

## NTSS Officers Meeting Minutes

Present G. Miller, S Lasley, K Rafaele, S. Schantz, V Fitsanakis, C Newland, T. Shafer, K Steinmetz, M. Ehrlich, D Drechsel

### 1 Welcome new Officers:

Gary Miller; Vanessa Fitsanakis; New terms begin May 1.

Duties (cut and paste from other doc)

New duty for councilors- Council wants write-ups of various topics of interest (paragraph) to the general public that will be posted on the website. SOT communications will edit and post. Want something by Jun 15; will be sending a request in next few weeks.

### 2. Review potential for new Student and post-Doc reps.

No volunteers to date. Will make another announcement at NTSS meeting. Check with post-doc assembly

### 3. Sec/Treas Report.

Discussed possibility of supporting undergraduate students with travel awards. Vanessa will follow-up.

Possibility of an endowment fund; need \$12,500 to start an endowment. Society won't match until 12.5K is matched. Officers will talk with NTSS members at meeting on Wed. Plan long term and discuss on next conference call.

### 4. Comments on 2009 SOT meeting:

a) overall highlight sheet

b) Meeting with Plenary speaker went well and was beneficial. Will do again in future

c) SS officers meeting on Monday evening

Want comments on website

Strategic plan is put together.

Will have another meeting in the summer to talk about issues related to SS

Sue and Steve will attend

New Liaisons committee- have a list of key societies; add some contacts for other neuroscience societies.- Dennis Choi at Emory has been heavily involved in SFN and would be a good person to get more involved in SOT

d) Abstract Contest; judging was tough; Top 5 were selected; Two awardees have talks and 2 posters on Thursday. Discussion on how to continue this award. Need to increase the number of abstracts submitted and decrease the number of multiple submissions from the same lab. Steve Lasley will look into history of competition more and the issue will be revisited. Will have phone conference later in summer.

Student competition- went well yesterday. 19 submissions, one postdoc submission did not show. Clear winners in each category. 3 students; one postdoc. Chris Newland will pass package on how to run competition. Student rep can be very helpful in competition. Derek was very helpful. Encourage judges to spread scores. Would be good idea to acknowledge Judges at NTSS meeting. Will try to give students some individual feedback after scoring is done.

Suggestion that student should enter only if they are first author on the poster. Ask that first place winners not reapply.

7. Submissions for 2010 program- Sue Schantz is in charge.

Low attendance at Parkinson's – may be due to location of symposium. NTSS was very successful in 2009. 12 submissions wanted primary sponsorship

8. NTSS web site review:

9. Nominating committee- Chris Newland is chair.

Need to have a Conference call towards end of summer.

Action items:

Steve- need to decide what to do with abstract competition  
Kathleen and Vanessa will be working on posting for website.