

ASHG Business Meeting Minutes
19 October 2018
San Diego, California

Item 1. Welcome

ASHG President David Nelson welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their membership and support of the Society.

Item 2. Moment of silence for recently deceased members

David asked the group to rise for a moment of silence in memory of AHSg members who had died since the 2017 meeting: Luigi Luca Cavalli-Sforza, Ranajit Chakraborty, Samir Deeb, Anne McKusick, Newton Morton, Arno Motulsky, Pamela Sklar, Brian Suarez, and Sandra Tho.

Item 3. Approval of minutes from 2017 business meeting

The minutes from the 2017 business meeting in Orlando were approved.

Item 4. ASHG Accomplishments

David acknowledged that ASHG is doing very well as a society and gave a brief update on highlights of the year.

- *Annual Meeting:* San Diego has turned out to be a very success meeting with fantastic attendance with over 9,000 registrants.
- *Policy & Advocacy:* This remains a high priority for ASHG. The Board approved a 3-year policy agenda, which will form the foundation for quicker action; created a new Policy and Advocacy Advisory Group to speed the Society's ability to respond to actions in policy environment and develop statements; the Society released a statement on this day about bogus and flawed attempts to link genetics and racial supremacy; increased efforts to form partnerships with the scientific community by joining the American Association for the Advancement of Science and Research!America; launched a new member advocacy engagement strategy to organize and engage our community for policy and action.
- *Membership:* Membership is tracking to be the strongest since 2012. Increased efforts to make participation in committees more widely accessible to members and more inclusive, diverse and transparent. ASHG welcomed nearly 40 new members into these roles next year.
- *Strategic Planning:* As a strong organization today and a very dynamic field, ASHG has embarked on a strategic planning effort to guide its next five years. The Board will be holding a planning session in February 2019 and the organization has been conducting major input seeking, including a first member survey in many years and sessions at this meeting. We are also going to be seeking input from committees and from field leaders across sectors and from diverse perspectives. We retitled and reformatted this year's Members Business Meeting to focus on strategic planning and receive direct input from members as well as address some questions regarding member value and challenges individuals face in their profession and the

field. David Nelson highlighted that ASHG has a tremendous legacy and great strengths to help in an era of rapid growth and change in the field.

Item 5. Treasurer's Report

ASHG Incoming Treasurer Bruce Gelb presented the treasurer's report on behalf of Treasurer Geoffrey Duyk. Bruce reported that the financial health of the Society is sound. This performance overall is due to the Society's many valued programs, wise financial management over time, and an important reserve policy to protect the Society in downturns. Bruce noted that FY2017 had been a year of transitions, and the Society experienced a one-year net operating loss of \$300K, largely due to the beginning of efforts to address deferred maintenance in organizational technology, overlapping transitions of executive staff leadership, and a new *AJHG* Editor-in-Chief. With a successful meeting underway in San Diego, strong membership and sustained journal operations, the Society expects 2018 to be net positive. He also highlighted that ASHG is taking this time to modernize its financial oversight and systems, including changing the Society's financial year from a calendar year to July-June and the formation of a new Finance and Audit Committee. Bruce also thanked Geoffrey Duyk for his many years as Treasurer and great leadership in this area.

Item 6. Editorial Report

AJHG Editor-in-Chief Bruce Korf provided a quick update on the Journal's activities. The Journal is interested in broadening the scope of what is published to include policy statements, commentaries, and broader topics such as cancer genomics and genomic medicine. He also reminded everyone that the Journal is accessible online. Due to the rising costs for printing and mailing, the Journal will charge members access to the print journal beginning January 2019. Bruce also announced the 70th anniversary *AJHG* cover contest and encouraged people to participate.

Item 7. Strategic Planning Activity

ASHG Executive Director Mona Miller explained the strategic planning activity and asked attendees to discuss at their tables questions related to ASHG's strategic planning process, including professional challenges, public engagement topics, member value and the membership community.

Item 8. Questions and New Business

David asked the audience if there are any questions or new business. A comment came from the audience related to the business meeting format and to encourage activity in the halls of the convention center to get feedback from attendees at the annual meeting. Another comment was for the nominating committee to encourage nominations for people who are not recognized and to improve diversity among awardees. A final comment on the commentaries in the Journal suggested to match forward thinkers with older thinkers since young people do not always recognize history.

Following a last call for any questions from the audience, David thanked everyone for participating and a motion to adjourn was approved.