



**American Brain Foundation
Governance Committee Meeting
September 20, 2021
9:00 a.m. CT
Video Conference Call**

In attendance: Shafali Jeste, MD, Chair; Kevin Goodno; Frances Jensen, MD; Susan Schneider Williams, BFA; Alyx Porter, MD; Mary Post; David Dodick, MD

Staff: Jane Ransom, ED

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. CT by Dr. Shafali Jeste.

The Governance Committee meeting minutes of August 9, 2021 were approved unanimously.

Second Neurologist Board Member for 2022

Dr. Dodick discussed the meeting he and Jane Ransom had with Dr. John Noseworthy about joining the ABF Board. Dr. Noseworthy considered the invitation very carefully and thoroughly, but ultimately decided he did not have the time to take on the commitment. Dr. Dodick pointed out the influence, connections, and expertise that Dr. Noseworthy would have brought to the ABF Board. In thinking about those factors, he suggested that Drs. Sanjay Gupta and Stephen Hauser are on the same level and suggested approaching them.

There was some concern that both would have conflicts of interest and that Gupta, given what a public media figure he is, might take public positions that we don't agree with. Everyone agreed that Dr. Hauser would make a great board member, but there was concern about the appearance of giving him our Scientific Breakthrough Award while he was a sitting board member.

Kevin Goodno discussed the need for continued attention to diversifying the ABF Board and suggested that in the future the ABF might consider increasing the size of the Board to support its diversity agenda.

There was also discussion of losing the only child neurologist on the Board when Dr. Jeste completes her term at the end of the year.

The committee reviewed short-listed neurology candidates for the Board and ultimately decided that we should invite Dr. Erika Augustine to join the Board now, while continuing to cultivate Dr. Hauser with the idea of recruiting him later.

Establishing an ABF Advisory Council

Jane Ransom reviewed an outline for an Advisory Council whose purpose would be to keep former board members and awardees engaged with the Foundation. She pointed out that former awardees could include people like Dr. Gupta or Dr. Hauser. Also, we could include former Clinical Research Training Scholarship (CRTS) recipients. The issue is how broad a membership the Council should have. Committee members should think about this issue for discussion at the next meeting.

Dr. Jeste adjourned the meeting at 9:36 a.m.