

TSRA Executive Committee Minutes

AATS - Boston

Date: May 10, 2009

Call to Order: 12:10 EST

TSRA Representatives Present: Bret Mettler, Sreekumar Subramanian, Joseph Turek, Rishi Reddy, Brett Reece, Netu Sarkaria, Daniel Fortes, Patrick Myers (European representative for Matthias Siepe)

TSDA Representatives Present: Walter Merrill, Beth Winer (staff)

Absentia: Chad Denlinger, Faraz Kerendi, John Stulak, Peter Ellman

Moderator: Bret Mettler

Discussion:

- 1. Approval of Previous Minutes.** Minutes approved for STS meeting.
- 2. AATS Luncheon.** Well-advertised this year. “New Paradigm in CT Surgery: 6=10.” Need to continue to advertise both societal luncheons in future years in order to maintain TSRA control of these important opportunities.
- 3. Survey.** 2009 survey results are available online. TSRA members should start thinking about content for the 2010 survey. There was a brief discussion of the content. In particular, there were different views on the value of the “free text” component of the survey. It was also mentioned that the use of the TSDA curriculum (tsda@tsda.org) was lower than expected. Overall, it was felt by the members that the TSDA curriculum is worthwhile, but has some pitfalls. Specifically, certain content is not functional, the topics do not coincide with institutional curricula, and the ability to search archives by topic is not available. The question was raised as to whether the TSRA should draft a stance on the use of the TSDA curriculum.
- 4. Database.** The committee acknowledged the hard work of Brett Reece on this project. However, it has been difficult to get responses. It was mentioned that many programs do not want to advertise over fear of being inundated with inquiries. Dr. Merrill mentioned that he would speak with the TSDA about assisting in this endeavor. In the meantime, we will continue to contact programs as we have been doing.
- 5. Subcommittees.** Rishi reported that the Joint Council will likely be looking for resident representation on the following subcommittees: Recruitment, Simulation, Faculty Development.
- 6. AAMC Representation.** See letter authored by Dan Fortes and Peter Ellman in this regard (distributed at meeting). This letter suggested that the TSRA “voice is

lost within the noise of the majority.” After a significant discussion, it was decided to keep two representatives on the committee for fear of losing any foothold that we might have in this group.

- 7. Executive Committee Representation.** TSRA members were encouraged to think about the manner in which we select executive committee members. Currently, the organization is top heavy, leaving a dearth of experience for next year. We need to consider selecting a mix of 1st and 2nd year representatives. We need to consult the bylaws to see if this needs to be done via a change in the bylaws.
- 8. Institute of Medicine Report.** Refer to IOM report in meeting materials. The TSDA response to this report is also available in TSRA Executive Committee meeting materials. Bret Mettler will be drafting a TSRA response to the IOM report which will be available for editing by members.
- 9. New Business.** Dr. Merrill encourages TSRA members to consider submitting a letter to New Horizons.

Meeting Time: 50 min.

Adjourned by Bret Mettler at 13:00 EST.