

Highlights of the CSE Board Meeting

The CSE Board of Directors met on 1 February in Washington, DC. The following are highlights of the meeting.

1. Headquarters has moved as of 1 February 2003. The new address is Drohan Management Group, 12100 Sunset Hills Rd, Suite 130, Reston VA 20190. The telephone and fax numbers and the e-mail address remain the same.
2. Barbara Gastel has agreed to stay on for another 3-year term as editor of *Science Editor*. Mary Chapman, of the Texas A&M University Ocean Drilling Program, will join *Science Editor's* board in May.
3. The theme of the 2003 annual meeting is "Interacting with the Digital Environment: Modern Scientific Publishing". There will be seven sets of five concurrent sessions. The program is posted on the CSE Web site, as are URLs for activities during the meeting. Seth Beckerman, local-arrangements chair, is also preparing a list of area restaurants and bookstores. An educational session for committee chairs and board members will be held from 3:30 to 5:30 PM on 3 May. The awards luncheon will be on 5 May.
4. Paul Bozuwa reported that the 2002 loss before investment activity was \$33,000; the net loss was \$48,000. These losses were attributable primarily to revenues from the 2002 annual meeting being lower than expected, low publication sales, and net loss on investments. The bright spot was a \$10,000 increase in membership revenue.
5. Roxanne K Young has joined the Membership Committee.
6. Winners of the recent election for board officers will be notified by late February.
7. The board asked the Publications Committee to focus its activities during 2003 on GuideLines and the seventh edition of *Scientific Style and Format (SSF7)*. A new editor for the GuideLines series is being sought.
8. The proposals received for publishing the print version of *SSF7* were reviewed, and the board accepted the proposal from Rockefeller University Press. Contract negotiations will begin, with Todd Hummel serving as publisher. Marketing evaluation for an online version will also commence, and separate RFPs will be sent for an online version.
9. The board agreed to support a redesign of the CSE Web site and a move of the site from a Unix environment to a Windows/ColdFusion environment as long as the projected costs meet the approval of the Executive Committee. This will enable more options for members, make coding simpler and more flexible, and allow for more content (such as *Science Editor*) to be posted and searched for content.
10. Places being considered for the 2006 annual meeting include Austin, Texas; Indianapolis, Indiana; Cleveland, Ohio; and Madison, Wisconsin. (The 2004 meeting will be in Vancouver, British Columbia, and the 2005 meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.)
11. Plans for the 2003 retreat on scientific misconduct are taking shape. The retreat will be held 7-9 November at the Lansdowne Conference Center in Leesburg, Virginia. Jessica Ancker is managing the logistics for the retreat and Faith McLellan is coordinating the content of the program, which is being cosponsored by ORI. Speakers already lined up include Richard Horton, Tina Gunsalus, Richard Smith, and Lawrence Rhoades.
12. The Education Committee is continuing to pursue a 2004 retreat on conflict of interest and will consider a proposal for a joint retreat with the Society for Scholarly Publishing on editor-publisher relations in 2005.
13. The Membership Committee reported that in 2002 there were 1112 members—the largest number in recent history, representing an 89% membership renewal rate from 2001. There are 63 emeritus members (5.7% of the total membership).
14. Faith McLellan presented a proposal for a new CSE Task Force on Science Journals, Poverty, and Human Development. The board approved the proposal and appointed Richard Horton to chair the new task force. The goal of the task force and the half-day symposium on the subject at the May 2005 CSE annual meeting will be to report on the contribution of science journals to both reducing the burdens of poverty and disease and promoting sustainable human development. CSE will consider coordinating a global theme issue among journals. There are hopes that this will also lead to a mentoring program among journal editors.
15. The board agreed to write a letter of support for the position statement recently adopted by the American Medical Writers Association on the contributions of medical writers to scientific publications (www.amwa.org/positionstatement.html).
16. The Editorial Policy Committee has been charged to investigate development of a privacy policy for scientific publications in general and for CSE in particular (for example, how do we use information obtained from our members?).
17. The board received a statement from editors who attended a meeting hosted in January 2003 by the American Society for Microbiology of editors, scientists, security experts, and government officials to explore the issues involved with concerns that life-science research could be misused by terrorists and about threats to scientific openness. This report will also be posted on the CSE Web site with a "Send us your comments" box; responses will be collated by Annette Flanagan and summarized for discussion during a session on this subject at the 2003 annual meeting.
18. The next board meeting will be Tuesday, 6 May, after the annual meeting.