

Minutes of General Body Meeting held during 44th Annual conference of Indian Immunology Society at NIRMA University

Minutes of GBM meeting

Proceedings:

The meeting was chaired by Dr DN Rao, President, and Indian Immunology Society. It was co-chaired by Dr Alpana Sharma, treasurer and Dr Kaustuv Nayak Joint Secretary.

The hard copies of the secretary report, the audit report and the minutes of GBM held during 43rd Immunocon at GITAM University were circulated. They were formally passed by the GBM.

Few of the members pointed out the mistakes in the names on the website. This was recorded for further action.

The agenda was circulated among the members present.

The General body congratulated Dr Sarat Dalai and his team for the flawless conduct of Immunocon. The members discussed the hosting of 45th Annual meeting of IIS. It was announced that Dr Amit Awasthi, THSTI, Faridabad will host the meeting. Dr Amit also informed the members that Dr Rafi Ahmed and Dr Vijay Kuchroo have agreed to give a talk at the 45th Immunocon. As a back-up for 45th Immunocon Dr Rao will talk to Dr Rasool, VIT, Vellore.

The GBM discussed the ideas as to how can the money deposited for IT return be recovered as we are a non-profit organisation and with GST what will be new procedures? Many members pointed out that many companies and individuals can be approached for one time donation and the requisite forms like 80G needs to be processed. They also pointed out that corporates could be approached for CSR donation. More avenues should be looked into to tap CSR money.

The members discussed the methods to use the interest from the corpus funds. Dr Uma Kanga initiated a discussion as to how to recover the 10 % from the registration money from every year's IIS organisers.

The membership issue was discussed and methods to update the same. Members complained that they were not receiving regular emails. To This Dr Kaustuv requested them to update their latest contact details in the google sheet that has been created on the website. Dr Kaustuv then explained the use of the google sheet to all the members.

The members did not approve a renewal fee every 3 years but the GMB has approved the hiking of IIS membership fees to Rs 4000 from the existing Rs 2500. This will take effective from 1st April 2018.

Dr Gowri Shankar requested the use of alternate E mail, if a member was not responding to his/her original email To this Dr Kaustuv explained the negative impact of two emails on the server that would offer two voting rights to the members when the online elections are held. Dr Gowri Shankar made a point that all members should receive an email regarding all meetings. To this Dr Dao responded with the fact that this is what is being done always.

The members discussed the methods to bring forward to make any amendments in the constitution. Dr Sainis wanted to know as to why we need to change the constitution. Dr Pawan Sharma made a point that all previous amendments were approved and have come into force without any hurdles.

Dr Sa wanted to know when the online election are conducted, who will have the privilege to see the mails and who will not. To this the chair, responded with the fact that only the election commissioner will have the privilege to see the mail.

Dr Sarat Dalai agreed to conduct the IIS election in 2018 as the election commissioner with the help from Dr Pawan Sharma as an advisor. Members made a point that any election related travel that Dr Dalai makes will be taken care by IIS. Dr Rao and Dr Sharma responded that Dr Dalai could do all this from NIRMA itself.

Members were informed regarding the FOCIS meeting to be held at San Francisco, USA in June 2018. Indian Immunology Society's proposal to host the symposium, 'Targeting Immune response: Synergistic therapeutic strategies', at FOCIS 2018, to be held at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis, USA (June 20-23, 2018), and were requested to submit their abstract if interested to participate. They were also informed that the participants will have to take care of their expenses.

The GBM felt that the committee that was constituted at GITAM GBM for looking into the constitution should come into immediate effect. All suggestions should be mailed to all members. The amendments should not be done in a haste and ample time should be given to members to respond.

Most Important decision made

1. Enhancement of Membership fee from 2500 INR to 4000 INR