



**AMERICAN BRAIN FOUNDATION**  
 Governance Committee  
 July 28, 2022  
 10:00am CST  
 Virtual Meeting

Attendees:	James Grotta, MD, Chair; Frances Jensen, MD; Alyx Porter, MD; Mary Post; David Dodick, MD
Staff	Jane Ransom, Executive Director; Kim Howard, Samantha Ross

	AGENDA ITEM <i>*Indicates Board Action Needed</i>	PRESENTED BY
10:00am CT	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of the April 28, 2022 and June 2, 2022 Minutes</li> </ul>	James Grotta, MD, Chair
10:05	<b>Board Recruitment Status Report</b>	Committee Members
10:30	<b>Other Recruitment Issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research Advisory Committee</li> <li>2024 Board Officers</li> </ul>	Jane Ransom
11:00	<b>Meeting adjourns</b>	James Grotta, MD, Chair

**Other Materials:**

- Draft Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2022 (page 2)
- Draft Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2022 (page 4)
- Board Recruitment Status Report (page 5)
- Research Advisory Committee Term Expiration Roster (page 6)



**American Brain Foundation  
Governance Committee Meeting  
April 28, 2022  
10:00 a.m. CST  
Video Conference Call**

**In attendance:** James Grotta, MD, Chair; Frances Jensen, MD; Alyx Porter, MD; Mary Post;

**Excused:** David Dodick, MD

**Staff:** Jane Ransom, ED; Kim Howard, Samantha Ross

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The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. CST by Dr. James Grotta.

The Governance Committee meeting minutes of February 2, 2022 were approved unanimously.

Ad Hoc Committee on Conflict of Interest – Presented by James Grotta

- We're still looking at wording for our Conflict of Interest statement, needing to include financial, goal orientation, and diversity issues. Are board members taking part in activities that are in conflict with the ABF's goals?
- Jim and Sean Sansiveri are working on a subcommittee covering this. A meeting to discuss the drafted policy will take place prior to the upcoming Board Meeting in May.
- Procedure will be part of the discussion.
- Policy can be sent to the Governance committee via email for approval prior to the Board Meeting.

2022 Board Recruitment Needs – Presented by Jane Ransom

- Review of "Graduating Classes", showing when board members are expected to have their terms expire. We're currently sitting with 15 voting board members, which is between the minimum (5) and maximum (21) numbers stipulated by our bylaws.
- Currently, we have 9 neurologists and 6 non-neurologist voting members. A 50/50 split is ideal.
- By 1/1/24, we'd have 11 voting board members, with 8 neurologists and 3 non-neurologists.
- We've had three resignations this year (two from conflict of interest, and one from general resignation). With those three losses, we've lost significant finance and fundraising skills on the board.
- We can absolutely work towards greater diversity on the board, in terms of age, gender, and ethnic background.
- We'd like to gain board members from across the country, especially in "centers of wealth".
- Ideally, we'd like to add people to the board this year ("class of 2027"), who'd be able to give input as we work towards honing our mission and strategic planning.
- Dr. Jensen comments on the diversity of viewpoints on the Governance Committee. Focusing on academic neurologists could be a richer resource for increasing our diversity, as opposed to the non-neurological group. We also need to make sure that we have a diversity of conditions that are the focus of board members, as opposed to a

majority being focused on only a few diseases. We don't currently have anyone working on neuroinfectious disease, for example, and only one focused on headache.

#### Board Short List Results Discussion – Presented by James Grotta

- We had five responses to our survey, which helped highlight several potential candidates to approach.
- Looking at the public candidates, Dr. Grotta was concerned about the lack of finance-focused candidates, but Dr. Berger-Sweeney, Kevin Systrom, and William Fisher could be potential options.
- Dr. Cheryl Pegus, Dr. Joanne Berger-Sweeney, and Dr. Quinones-Hinojosa would bring diversity. Dr. Pegus's work with Walmart and Atria do merit further discussion. (Additional Walmart connections with Melani Lowman-Walton, also on the long-list.)
- On the Neurological side, Dr. Leslie-Mazwi would be a wonderful addition, and was supported by four votes on our survey.
- Dr. Hauser, who's just received an award from the ABF, could be a great fit, as well. He's currently chairing our Neuroinflammation initiative.
- Dr. Jensen mentioned Dr. Pennell as a potential replacement for her or Dr. French in the future.
- Suggestion was put forward to add 1-2 neurologists to the board as of 1/1/2023, approaching Dr. Thabele Leslie-Mazwi and Dr. Stephen Hauser.
- For the Public Candidates, approaching Dr. Berger-Sweeney, Kevin Systrom, William Fisher, Dr. Cheryl Pegus, Dr. Alfredo Quinones-Hinojosa, and Jeff Lurie.
- Jane will start to organize calls with potential members, including the members of the Governance Committee as personal connections.

Dr. Grotta adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.



Governance Committee

Meeting of June 2, 2022

Attendees: James Grotta, MD, Chair; Frances Jensen, MD; Mary Post

Excused: Alyx Porter, MD

Staff: Jane Ransom

Dr. Grotta called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. CT. He announced that the purpose of the meeting was to hear a report on recruitment activities and to consider adding to our short lists of neurologist and non-neurologist candidates.

Status Report. Jane Ransom provided a status report. On the neurologist side, we have not yet talked with Dr. Hauser or Dr. Thabele Leslie-Mazwi. On the non-neurologist side, we were made aware that Cheryl Pegus, MD and Ken Systrom would decline due to overwhelmingly busy schedules. That leaves Joanne Berger-Sweeney, William Fisher, Alfredo Quinones-Hernandez, MD, and Jeffrey Lurie on the list.

Recommendation. Ransom recommended that we add two more names to the short list of non-neurologists because it is not likely that everyone left on the list will accept. She suggested that Kelley Lubanko and Andi Potamkin be added. After discussion of those two potential candidates, the committee decided to move forward with recruiting Kelley Lubanko and to wait and discuss Andi Potamkin with the full board before approaching her.

Dr. Grotta adjourned the meeting at 8:28 a.m.

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BOARD RECRUITMENT UPDATE

May 2022

CANDIDATE	RECRUITER	STATUS	COMMENTS/NEXT STEPS
<u>Non-Neurologists</u>			
<del>Joanne Berger-Sweeney</del>	Jensen	DECLINED	Too busy now.
<del>Kevin Systrom</del>	Dodick	DECLINED	Too busy now.
William Fisher	Dodick		
Alfredo Quinones-Hinojosa, MD	Porter		
Jeffrey Lurie	Dodick	Meeting scheduled	
<del>Cheryl Pegus, MD</del>	Dodick	DECLINED	Too busy now.
<i>Andi Potamkin</i>			<i>Consider adding to short list</i>
Kelley Lubanko			
Fatema Burkey			<i>Consider adding to short list</i>

<u>Neurologists</u>			
Stephen Hauser, MD	Dodick		
Thabele Leslie-Mazwi	?		

### Research Advisory Committee Terms

Research Advisory Committee Members		Member Terms			
		End 1 <sup>st</sup> Term	End 2 <sup>nd</sup>	End 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Extension
1.	Robert Griggs, Chair	12/31/2017	12/31/2019	12/31/2021	
2.	Jose Biller	12/31/2022			
3.	Jose E. Cavazos	12/31/2020	12/31/2022		
4.	Jackie French	12/31/2022			
5.	Na Tosha N. Gatson	12/31/2022			
6.	James Grotta	12/31/2020	12/31/2022		
7.	Walter Koroshetz	12/31/2022			
8.	Bruce Ovbiagele	12/31/2022			
9.	Ron Peterson	12/31/2022			
10.	Mark Mehler	12/31/2019	12/31/2021	12/31/2023	
11.	Eugene Scharf	12/31/2019	12/31/2021	12/31/2023	
12.	Gordon Smith	12/31/2022			
13.	Reisa Spearling	12/31/2022			
14.	Phyllis Zee	12/31/2020	12/31/2022		

\*updated 2.1.2022