



THE VOICE FOUNDATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Friday, May 30, 2014, 7 a.m.
The Westin Philadelphia Hotel
Director's Room

Thanks to Martha Howe for her help in taking the minutes.

In Attendance: *(Please make corrections, as our list was misplaced)*

Ken Altman; Jean Abitbol; Mara Behlau; Michael Benninger; Thomas Carroll; Molly Erickson; Mary Hawkshaw; Abdul-latif Hamdan; Christian Herbst; Shigeru Hirano; Norm Hogikyan; Michael Johns; Gwen Korowin; Denis C. Lafreniere; Charles Larson; Jeannette LoVetri; Christy Ludlow; Nicholas Maragos; David Meyer; Claudio Milstein; Thomas Murry; Michael Pitman; Adam Rubin; Lucille Rubin; Maria Russo; Robert Sataloff; Ronald Scherer; Donna Snow; Nancy Solomon; Johan Sundberg; Harvey Tucker; Gayle Woodson; Edwin Yiu

Meeting called to order by Dr. Johns at 7:10 a.m.

Introductions around the room

- **Welcome and Introduction: (Johns)**
 - Introducing new template for consistency in the reports, short and transparent, you can add addendum.
 - These will be posted on the website.
 - Welcome to new AB members.
 - Thomas Carroll
 - Christian Herbst
 - Michael Pitman
 - (UPDATE: Rahul Shrivastav and Donna Snow)
 - Symposium reservations are generally up, but down in number of days people are attending **(UPDATE: 427 Registrations)**
 - Working on how to get new people here.
 - Many *new* attendees **(155 first time attendees)**, including some surgeons.]
- **Realization of 2013 Advisory Board Suggestions**
 - ***Goal I: Videos***
 - **Videos:** We have three up so far, and adding the Stroboscars from 2012. It should help draw people to the site.

- Scherer: Does that mean that old videos are available to stream?
- Sataloff: Those that people are not still buying a lot are going on line. [Story of saving early high-speed videos that are now available, rescuing them from the trash trucks].
- Scherer: Wants a list of what is up on-line for free
- Scherer: Does that mean that old videos are available to stream?
 - **Maria: Yes**

- ***Goal II: Rejuvenate the physician draw***

- A.Rubin: Sent email to fellowship directors, to encourage them to send their fellows here, working on more medically oriented topics. Laryngology fellows get registration for free.
 - *We definitely have more physicians this year.
 - In 2014 - Physicians: 65 (42 full, 23 daily)
 - *Continuing with the "**Young**" **physicians group** and the safe environment for discussion, with a specific event.
 - *Strobe-oscars are back, and will be presented every other year
 - *Medical panels are good in that they get physicians and SLPs together and draw on both of those groups.
 - Residents are considered students for Registration?
 - Yes (\$150 for the week, early registration)
 - Can we pull more physicians earlier in the week?
 - No, they still come in on Friday. Trying to get them in for more surgically oriented workshops. Submit a workshop?

- **Committee Reports**

- ***Website Report:*** Committee: David Meyer, Chair, Mara Behlau, Mike Johns, Norm Hogikyan, Lisa Popeil
 - Our site has switched over from the previous dubious site. There is a lot of content to be gotten on the site, and the recommendation is that we have a real webmaster to take the burden off of Maria.
 - How to pay is a question, and possibly a young fellow could do this as a volunteer and be given free Symposium as "payment"?
 - Shall we put out a question to see who is interested in doing this? It is becoming a very important post, and we need consistency, we could add membership to this board.
 - NATS is making a big push to make their website more current. VOCA-PEDIA as a Wiki format for voice is opening. Is TVF interested in being involved in this?
 - Should we have links, cross-links to TVF? There is a review board of the content for VP, and people cannot freely edit. The info is housed on the NATS site.

- Can we encourage them to link back to our videos and educational info?
 - Can we invite a voice science member of NATS to our Board?
 - Yes, maybe put this on our next agenda cross-pollination
- **New Investigator's Research Forum:** Molly Erickson, Chair, Sten Ternstroem, Harvey Tucker, Gayle Woodson
 - She has been taking notes to send out to the participants
 - How do we make the selections?
 - Does the committee want to do that? R. Sataloff and Kathy Cox were doing the sorting historically, but are happy to have the selections done by the committee.
 - There was a third paper that was interesting and had lots of merit; feels that they should get feedback
 - What about a mentors group?
 - Are people interested in discussing this as a goal for the year?
 - How hard is it to get participating reviewers?
 - Looking for people with specific skill sets
 - New Investigator Forum is for unfinished projects, with the idea that they can be tweaked.
 - Interested investigators submit an outline and then the paper.
 - Could we open to more?
 - It is a time problem.
 - This is where the mentoring could take over, and give them more feedback.
 - **What about a session during the day, instead of at 7am?**
 - Sataloff: they benefit from hearing the other papers.
 - **Shall we do parallel tracks with fewer reviewers of each project? (Concurrent sessions?)**
 - Maybe breakout sessions for "How do you survive the storm?" How do you pay the checks and still get your project done? This is probably a good thing to look at again, as a panel, or possibly a Friday morning session
- **Presentation Outreach Report:** Donna Snow, Chair, Maria Russo, Co-Chair, Lucille Rubin, Jeannette LoVetri, Dan McCabe
 - This past year had a lot of work on World Voice Day, Somatic events in different locations with Jeanie LoVetri where she has promoted TVF in different locations throughout the country, and she has people who are presenting here.
 - Audio immersion, which is the opposite of "The Method"

- Maria has been working on social media and organized World Voice Day events here, at schools where the arts have been cut. It was hugely successful.
- Lucille working with professionals in the voice-over community, also finding out what they are actually using, what do the directors want and need? It has become very open recently
- Lucille and Donna have been working on the speaking voice coaches to do workshops, and they are happening.
- Brainstorming ~ Estill, working on teachers voices in Asia,
- Accent Reduction Coaching at Symposium:
 - Working on accent reduction as a title -- modification? Neutralization?
 - Is it too sudden, being there on Wednesday?
 - Maybe a list of words which tend to be mispronounced? This could be on the website.
 - Coaches offering their Skype address? Or presenters make a YouTube for comments?
- The community of teachers has the most vocal problems. After contacting 3,000 for a 2013 event, we had 15 participants. But we need to give the teachers some sort of credit to get them to show up on a Saturday
 - Next year: Problems on the job that singing teachers have -- maybe scenarios? Should we send out a questionnaire of what the problems are?
- Suggestion for workshops: Put non-performers center stage at AVA for experience?
- **Young Physicians Report:** Adam Rubin, Chair, Mona Abaza, Ken Altman, Shigeru Hirano, Mike Johns, Robert Ossoff
 - 2013 meeting was very successful .
 - This year Maria has ordered lunch for the attendees.
 - **UPDATE: The meeting had 17 attendees**
- **Chapter Development:**
 - How to support the chapters financially? Bank accounts have been set up and are functioning. Not large, but functioning.
 - ***One new issue concerns deciding who will cover the account charges? Is TVF covering? Does it come out of what goes back to the chapters?***
 - We have 5 chapters, 4 in the US and Lebanon.
 - There is a lot of interest in creating more chapters.
 - On the website, do we have a How-To?
 - Yes.
 - Should we add a promo on there that a portion of your dues goes back to help support the local chapter?

- It is already in practice
 - All that we are adding keeps piling on top of Maria, and a committee needs to write a protocol and take it through committee.
 - Develop the protocol for creating a local chapter
 - The chapters need to take responsibility
 - What has been working? Seattle is the most active.
 - Ask the local committee to post on the main website so that good ideas can be shared.
 - It seems to need a good strong Dr involved, have a good place to meet, do you need to pay for the venue?
- **International Outreach Report** Ron Baken, Chair, Mara Behlau, David Howard, Edwin Yiu, Diane Bless, Chuck Larson
 - Advancing this in China, at the Central Conservatory of Music, but things will take time and will require multiple meetings.
 - Suggests increased cooperation and coordination with the US, establishment of overseas branches of TVF,
 - Maybe the Hamdan Award should give an edge to young, developing countries?
 - Molly's student Amanda: Peace Corps recruiter -- collecting data from Africa on ENT, SLPs etc.
 - Lack of doctors and training, one or two health professionals in an entire country. The ones who are there are coming from outside, from other countries. Meanwhile a continuing growing population of those with vocal problems.
 - Very concerned about West Africa, Sub-Sahara
 - Trying to involve as many Dr.s in this organization as possible.
 - There are a few people going to train -- need to get her on the committee (?)
- **International Chapters** Abdul-latif Hamdan, Chair, John Rubin, Edwin Yiu
 - Restraints in China -- legal and lack of chapters -- what strategies to get around these obstacles? Should we go ahead and develop the alliances? There will be overlaps. Financial restraints
 - Maybe we need a different structure for International chapters? Talk off-line.
 - Initiatives to form international chapters:
 - (Milstein) Argentina: interest but financial limitations
 - (Hamdan) Syria and Jordan...without success
 - (Jiang) assessing possibility in China
- **Award Committees: Hamdan Award, Shrivastav, Chair - Sataloff**
 - Hard to tell who had completed their paper, not just an abstract. It was unclear.

- Procedure clarification: We need the "I now submit the paper [title] to you" for the [name of award] award.
 - ***New Committees: Symposium Program Improvement committee***
 - Tom Murray, Chair
- ***New Business***
 - Johns: Telephone conference call in 4-6 months to get the committees moving and focused. Look for the request.
 - Committees: If you are not on a committee, ask to be included. (Shrivastav, Carroll, Pitman?)
 - Advisory Board: What are the terms? Not term limits, if someone is doing well, their term can keep moving forward.
 - Vote
 - Next Meeting in 2015 will start at 6:45
 - Please RSVP so Maria can know how many chairs and how much food.
 - Next year, no RSVP, no food.
 - We lost Gareth Nair -- a pedagogy award to encourage voice teachers to be here?
- **Meeting adjourned at 8:10am (Johns)**

Next Meeting: May 29, 2015, 6:45am

From Maria: THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND EFFORTS IN 2013 - 2014 and for your work in the upcoming year!

TASKS:

Website ACTIONS:

WHO: Meyer, Maria

- Add members to the committee?
 - - Total 2 representatives from VF Medical Faculty
 - - Total 2 representatives from SLP Faculty
 - - Total 2 representatives from Voice Pedagogy Faculty
- Prepare a **list of videos** that are on-line for free. (Ron wants this)
- Recommendation for a **webmaster** to take the burden off of Maria. Possibly a young person could do this as a volunteer and be given the Symposium as "payment"?
- Put out a **query for interest** in this position?
- It is important to have **consistency**.

VOCA-PEDIA ACTIONS:

WHO: ?

(housed on the NATS website):

- Should TVF **share cross-links** to TVF videos and educational info?
- At the next meeting, **discuss inviting** a voice science member of NATS to our Board?

New Investigators ACTIONS:

WHO: AB vote?

- Possibly **parallel tracks** with fewer reviewers on each track? Concurrent sessions
- Should the return of **mentoring groups** be discussed?
- Possibly a panel or breakout session for "**How do you survive the storm?**"

Development of Local Chapters ACTIONS:

WHO: Maria, Chapter officers, Form committee

- Who will pay the **bank fees** on the chapter accounts? (Board of Directors question?)
- A committee needs to develop the **protocol** for creating a local chapter
 - **Form committee**
- Seattle is an excellent **template**
- Request that the local chapters **post on the main website** to share good ideas.

Development of International Chapters ACTIONS:

WHO: The committee

- Discuss a different structure for International chapters. Talk off-line.

Presentation Outreach ACTIONS:

WHO: Donna Snow, Maria Coaching committee?

- Change **title** from "Accent Reduction" to modification or neutralization?
- Post on the **website** a list of words that tend to be mis-pronounced?
 - Form Coaching committee to make list
- The day before seems too short for change. Coaches offering their **Skype** address?
- Presenters make a **You Tube** for comments?
- **Topic for next year:** Problems on the job that singing teachers have -- maybe scenarios
- Should we send out a **questionnaire** of what the problems are?
- Put non-performers on **center stage** at AVA for experience?

International Chapter ACTIONS:

WHO:

- Looking to establish more **overseas chapters** of TVF
- What strategies to get around **legal constraints** and obstacles in China?
- Should we go ahead and develop the **alliances**?
- Do overseas chapters need a **different structure**?

Awards – Hamdan/Sataloff-New Investigators ACTIONS:

WHO:

- There needs to be a "This paper is now submitted" **designation** to know it is done.
- Consider a **pedagogy award** to encourage voice teachers to be here?
- Further refine criteria for judging?