mocan Kuzey, Chair
2. Dr. Looi
3. Dr. Rodrigues
4. Dr. Ruiz-Arenas
5. Dr. Laipatoshomi

Dr. Bacchus was invited to sit on this committee. He declined to Chair or to sit on the Committee. However, he explained that he would like to see additional representatives

which might include people like Dr. Noraine Karim from Kuala Lumpur and Dr. Deepshaka Arora from New Delhi. These suggestions were accepted.

Dr. Suzanne Zeimnick: Update on ASCP / WASPaLM Congress 2011:

Dr. Ziemnick gave a concise status report on the Congress and pointed out that there were over 2000 registrants in total. The number of registrants had exceeded the hopes of the ASCP Executive and the number of exhibitors had also increased beyond their expectations.

There was discussion around the need to publish a new and more current copy of the green book. After discussion, it was agreed that the green book would be updated on the website, at this time, and going forward. The green book would not be republished at this time.

There was discussion regarding the coming to an end of Dr. Travers active involvement with the WASPaLM Executive. There was a consensus that Dr. Travers be asked to continue his efforts on the committee, that as the grand master and the individual in charge of the Informatics Secretariat, he had a considerable role to play on the Executive. Dr. Travers, after due consideration, agreed to attend Skype conferences and conventions.

There was discussion on the need to attract more visitors to the WASPaLM website. Further discussions will continue on the 18th October.

**Minutes -Meeting of the Bureau of the WASPaLM,
18 October, 2011
Venetian Palazzo Conference Centre, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.**

Present: Same as previous day. Including Special Guests: Ms. Suzanne Ziemick, Ms. Doreen To, Ms. Brenda Luna (the two latter are from Abbott Laboratories).

The meeting was reconvened by Dr. Oellerich.

World Health Organization:

At this time, the discussion centered around:

1. The WHO: The discussions pertained to our role with WHO, what WHO can do for WASPaLM or does for WASPaLM.

The discussion was wide ranging and it was felt that a business plan should be drawn and goals and actions determined for international development of pathology.

The action plan should include:

1. Laboratory Accreditation
2. Regional meetings for laboratories, in collaboration with the WHO
3. Development of Laboratory Standards
4. Quality Processes, standardization of tests (especially laboratory developed tests, if any)

Action Item #1: WASPaLM to decide what it would like to do with WHO.

Action Item #2: Make a business plan for working with WHO

Action Item #3: Make a business plan for Education

Action Item #4: Collaboration of WHO in preventative medicine.

There was some discussion about possibly being proactive and discussing these issues with the WHO, possibly with Ms. Hatsimoto and / or Utz Merten.

Dr. Looi mentioned the need to liason with the regional offices in developing regional programs and projects.

There was a suggestion that these efforts could be coordinated with IFCC.

Action Item #5: Dr. Mocan Kuzey will take this up with the IFCC.

It was recommended that all projects be kept revenue neutral.

Report of COWSA:

Dr. Al Hartmann reported on the progress at ISO 15189, that the document is being revised and the first document for ISO15187 is 900 pages. The ISO is setting up a working group on molecular pathology. This pertains to pathology functions and formulas and guidelines are being developed for leukoself monitoring.

Finance Committee:

WASPaLM continues to have financial difficulty. We have been running a deficit of up to \$50,000 per year. This year the projected deficit is \$31,000. A term deposit at Wells Fargo had matured and the amount had been transferred to our current account. These monies are being used for current expenses.

Dr. Butany asked for a motion to transfer \$30,000 from the Japan Administrative Offices to the Wells Fargo account. The motion was seconded by Dr. Michael Oellerich.

In favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstentions: None.

Even Year Meetings:

There was discussion around the location of the 2012 Executive Meeting. Dr. Mocan Kuzey felt that Cypress would be a good location. The timing for this was discussed and it likely that this would be held in September / October 2012.

Japan's Administrative Office Report:

Dr. Itoh reported from the Japan Administrative Offices of WASPaLM. Professor Kawai, Mori and Norakami had been making individual efforts to raise funds for WASPaLM. They suggested that all officers should make efforts to raise funds for WASPaLM. Given the times and difficulties in Japan, the Japanese sources find it difficult to raise funds and assist at the previous rate, especially given the high yen rate in comparison to the US dollar.

In dollar terms, costs of the Administrative office have gone up and they may not have \$30,000 to give to the US office this year.

Newsletter:

There was discussion around the need to have an Annual Report and a regular newsletter.

Abbott: Labs are Vital Presentation:

Ms. Doreen To and Ms. Brenda Luna did a presentation on the Labs are Vital and Abbott agreement with WASPaLM. The slides of this meeting were available to everyone. The goal of Labs are Vital is to educate and to improve the image of laboratorians. The half hour long presentation was very well received and there was significant discussion around the presentation and of the "blue ocean" strategy.

The WASPaLM / Abbott agreement will be reviewed each year. Constituent Societies will be allowed to invite speakers from their membership.

Action Item #6: Send guidelines to Member Societies

Action Item #7: Put content of presentations on the WASPaLM website.

**Minutes from the New Bureau Meeting
21st October 2011,
Las Vegas, Palazzo, ASCP**

Present:

Dr. Gamze Mocan Kuzey - Chair

Dr. Jagdish Butany - Secretary

Dr. Stewart Bryant

Dr. Paul Raslavicus

Dr. Yoshihisa Itoh

Dr. Lia Parkusuma

Dr. Fred Rodriguez

Dr. Murilo Melo

Dr. Robby Bacchus

Dr. Lai Meng-Looi

Dr. Roberto Verna

Dr. Michael Oellerich

Dr. Laura Nelson (Pathology Resident, from Sioux Falls, North Dakota)

Dr. Sun Fei (China)

Dr. Roberto Ruiz-Arenas

1. Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine (CSLM):

Discussion centered around the admission of the CSLM (Peoples Republic of China), it was agreed that consideration be given to changing the listings of member societies in our Green Book. That the societies be listed by name, rather than country.

Motion : that the names of Societies be listed by their own name, rather than under the name of the country. (The country name would therefore be removed).

Motion moved by Dr. Michael Oellerich

Seconded by: Dr. Lai Meng-Looi

In favor: All

Against: None

Abstentions: None

Motion Passed: Unanimously

2. Next Meeting of the Bureau:

Dr. Gamze Mocan Kuzey suggested that the **next meeting of the Bureau** would be held in Turkey, in Istanbul or in Antalya, in May of 2012. However, after discussion this was felt to be a little early. It was agreed that the meeting would be held in the second half of September and that it would likely be held in Cyprus. Cyprus has good hotels, educational facilities, a medical school and the university hospital is close by. It was felt that an educational program should be added to it and all of this was agreed to. This will be discussed further at the Skype conference of the Executive in January / February 2012.

3. Silent Auction:

The monies raised at that time were reported as being \$1529.00 (in fact the amount came in at \$2019.00). It was discussed further that perhaps the concept of the silent

auction should be modified, after due discussion, so that at the next meeting there may be a greater opportunity to raise funds.

4. Comments from the President-Elect:

Dr. Lai Meng-Looi gave a brief presentation. After thanking everyone for having trust and faith in her to become the President-Elect, and later the President, she discussed her feelings about the future. She was "thrilled to be the President-Elect and was happy to work with WASPaLM". She invited everyone's help and advise. She listed some of the challenges facing WASPaLM. These include:

1. Resources.
2. The need for additional continuing educational activities and professional development.
3. To engage the Constituent Societies.

Her suggestions for doing this included approaching the Constituent Societies and developing activities and consultation with Constituent Societies and asking them for suggestions for nominations to committees.

Among the other things that needed attention was:

1. Workload
2. Image of laboratorians
3. Norms
4. Quality assurance

There was a mention that there was a need to develop policies on certain aspects. Dr. Michael Oellerich then mentioned that the Cyprus meeting should, have lectures by some of the visiting pathologists. The topics should perhaps be country specific. This idea will be persued.

5. Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine - Dr. Sun Fei

Dr. Sun Fei from Beijing, China, then joined the meeting(10:00AM). Dr. Sun Fei was introduced by Dr. Michael Oellerich. She is the General-Secretary of the Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine and Dr. Oellerich mentioned to her that henceforth all societies would be listed by name and under the region, rather than under the country. Dr. Sun Fei then spoke for a few minutes. She was happy with the regional listing of societies, rather than under a countries name. She mentioned that the CSLM was formed in 1978. It has over 30,000 members. These members include clinical pathologists and medical laboratory technologists. The Societies areas of interest cover all fields of Laboratory Medicine. The aim of the Society was to ensure a high quality of laboratory results.

The fields covered by the SCLM include microbiology, hematology, biochemistry, as well as pathology. The CSLM has good relations with the ASCP, ECP, the Japanese Society, IFCC and the APSCP.

As to why SCLM wanted to join WASPaLM: She explained that they wanted to join a society that covers all fields of laboratory medicine and hence their great interest in joining WASPaLM. She also mentioned that CSLM supports education and will be having its annual meeting on September 28 and 29, 2012. Quality assurance is one of its main initiatives. (The group represents over 200,000 laboratory professionals/Staff or has that many people working in laboratories.)

They have staff covering every part of laboratory medicine.

Governing Body: The governing body of SCLM is "nearly all physicians".

The national conference has submeetings, which cover individual areas of hematology, microbiology, biochemistry and pathology. There is, in addition, the Chinese Society of Anatomical Pathology. The membership is comprised predominantly of professionals.

It was agreed that the next Skype conference would be held on December 17, 2011 at 2:00 PM CET.

Dr. Butany had to leave the meeting at 11:45 am, to go and attend a teaching session that he was participating in (the Round Table Conferences of the ASCP). The meeting subsequently discussed the population of committees and secretariats. These details are attached in the listing of Membership of Committees and Subcommittees. The list is attached .