

# International Society for the History of the Neurosciences (ISHN) 2002 Business Meeting Minutes

UCLA Faculty Center  
Los Angeles, California

5 June 2002  
12:25-1:50 pm

## Attendance:

Duane Haines (President)  
John Richardson (President-elect)  
Russell Johnson (Secretary)  
Lawrence Kruger (Treasurer)  
Geneviève Aubert (Member-at-Large)  
George Joseph (Member-at-Large)  
Stan Finger (JHN Co-Editor)  
Peter Koehler (JHN Co-Editor)  
Adam Bristol  
Moshe Feinsod  
Stan Finger  
Paul Foley  
Bob Frank  
Sam Greenblatt  
Sherry Ginn  
Bernd Holdorff  
Axel Karenberg  
John Keeseey  
Richard Lowenthal  
Ynez V. O'Neill  
Gül Russell  
Chris Smith  
Frank Stahnisch  
Miki Takasuna  
Melissa Walker  
Jeffrey Wollock  
George York  
Isabelle Barriere (nonmember)  
Debra Fine (nonmember)  
Abdul Nasser Kaadan (nonmember)  
Marjorie Perlman Lorch (nonmember)  
Lorenzo Lorusso (nonmember)  
Pam York (nonmember)

## **1. Welcome** (Duane Haines, President)

Duane called the meeting to order, thanked members for attending and invited them to stay for additional interesting papers in the afternoon.

Motion was made to accept minutes from the 2001 annual business meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

## **2. *Journal of the History of the Neurosciences (JHN)*** (Peter Koehler, Stan Finger)

Peter Koehler reported that in 2001 the journal received 45 papers, of which 2/3 were accepted for publication. The 1/3 rejection rate has been typical since the journal resumed publication several years ago. In 2002 there are fewer papers, especially from Europe. He invited presenters at the ISHN meeting to submit their completed manuscripts to JHN.

For several years, JHN had problems with the publisher in the form of editing errors, but this has been resolved. JHN has not done well this past year with the publisher due to its administrative service. Swets went to a new distribution system run by Turpin, a subsidiary of the larger Swets & Zeitlinger organization, and many problems resulted. We have finally found out from Swets [which manages ISHN membership applications and renewals as part of JHN invoice processing] how many subscription we have – 127 individuals and 25 institutions/libraries – and members of the Board will personally contact people on the lists of nonrenewals to encourage them to renew and rejoin.

[At JHN Co-Editor Stan Finger's request at the Business Meeting, a segment of the discussion about the relationship with Swets was designated "off the record." This segment has been deleted from the minutes.]

Stan Finger reported that the journal has a backlog which keeps it in very good shape and will take the journal well into 2003. There is still plenty of room for good papers, and presenters at the ISHN annual meeting are asked to consider submitting their manuscripts to the journal. The content and appearance of the journal are very good and the quality continues to improve, while the journal itself appeals to more and more people.

There will be a special issue in 2003 devoted to the History of the Neurosciences and the Arts (fine arts, literature, music) and he invited people to submit manuscripts; 9 or 10 papers are already promised and a team of 4 or 5 authors will assure the appearance of one article on the topic in each issue throughout the year. New columns in the coming year will include "Stamps and the Neurosciences", written by Lindsay Haas with the help of Harry Whitaker. Douglas Lanska joined the Editorial Board as section editor for "Instrumentation and Technology in the Neurosciences."

In response to a question from Chris Smith, Stan agreed it would be a good idea to send a questionnaire to lapsed and former members to survey their reasons for no longer subscribing to the journal or belonging to ISHN. He explained that JHN peaked at about 200 subscriptions and

there were hopes for continuing the annual 20% rate of increase, but a precipitous drop in numbers coincided with problems experienced with Swets/Turpin in invoicing renewing members properly (the first wave of forms was mailed very late and billed individuals at the institution subscription rate, for example) and delivering the journal in a timely manner. Members of the boards of JHN and ISHN are going to approach lapsed and former members with personal appeals to resubscribe/rejoin; a questionnaire will be a useful aid in determining what factors influenced people's decisions and what can be done better for the members.

The Editors invited members and readers to contact them with any and all requests, suggestions, concerns, etc., in order to improve the ISHN's official journal.

### **3. Membership Report** (Russell Johnson)

There is a slight distinction in membership in the ISHN and subscriptions to the journal. The two institutions co-exist but are not the synonymous. People receive the journal as a benefit of membership in the ISHN and the Society is very interested in seeing that the journal flourishes as its official scholarly organ. Duane Haines affirmed this, noting that the society and journal are intimately related, so it is important that members encourage their colleagues to join to benefit not only from the collegial community of a professional society, but to insure the good work and success and broad circulation of a scholarly journal in this field.

Full membership dues are US\$100, of which \$15 goes to the ISHN as membership dues and \$85 goes to Swets to pay for a subscription to the journal. Student membership dues are \$15, with no associated journal subscription. ISHN uses our publisher, Swets, to collect new and renewing full membership fees in order to accept and process credit card payments efficiently and with no added cost to the society.

Membership in 2001 was 189 members. The first report from Swets in January 2003 showed 30 renewals; the next report on May 15 indicated 127 people. Of this number, 102 renewed from 2001; the other 25 people were new members in 2002 or were former members from before 2001 whom we contacted and who reestablished their memberships. The bottom line is, ISHN membership dropped from 189 to 102 renewing members.

In addition to the 127 ISHN members subscribing to the journal, there are 15 other people who paid for individual subscriptions who are not members of the ISHN—some receive the journal through their primary membership in the World Federation of Neurology, others paid the subscription price without opting for an ISHN membership.

JHN has 30 current institutional subscriptions as of 15 May 2002. The Secretary read this list [see **Appendix A: JHN Institutional Subscriptions, May 2002**] and encouraged members at nonsubscribing institutions to encourage their libraries to take the journal.

Ed Fine recommended that members approach their libraries to get them to subscribe; given budget cuts for journals, libraries may not seek the journal on their own. Russell added that, once a library does subscribe, members should make sure the journal is used—circulate printed

copies, access the online edition, and assign articles from the journal in classes—so the subscription is not later cancelled because it is apparently not used.

#### **4. 2002 Annual Meeting: Local Arrangements and Thanks (Russell Johnson)**

For the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, there are 67 Full registrations (45 Members, 17 Nonmembers, 5 Students) and 20 Accompanying people. In addition, for some lectures (*e.g.*, Sunday afternoon's papers were attended by a Psychology class) and programs—especially the lecture and concert on Sunday night and the Getty program—there has been a good deal of drop-in traffic from the local community.

Russell recounted that the idea of hosting the annual meeting in Los Angeles came to fruition at the Society for Neuroscience meeting in New Orleans in the Fall of 2000, when Stan Finger, Larry Kruger, Louise Marshall and he met with Duane over lunch. Duane thanked members of the Program and Local Arrangements Committees for their hard work. Russell noted appreciation for the additional assistance and advice from the staff of the UCLA Biomedical Library, especially Kathy Donahue and Teresa Johnson in the History & Special Collections Division; Joel Braslow in the Neuroscience History Archives, and Allan Tobin, Director of the Brain Research Institute, as well as donors who have been acknowledged throughout the meeting: Leon & Barbara Rootenberg; Carol & David Kopf; the UCLA Louise Darling Biomedical Library, the Getty Research Institute, and the University of Mississippi Medical Center's Department of Anatomy.

Duane added that the abstracts of the meeting will be published in an upcoming issue of JHN.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report (Larry Kruger)**

Larry Kruger reported that the ISHN's Cal Fed (soon to become CitiBank) bank account balance on 31 May 2003 was \$22,183.00, which included unspent donations from meeting sponsors. An additional \$1,490.00 in registration fees has been collected since 31 May. Meeting expenses are mostly still due.

The bulk of the ISHN treasury sits in a checking account, but a portion will be moved to a CD to earn some small interest income. George York called for a motion of confidence from the membership to allow the Treasurer to invest a portion of the treasury in CDs or other similar accounts as he saw fit, to earn the Society income; the motion was passed unanimously.

Larry conveyed thanks from the Getty Institute for the ISHN program on photography and film held there the previous day. In particular, the neurological films were of great interest to several resident scholars and staff there, so they appreciated that the Getty hosted our program and they had an opportunity to interact with members of the ISHN. As an outgoing (2001-2002) Getty Scholar, Larry encouraged other historians to investigate the Getty's offerings and consider applying for research scholarships there.

Russell summarized meeting income and expenses, noting that it was anticipated the meeting would run in the black due to the generous contributions which also helped to keep registration fees low. He noted that it costs \$20,000 to \$25,000 to run an annual meeting for the ISHN. Before the final decision was reached to hold the meeting in Los Angeles, Louise Marshall promised the first seed money from the Neuroscience History Archives and Bob Frank promised support from a History of Medicine fund he oversees. After the location was solidified, additional donors and sponsors were approached. Registration and banquet fees account for only 1/5 to 1/4 of the total budget; the rest of the money is accumulated by the meeting organizers. He will prepare a detailed ledger on meeting income and expenses for the benefit of planners of future meetings and to further explain why the ISHN treasury fluctuates (first growing, then shrinking) around the time of the annual meeting.

#### **6. Difficulties with Swets related to JHN, dues payments and other issues (Duane Haines)**

Duane reported that the Board discussed collecting dues ourselves. It is unusual for an organization to have a publisher conduct this business on its behalf, but ISHN has done it in order to allow international members to pay dues by Visa or MasterCard in US\$ without individuals or the society being levied a service charge. The Treasurer is investigating doing credit card transactions with the society's bank in Los Angeles, having learned that credit card transactions are much less expensive than when this issue was raised a few years ago. It is important for the society to consider this change now because it has been difficult getting transfers of membership information and dues from Swets in a timely manner.

#### **7. Awards and Prizes Committee report (Axel Karenberg for Paul Eling, Chair)**

At this year's annual banquet, awards were presented for *Lifetime Contribution to the History of the Neurosciences* (Louise H. Marshall and Francis Schiller), *Outstanding Student Essay in the History of the Neurosciences* (Paul Foley of the University of Würzburg for his dissertation, "Beans, Roots and Leaves: A History of the Chemical Theory of Parkinsonism"), and *Outstanding Book in the History of the Neurosciences* (Malcolm Macmillan, *An Odd Kind of Fame: Stories of Phineas Gage*).

Next year, the annual award for *Lifetime Contribution to the History of the Neurosciences* (Axel Karenberg chairs this subcommittee) will be presented, as well as the award for *Outstanding Article in the History of the Neurosciences* published in 2001, 2002 or 2003 (George Joseph chairs this subcommittee). The Committee invites and enthusiastically welcomes nominations from all ISHN members to help recognize outstanding academic work in our field.

George Joseph added that the ISHN Board, at its June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, expanded the pool of candidates for the Outstanding Article Award. Beginning in 2003, all papers in *Journal of the History of the Neurosciences* for the previous 3-year period will automatically be eligible for consideration and not require individual nomination. For the biannual Book Award, the JHN Book Review Editor will forward to the committee a list of all books reviewed and received during the past 3 years. This list will be disseminated by email and posted on the ISHN website.

Of course, these will not be the *only* books which are eligible, but the list will be provided in order to stimulate members' memories about *some* of the recent monographs in the field.

## **8. Nominations and Elections** (Duane Haines)

Duane called for the Board's nomination(s) for President-elect for 2002-2003; this person will be President in 2003-2004 and is to be from a continent other than Europe (according to ISHN's founding meeting, successive incumbents of this office are to be from different continents). Ed Fine (State University of New York, Buffalo) was introduced as a nominee from the ISHN Board; the nomination was seconded. Peter Koehler nominated Malcolm Macmillan (Deakin University, Australia); the nomination was seconded. No other nominations were put forth. Gül Russell request a brief discussion of the candidates, who may not be known to some members of the society.

Stan Finger commented on Malcolm "Mac" Macmillan, one of the founding members of the ISHN: his book, *An Odd Kind of Fame*, received the ISHN book award this year; he publishes regularly in the journal and is a member of the editorial board who also regularly reviews manuscripts for JHN. He is well-recognized in the scientific and historical communities and although he is beyond the age when he can hold a full academic position, he continues to hold an office in the School of Psychology at Deakin University in Victoria, Australia. Macmillan communicated via email that he would accept the nomination and would be amenable to hosting the meeting outside Australia (such as in Washington, DC or Yale University); as can be seen in the 2001 and 2002 meetings, it is not unusual for the ISHN President to host the meeting in a distant city.

Ed Fine (an Associate Professor of Neurology and Clinical Neurophysiology) offered his own description, saying he was not going to sell himself but remark that he had been a member since he wandered into a room in 1996 at a hotel in Buffalo and saw some interesting posters on the history of neuroscience at what turned out to be the ISHN's 1<sup>st</sup> annual meeting. He has contributed historical articles in the *Archives of Neurology* and elsewhere, and has served on the history committee of the American Academy of Neurology.

Paper ballots were tabulated by the Secretary and Lisa Boyd (Duane Haines' and the meeting's assistant). ISHN Board Member at Large Geneviève Aubert asked to serve as the tabulation's Observer, based on the recent history of American vote counting in a presidential election [laughter].

Based on votes in the paper ballot, Ed Fine was elected to serve as the next ISHN President-Elect, to be President in 2003-2004.

## **9. Arrangements for ISHN 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 7-10 July 2003 at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, UK** (John Richardson)

John Richardson used a PowerPoint presentation to describe plans for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the ISHN, which is scheduled for midday, 7 July through lunch on 10 July 2003. The dates were

selected because they were convenient for many members of the society and because they immediately precede the 6<sup>th</sup> IBRO (International Brain Research Organization) Congress of Neuroscience, to be held in Prague, Czech Republic, beginning the evening of July 10.

The Organising Committee includes Ian Robinson (Brunel University), Isabelle Barriere (Johns Hopkins University), Marjorie Lorch (Birbeck College), and Chris Smith (Aston University), “who are available to assist people who are not familiar with English ways.” The Programme Committee includes Geneviève Aubert, Sam Greenblatt, Axel Karenberg, Duane Haines, and Peter Koehler. The balance between invited lectures, platform presentations, and poster sessions will be similar to last year and this year. ISHN members will be invited and encouraged to submit papers and symposium ideas.

The conference will differ from recent ones in that it will be at one location—Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park—“from which it is hard to get away.” The conference center offers an all-inclusive price for accommodations and all meals. Along with the meeting registration fee to provide for the meeting room, support, and activities, the total fee will be approximately US\$500. Audiovisual equipment, including PowerPoint capabilities, will be provided from Brunel University.

The use of Cumberland Lodge requires a history lesson about the building, the educational St. Catherine’s Foundation, and environs, which will be scheduled for 30-60 minutes. The lodge itself is intended as a residential center for students and their teachers to discuss important issues of the day in a relaxed atmosphere. Attendees are in effect “guests of Her Majesty”, the late Queen Mother. The 50 bedrooms are mostly outfitted with single or two twin beds (sharing rooms, with the concomitant discount, will be encouraged). Attendees are in effect staying at the Queen’s house, so doors have no keys (they are lockable from the inside, and valuables may be checked with the staff). The Lodge does not generally have accommodations on Sunday evening, so people should expect to get there on Monday.

## **10. Education Committee** (Sam Greenblatt)

Immediately following the 2001 ISHN meeting in Cologne, the Education Committee had a dinner meeting to discuss issues about bringing students into the field and the organization. The question arose—What can the organization do to enhance the teaching of history at any level (undergraduate, graduate, professional)? Since then, Chris Smith and Sam spoke and came up with a less ambitious way (than was discussed in Cologne) of getting at the goals of the committee, with the help of the membership.

The new proposal [see **Appendix B: Education in the History of the Neurosciences**] is to make it known that volunteer members of the society are available to anyone in the field who wants to introduce some level of teaching in the history of the neurosciences into curricula—within lectures, in separate lectures, or creating a new course. These needs are an opportunity which will vary greatly from one instructor or one institution to another, and we want to encourage people to go in any direction they wish to go to do this.

Thus, the committee is asking for help in establishing the ISHN as a clearinghouse so when an inquiry comes in, Sam or another members of the committee can direct the writer to resources, including a list of people based on what they are teaching or have taught. The committee would like to know what people are teaching, or for what specific areas they will serve as guides. In response to Axel Karenberg's question, Sam responded that the committee would probably post a request for participation to HISTNEUR-L and send out a brief questionnaire or survey questions (what teaching one does, what are one's area(s) of expertise in history of the neurosciences) by e-mail, then make the results available through the society's website.

## **11. Minutes from 2001 Meeting** (Duane Haines)

Minutes from the Business Meeting at the 7<sup>th</sup> annual meeting (Cologne, Germany, 2001) were printed and included in each member-attendee's registration notebook. Following corrections offered by the attendees, a motion to accept the minutes as amended was offered and passed by acclamation.

## **12. Other Business**

Stan Finger asked that suggestions for the 2004 annual meeting be sent to Ed Fine, who confirmed his willingness to entertain recommendations for a meeting venue. Ed added that the meeting will be scheduled to take into consideration members' teaching obligations, which often extend into the first two weeks in June.

Russell Johnson asked the society to create a Nominating Committee, consisting of the immediate Past-President and two members (who would be from two different continents), to create a ballot of candidates for the annual meeting. Nominations could also come from the floor at the annual meeting. It would be helpful for the candidates to provide some background and for the President-Elect candidates to offer brief statements of their vision and goals for the society. He explained that, as the ISHN becomes a mature society with a larger membership, there needs to be outreach to members who have not been in the organization since it began. This will be an opportunity to learn more about the members who are running for offices. In addition, he suggested, Nominating Committees are typically good springboards for younger or newer members of a society to get involved and start stepping up into leadership roles themselves. A motion to construct a Nominating Committee with membership as described was seconded and approved by acclamation. Discussion then ensued about the details of the Committee's charge and the mechanics of the society's elections.

Stan Finger asked to make a different or modified motion first, based on his concern that in the future it may be difficult to have an election when only one-tenth of the society is present at the annual meeting. He requested that the society consider establishing a ballot and disseminating it by email for amendments, discussion, and voting, so that people who do not attend the meeting also have an opportunity to vote. He then proposed that the ballot be established at the meeting, then sent out following the meeting for a vote.



Gül Russell asked that the society establish a quorum, as is typically done at in any organization with elections, so that if a meeting reaches a quorum a vote may be held and be considered valid; otherwise a vote could not be held at that meeting.

Sherry Ginn suggested that a Nominating Committee establish and distribute a ballot with registration materials so a vote could be held before or during the meeting and the results would be known at the meeting itself. She argued that many people are typically on vacation after the meeting and thus otherwise would not know of the results for weeks.

Stan Finger revised his proposal, recommending that the Nominating Committee call for nominations, make a presentation of candidates (with background descriptions and qualifications) via the Internet, then have a ballot so results could be announced at the annual meeting.

Sam Greenblatt recounted his experience in organizing an annual meeting and cautioned that the organizers need two years' time to put together a meeting. This would be a short lead time for most organizations, but ISHN is small enough to "get away" with only two years; however, even this time may be inadequate when the society gets larger. He emphasized that a vote should be done and finalized at or before a meeting so the new President-Elect, whose primary responsibility is to organize a meeting, would have as much time as possible to find a venue and work on all the associated plans for a meeting.

Duane Haines expressed concern that the timeframe for nominations not be too long or that too many names be listed on a ballot. In other organizations with which he has been affiliated, the Nominating Committee prepares a list of candidates, other names are offered at the business meeting, and that forms the ballot.

Duane accepted a motion from Stan Finger to table further discussion and return to finalize the particulars at next year's meeting.

### **13. Meeting Adjourned at 1:50 pm.**

Minutes recorded by Russell Johnson, Secretary  
5 June 2002

Appendix A: **JHN Institution Subscriptions, May 2002**

Appendix B: **Education in the History of the Neurosciences**

# International Society for the History of the Neurosciences (ISHN)

## Appendix A

### *JHN* Institutional Subscriptions, May 2002

#### **CANADA**

McGill (Osler Library)	Montreal, Quebec
University of Ottawa (MRT)	Ottawa, Ontario
University of Victoria (McPherson Lib)	Victoria, British Columbia

#### **GERMANY**

University of Leipzig	Leipzig
Thuringer University (Landesbibliothek)	Jena
Max Planck Institute	Berlin
Central Library of Medicine	Cologne
Johannes Gutenberg University (Med-Hist Inst)	Mainz

#### **DENMARK**

Danmarks Natur Laeg Bibl	Noerre Alle
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#### **FRANCE**

Bibl Interuniv Med (BIUM)	Paris
Univ Pierre et Marie Curie	Paris
CSI	Paris

#### **UK**

British Library	West Yorkshire
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#### **JAPAN**

Kyushu Univ (Med Lib)	Fukuoka
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#### **ITALY**

DS Diffusioni Scientifica	Bologna
Istituto di Psicologia	Parma
Istituto e Museo di Storia del Scienza	Florence

#### **USA**

Brown University (Dept Neurosci)	Providence, RI
Brown University (Sciences Lib)	Providence, RI
Yale Univ (School Med Lib)	New Haven, CT
University of Pittsburgh (Falk Lib of Health Prof)	Pittsburgh, PA
College of Physicians of Philadelphia	Philadelphia, PA

Johns Hopkins Univ (Inst of Hist Med)	Baltimore, MD
Duke University (Med Lib)	Durham, NC
University of Southern Florida	Gainesville, FL
Vanderbilt University	Nashville, TN
Univ Mississippi (Rowland Med Lib)	Jackson, MS
Washington University	St Louis, MO
UCLA	Los Angeles, CA
UC Irvine	Irvine, CA

# International Society for the History of the Neurosciences (ISHN)

## Appendix B 2002 ISHN Education Committee Report

### **Education in the History of the Neurosciences**

**Why?** Growth and replenishment of membership and interest in the ISHN.

**How?** Formation of an advisory panel and referral center within the ISHN.

**Mechanism:**

- Circularization to medical schools and neuroscience programmes in North America and Europe via Internet to advise of the existence of the advisory panel and referral center
- Individuals involved in neurohistory teaching invited to communicate with the ISHN referral center respecting problems, sources, experiences, etc.
- On receipt of a request, the ISHN center will direct the query to the most appropriate ISHN panel members.
- That member undertakes to respond to the enquirer via Internet.

**Implications:**

The initiative requires participation of many members covering the fields and who are prepared to work voluntarily with inquiring teachers.

S.H. Greenblatt  
C.U.M. Smith

3 June 2002