



Conference Call Minutes Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Present: Russel Bruhn, Roger Hall, Lisa Henderson, Steve Jennings, Anne Maglia, Andrey Ptitsyn, Bill Slikker, Weida Tong, Jonathon Wren, Dawn Wilkins, Stephen Winters-Hilt

The minutes from the conference call meeting on December 17, 2003 were approved unanimously. The conference call for June was scheduled as planned—the first Wednesday of the month (June 2) at 1:30.

Bill reported that 13 manuscripts from the conference were received to be reviewed for *DNA and Cell Biology*. The manuscripts have been sent to reviewers. There are three reviewers per manuscript, and Bill expects reviews to be returned in a month or so.

Lisa gave an update on plans for the 2004 conference. The tentative dates are October 7-9. Since the Arkansas BRIN meeting will likely co-locate with the MCBIOS conference, the meeting is too large for the UALR campus. Attendance at the Friday afternoon keynote address could exceed 450 or 500 people. The tutorials on Saturday will be open to both groups. The proposed plan is to host the conference at a hotel in the Rivermarket area. The Doubletree has a conflict, but Lisa is hopeful that the Peabody will agree to a government rate of \$79 per night. The board was agreeable to the plan.

The board unanimously agreed to hold the 2005 conference in Louisiana, either New Orleans or Baton Rouge. Stephen Winters-Hill will work on plans. There is a possibility that the 2006 conference will be held in Missouri. Anne will investigate.

Steve Jenkins agreed to make a “template” for local chapter by-laws.

Committee Reports:

Executive committee: Steve J. will work on 501c3. Steve will work with the Executive committee to clarify the tasks for committees.

Finance committee: Nothing to report.

Publications committee: Bill reported earlier on the status of the manuscript review.

Conference committee: After some additional discussion about the venue, it was agreed that once the conference was set, it would have to be publicized.

Communications committee: Lisa and Roger will help with updating the content of the website. Steve Jennings will work with ISMB. Jonathon suggested papersinvited.com as a good place to publicize the conference. Send other suggestions to Dawn.

Membership committee: The main issue confronting the membership committee is the time needed to set up local chapters. Several groups are planning local chapters, and then recruiting members should be easier.

Technology committee: The goal is to develop and provide a regional infrastructure for bioinformatics software and computing. There are many possibilities. Jonathon and the committee will work on identifying common needs.

No other new business was brought up, so the meeting was adjourned.