Indian Immunology Society

Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting (GBM) held on 29.01.2007

The annual GBM of the Society was held at 7:00PM on 29.01.2007 at AIIMS, New Delhi, during the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Society.

The President of the Society, Dr. Kanury V. S. Rao, was in the Chair

The following decisions were taken:

1. Minutes of the last GBM were approved.

2. Induction of Dr. Shubhada Chiplunkar for the Vice President of the Society was accepted. The GBM also accepted the induction of Dr. B. Ravindran as a member of the EC and also decided to appoint Dr. S. Patil of NIMHANS, Bangalore as another member of the expanded EC.

3. The format of Annual General Meeting was discussed and the following were accepted as the general guidelines:
   It was reiterated that while the overall organization and conduct of the Annual Meetings (AM) should remain prerogative of the Organizing Secretary, a provision should be made for an EC meeting on the eve of the AM of IIS, and for GBM of the Society on the second day of the AM; further, the AM should include in its programme appropriate time slots for the following:
   (i). CME Course on Day 0 of the meeting;
   (ii). Senior Scientist Oration Award presentation on the morning of the Day 01 of the meeting;
   (iii). Oral Presentations for the GPT Young Scientist Award on the morning of Day 02 of the meeting,
   (iv). Valedictory/Award giving ceremony on Day 03 of the meeting,
   (v). Speakers should largely be drawn from the membership of the Society,
   (vi). “Brain storming session” should be allotted sufficient time (from 90-120 minutes) for a meaningful discussion to evolve on the selected theme.
   (vii). Poster session should preferably be not combined with lunch break or tea break, as far as possible. The Poster session must enjoy a place of pride in the meeting, with its own designated time slot so as to encourage extended interaction between the interested participants.

4. There was a detailed discussion on the structure and format of CME programme. It was emphasized that CME was a teaching programme aimed primarily at imparting knowledge about fundamental principles of Immunology to students of B.Sc., M.Sc, and/or MBBS courses, largely drawn from the local community.
The CME delegates may or may not attend the main event, *i.e.*, the Annual Meeting. It was resolved that there should be a basic framework or syllabus of teaching for the CME in place as soon as possible, making use of the information already collected by the Academic Sub Committee of the Society. It was also resolved to make an all out effort to fulfill the long-standing requests of various Universities for holding additional CME courses at their respective venues, independent of the AM.

5. Subsequent to detailed deliberations, the GBM decided to have a fixed calendar for the Society Elections so that the process of casting votes/ballots is completed by the month of October; the counting of votes should be carried out on the first day of the Annual Meeting generally held in the month of December. The next election of office bearers should be held in 2008. The following guidelines should be observed:
   1. The entire list of nominations should be circulated to the members
   2. In the event of unopposed election of any office-bearer, the same should be clearly notified when the ballots are sent to the members
   3. Ballots must be placed in an unmarked envelope within another envelope addressed to the Election Officer.

6. The outgoing Treasurer of the Society, Prof. D.N. Rao, presented the audited Annual Statement of Accounts of the Society; the GBM adopted the statement of accounts as presented.

7. Dr. Madhuri Thakar of National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune, made a formal proposal on behalf of Dr. Ramesh Paranjape, for holding the 34th Annual Meeting of the Society at Pune in December 2007. The proposal was greeted with unanimous approval by the GBM. Dr. Madhuri Thakar was requested to finalize the dates of the meeting ASAP and convey it to the EC / Secretary.

8. Mr. Ravikiran, The Editor of the Students Newsletter presented a brief report. The GBM placed on record its appreciation for his commendable effort towards making this newsletter a reality. The GBM also suggested that the possibility of putting archives of this newsletter on the IIS website should be explored/implemented.

9. The GBM also took note of the written request sent by Prof. Usha of Institute of Medical Sciences, BHU, Varanasi, to hold the Annual Meeting of the Indian Immunology Society, at Varanasi in the year 2009.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the President.