



AMERICAN BRAIN FOUNDATION
 Research Advisory Committee
 March 22, 2019
 3:00 p.m. EST/2:00 p.m. CST/1:00 p.m. MST/12:00 p.m. PST

Call-in number: 866-740-1260
 Access code: 9286317

Committee Members

Robert Griggs, MD, Chair; Raymond Roos, MD, Vice Chair; Carsten Bonnemann, MD; Jose E. Cavazos, MD; Merit Cudkowicz, MD; James Grotta, MD; Mark Mehler, MD; John Morris, MD; Ralph Sacco, MD; Ira Shoulson, MD; Eugene Scharf, MD; Sue Rodmyre; Natalia Rost, MD; Christy Phelps, Deputy ED AAN; Catherine Rydell, CAE; Phyllis C. Zee, MD

Staff

Suzi Johnson, Jane Ransom, Natalie Baumgartner

AGENDA ITEM

PRESENTED BY

2 min

1. Approve January 25, 2019 Minutes (pg. 2)

Dr. Griggs

10 min

2. Mendell Prize

Jane Ransom

5 min

3. Research Program Breakfast at Annual Meeting

Suzi Johnson

Adjourn

Other updates to note:

- Stop by the ELA Research Stage at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 9 at 12:00pm to support Dr. Jeffrey Rosenfeld who is presenting on what the American Brain Foundation is and the work it does.
- A very brief discussion about the Foundation's research program strategy took place at the February Board meeting, in which the Board expressed a desire to fund cross-cutting research. A more detailed debrief will be provided during our May committee call.



**American Brain Foundation
Research Advisory Committee Meeting
January 25, 2019**

**3:00 p.m. ET/ 2:00 p.m. CT/ 1:00 p.m. MT/ 12:00 p.m. PT
Conference Call**

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Robert Griggs, MD, Chair; Raymond Roos, MD, Vice Chair; Jose Cavazos, MD; Merit Cudkowicz, MD; James Grotta, MD; Mark Mehler, MD; Ralph Sacco, MD; Eugene Scharf, MD; Phyllis Zee, MD

Staff: Jane Ransom, Suzi Johnson, Natalie Baumgartner

Excused: Carsten Bonnemann, MD; John Morris, MD; Christy Phelps, Deputy ED AAN; Sue Rodmyre, Director ED AAN; Natalia Rost, M; Ira Shoulson, MD

Dr. Roos welcomed the Drs. Cavazos, Grotta, and Zee to the Committee.

1. **MOTION:** Approve the Meeting Minutes of November 30, 2018.

Approved. *(Unanimous)*

2. **Science Committee Presentation:** Ms. Ransom walked the Committee through the presentation made to the AAN's Science Committee by herself and Dr. Griggs. The Committee agreed that the LBD award is a good example of how partnerships with other organizations could be formed. They felt that the Foundation needs to more proactively show the impact that CRTS/CSDAs are having on trainees, career development, and research in the field. The Foundation needs to make sure that every grantee understands that the Foundation is a primary funder, and the Foundation needs to be more visible, whether publicizing the contributions of CRTS recipients, or highlighting statistics of who has gone on to receive NIH funded.

Building off of the LBD project model, in the future the Foundation could consider forming consortiums of institutions around particular diseases to develop research projects. This might overcome neurologists' conflict of needing to raise money for their institution rather than for the Foundation. The Foundation might consider tapping into the AAN's sections, association, or private practice practitioners with no institutional affiliation. Ms. Ransom and Ms. Johnson will consider attending meetings that focus on patients and neuroscientists.

The Foundation should consider how to best position the LBD Research Award as a "product".

The Foundation will recognize their CRTS/CSDA recipients at the Annual Meeting Research Program Breakfast on the Tuesday of the meeting. All the new trainees will be introduced and present for 2-3 minutes. There is also an alumni reunion that this Committee should consider attending to make the Foundation more visible. We are also considering having one trainee at each Commitment to Cures table.

3. **Research Program Update:** Sixteen commitments have been signed by funders for the 2020 awards. There have been commitments to fund 17 scholarships in 2019 due to a lack of quality within Muscular Dystrophy because an applicant was found, but the Muscular Dystrophy Association refused the applicant. There were 167 applicants this year, which shows the demand for these awards.

The Committee agreed that the increased pool of applicants positions the Foundation to cultivate award recipients as advocates. The Committee agreed that 2020 awards need to focus on marketing heavily for the ALS and Muscular Dystrophy awards to bring in the best and brightest applicants. The AAN Sections could be utilized to spread the word about these awards.

Dr. Griggs recommended that the Muscular Dystrophy awardee rewrite their application or explain why they deserve the award.

Adjourn 2:52 p.m. (Central).