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**American Brain Foundation  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Friday, March 18, 2016  
Held via Teleconference**

**Call to order:** Friday, March 18, 2016 at 9:03 a.m. (Central) by Kevin Goodno, Chair. A quorum was present.

**In attendance:** Kevin P. Goodno, Chair; Robert C. Griggs, MD; Ralph Józefowicz, MD; Jane Ransom; Jeffrey Rosenfeld, MD; Catherine Rydell, CAE; Martin Shenkman, CPA; Lisa M. Shulman, MD; Thomas R. Swift, MD; Ben Utecht

**Staff:** John Hutchins, JD, General Counsel; Timothy Engel, CPA, CFO; Suzi Sherman

**Excused:** Terrence L. Cascino, MD, FAAN; John C. Mazziotta, MD, PhD, FAAN; Joseph Sirven, MD, FAAN; A. Gordon Smith, MD FAAN; Lauren Ross; Marlys Weyandt

**Guests:** Lisa DeAngelis; Kris Fridgen; Christine Phelps

**1. Board Chair Report:** Mr. Goodno welcomed everyone and discussed the agenda for the meeting.

**Minutes:** Minutes from February 18, 2016 were reviewed.

**MOTION** to approve the ABF Board minutes from February 18, 2016.  
**Approved** (unanimous).

Mr. Goodno asked if there were any conflicts of interest and none were indicated.

**2. AAN Research Career Development Plan:** The purpose of this update is to share information across organizations so the ABF can take the AAN's programs into account as we develop our own strategic plan. The ABF Board is not being asked to weigh in on the AAN's program plan.

Dr. DeAngelis presented the plan to the ABF Board and started by providing background information to how the Science Committee got to this point – see slides 6-8 of powerpoint.

As seen on slide 9, there is a significant gap between the number of applicants and the number of fellowships awarded each year. Science Committee would like to try and meet the demand.

1 For the coming year, the committee is proposing to have the AANI expand its  
2 support of research. Recommending to change the names from “Fellowship”  
3 to “Scholarship” and also add two new awards: Neurology Research Training  
4 Scholars (NRTS) and Career Development Award (CDA) for Junior Faculty.

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6 Slide 11 provides a breakdown of funded awards over the next 2 years by  
7 funding source.

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9 Proposed awards would be for physician investigators only, not for PhD  
10 neuroscientists. Envision the CRTS (formerly CRTF) program would stay the  
11 same, which at this point supports some aspects of translational research. The  
12 NRTS or CDA would support translational work, but could require laboratory work  
13 as well. The RFA’s are still being developed but envision them being open to  
14 any topic/discipline.

15  
16 By 2018, it will take an increase from \$500,000 (now) to about \$1.8M for this  
17 program, so increment of \$1.3M. CDA is a much larger award, it’s a 3 year award  
18 at \$150,000/year. Awardees will not be allowed to hold a CDA and K award  
19 simultaneously. Goal is to grow into what the CRTS (formerly CRTF) program is  
20 today.

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22 The ABF and AANI will continue to collaborate on funding for this program. There  
23 **will not** be competition between the organizations for funding.

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25 **3. Executive Director Report:** Ms. Ransom requested the Board’s vote to approve  
26 a revised spending policy that was created to provide an easy understanding of  
27 how donor’s dollars will be used. New policy states:

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29 *The ABF will spend a minimum of 5% of the average annual fair market value of*  
30 *each endowment fund, for the prior 12 quarters. Spending available for each fund*  
31 *will be used to cover grant distributions and ABF’s administrative fee of no more*  
32 *than 1% of the principal.*

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34 **MOTION** to approve the revised spending policy. **Approved** (unanimous).

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36 **Annual Meeting:** Ms. Ransom provided an overview of all of the ABF’s activities  
37 taking place during the Annual Meeting and invites board members to join her at  
38 any of the events.

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40 She also encourages board members to invite new guests to the Commitment to  
41 Cures event to increase awareness about the ABF.

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43 **Fund Development:** The ABF is in the process of joining multiple workplace  
44 giving campaigns, over 300 private, corporate, state, and federal campaigns.

45  
46 Still evaluating whether or not to repeat the Standing Strong event this fall.  
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1 **4. Committee Reports:**

- 2 • **Executive Committee:** Mr. Goodno reported that the committee is  
3 developing an incentive plan for ABF staff that will be presented to the  
4 board at a future meeting.
- 5
- 6 • **Governance Committee:** Mr. Goodno reported that the committee will  
7 present a policy that clarifies the board member term limit outlined in the  
8 bylaws and a proposal to align the expiration of terms at the next Board  
9 meeting.
- 10
- 11 • **Strategic Planning Committee:** Dr. Shulman reported that the committee  
12 will be meeting in person on March 25 in Minneapolis with the goal to  
13 integrate the reports on the philanthropic assessment, business model  
14 assessment, and program funding report. Hope to have a draft of a strategic  
15 plan that will be presented to the board on April 17, 2016 in Vancouver.
- 16
- 17 • **Research Advisory Committee:** Dr. Griggs reported that the committee will  
18 be meeting in person on April 16, 2016 in Vancouver and will discuss the  
19 Science Committee's report.

20

21 Reminded that the Board's fiduciary responsibility is to track how much is being  
22 spent on programming vs. administration. Mr. Engel will provide this information  
23 compared to prior year and what was projected in the budget on a rolling basis.  
24

25 For 2016, the estimated projections are 70-75% are related to programming  
26 expenses and 25-30% are related to administrative expenses.  
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29 **Meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m. CST.**

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