

INDIAN SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL STATISTICS (ISMS)

Minutes of the General Body (GB) Meeting held on 2nd November 2014 at the Seminar hall, Dept of Statistics, Jammu University, Jammu at 6.15 pm

Members present: 40

Agenda item 1-Welcome address

The president welcomed the members for the GB meeting and thanked the Jammu University authorities for hosting it.

Agenda item 2-Confirmation of the minutes of the GB Meeting held on 25th October 2013 at CMC .Vellore

The minutes of the GB meeting held on 25th October 2013 at CMC Vellore were accepted as a true record of the meeting

Agenda item 3- Opening remarks of the President

In the opening remarks, President highlighted the major activities of the society during the last one year. As suggested by the President, the members mourned the death of two senior fellows of the society -Prof J S Rastogi and Prof Deokinandan by observing 2 minutes of silence praying for their souls to rest in peace.

Agenda item 4-Report of the General Secretary

The General Secretary presented his report and explained the various works carried out by the society. The major activities of the year highlighted were updating the mailing address, creating a ISMS google group, finalizing the rules of several awards and getting a PAN Card for the society. The members appreciated the efforts of the General Secretary. **GB approved the google group and suggested** that list of emails of all members should be updated and included from time to time. The recommendations of various committees approved by the Executive Council (EC) were also presented which are mentioned below.

A. Recommendations of FSMS Committee

For the FSMS 2014 award, 3 nominations were received and the names of **Prof. N. Sreekumaran Nair**, Manipal and **Prof K Thennarasu**, Bangalore have been recommended by the FSMS committee.

B. Recommendations of Nominations Committee

The nominations committee recommended the name of Prof CM Pandey, SGPPI, Lucknow as President elect.

C.Recommendations of Award Committee

Smt Ramrati Lalima Sahai award 2014- **Prof. K Srinivasan**, Chennai

Prof. P V Sukhatme award 2014 – No nomination received

Prof.S K Bhattacharya award 2014 - **Prof. Ajit Sahai**, Puducherry

Smt. Suraj Kali Jain award 2014-No nomination received

Prof. B G Prasad award - **Dr. Anil Kumar**, JALMA Institute, Agra

Smt. Saroj Shukla award- No nomination received

Prof. A Indrayan travel award– **Dr. R K Gupta** New Delhi , **Dr Ram Kumar**, Thrissur

Prof. K R Sundaram Young research scholar award - **Ms. Muthu Vijayalakshmi**, NIE, Chennai

D.Prof. R N Srivastava award

Five applicants competed for this award. **Mr. John Michael Raj**, Christian Medical College, Vellore was adjudged as the winner.

GB approved these recommendations and the report of the General Secretary.

Agenda item 5-Proposals for venue of conference in 2015

The venue for the next conference was discussed. There was a proposal from Dr Anil Kumar, National Jalma Institute for Leprosy , Agra and an oral request from SRM Medical College, Chennai. Dr Anil Kumar was suggested to back up his claim with a supporting letter from the institutes' Director. For the 2016 conference, there was a letter from Prof. Saurabh Ghosh of Indian Statistical Institute , Calcutta. As a policy, **it was decided** that the society takes decisions about the next year's conference only in that year.

Agenda item 6-Report of the Treasurer

The Treasurer reported that during the last seven months since he has taken over, 26 new life members have been recruited/enrolled and every attempt is being made to enrol more members. Members appreciated the Treasurer for obtaining the PAN Card of the society. The following suggestions made in the EC meeting were also presented. **1.** During the ISMS conference, a membership drive could be undertaken by opening a desk in the registration counter. **2.** A break-up of membership as medical and non medical is required **3.** The funding of various awards from their inception should be put in a flowchart to enable the currently available money for each award. **4.** Interest on fixed deposit for each award fund should be credited to that fund only after subtracting the costs of medals or the mementos. **GB approved these recommendations and the report of the Treasurer.**

Agenda item 7- Report of the Editor

The Editor elaborated on the various steps taken to bring out the bulletin regularly with increased information which will be of use to the members and requested the members to contribute scientific articles for the bulletin. The members appreciated the sincerity and regularity of the editor in bringing out the bulletin. **It was decided** that further attempts to bring in a journal of the society should be suspended for a while and that we should concentrate on bringing out the bulletin. **It was also decided** to constitute an editorial board for the bulletin. The editor will choose the members for this board. **It was also decided** that an item under the heading of new publications should be included and extracts of their review from other journals could be reproduced which might help youngsters who may not have access to journals. **GB approved these recommendations and the report of the editor.**

Agenda item 8-Other decisions:

A. ISMS Seminars, Lecturers and Workshops

The President mentioned that he feels satisfied that the Society has done some good work during the year in the form of workshops, seminars, lectures, refresher courses in various parts across the country even if not necessarily under the banner of ISMS as it was organised by ISMS active members and some even funded by Central funding agencies of the country. It may be interpreted as an ISMS activity. This activity has to expand in the coming years to create increased awareness about the field.

B. Membership fee

The membership fee structure was discussed in detail and **it was decided to change** the structure as below

Category	India	Foreign
Student (annual)	Rs.200	US \$ 20
Annual membership	Rs. 500	US \$ 50
Life membership	Rs.3000	US \$ 200
Institutional membership(annual) *	Rs.10,000	US\$ 1000

*Institutional head can nominate three members for conferences on par with ISMS life members..All membership fee is for a calendar year -that shall begin from the month of January for the year of start. SAARC members have to pay in equivalent amount in Indian rupees at the same rate as for India. **Prof. Ajit Sahai has agreed that he will try to make three institutions** to join the society through institutional memberships. **GB approved** these recommendations.

C. Annual expenses of the Secretariat

In order to meet the routine expenses of the secretariat it was **decided** that a sum of Rs 15,000 be released **as advance** to the General Secretary, Rs. 5000 each to the Treasurer and the Editor. This will be received on 1 January every year and accounts submitted during the EC that year.

D. Donations from FSMS members

It was also decided that all FSMS awardees shall pay Rs. 10,000 to the society from the year 2015 as Fellowship fee by June 30th of the following year. This condition will be included and displayed in the Society's website and in the circular seeking the nominations. Without this, no fellowship award be made henceforth.

E. Constitution and award review sub committee

In order to review the existing ISMS Constitution, rules of the society, rules of the awards and to give recommendations wherever changes are needed, **a subcommittee was formed** with the President as chairman, Prof .B L Verma and the General Secretary as members. They were **also permitted** to coopt other members.

F. Registration

The Society's registration with Registrar of cooperative societies has to be renewed. In order to complete the formalities, Prof, A. Indrayan and Dr A K ,Bansal **were requested** to kindly look into the same.

G. MCI issues

It was also **decided** to form a committee with Prof. A Indrayan as Chairman, with Prof. B L Verma, Prof. Ajit Sahai and Prof. K R John as members to act at the earliest to get into the long pending issues of MCI recommendations on biostatistics related curriculum, infrastructure and manpower for all the UG as well as PG Medical colleges in the country. They were **also permitted** to coopt other members.

H. ISMS Web coordinator

The members appreciated the efforts of Prof. B. Antonisamy, ISMS Web coordinator & Professor and Head of Biostatistics, CMC Vellore in providing stability and respectability to the ISMS web site. It was **decided** that ISMS Web-coordinator is an important official position and should be an ex-officio member of ISMS EC.

I. ISMS Awards and Conference certificates

It was **decided** that ISMS conference certificates should be signed only by the President, General Secretary and Organizing Secretary OR Organizing Chairman. ISMS awards certificates should be signed by the President and the General Secretary. ISMS Life member certificates should be signed by the President, Treasurer and the General Secretary.

J. Timing of GB Meeting

It was decided that GB meeting should be held on Day 1 of the Annual Conference to facilitate more members to attend the meeting.

K. Donation from Prof.Madhulekha Bhattacharya

The GB thanked the generosity of Prof. M.Bhattacharya & family promising to donate **Rs 1 Lakh** towards **Prof. S K Bhattacharya Oration Award** of the Society. The Donors expressed their wish that out of the interest released, the speaker should be given a cash award of Rs. 5000 in addition to a memento.

Agenda item 9- Thanks for the out going members

The GB placed on record the excellent services of Prof. T Krishnan as Editor, EC member and President of the Society. The GB feels that he should continue to guide the society.

Agenda item 10-Vote of thanks

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by the President to all the members for their valuable suggestions for the proper functioning of ISMS. The President also thanked the administration of University of Jammu for hosting the 32nd Annual National Conference.

Anil C Mathew

Anil C Mathew MSc(Biostat.) PhD (Biostat.)

General Secretary Indian Society for Medical Statistics

Professor of Biostatistics

Department of Community Medicine

PSG Institute of Medical Sciences and Research,

Coimbatore 641 004

Actions arising from the minutes of EC approved in the GB

Action	By whom?	When?
Updating the address at ISMS google group	Dr. Anil C Mathew	Immediate
Break up of membership as medical and non medical	Dr. A K Bansal	Immediate
Funding of various awards from their inception to put in a flowchart	Dr. A K Bansal	Immediate
Editorial board for the ISMS Bulletin	Dr. Ajit Sahai	2015
Revised membership form	Dr. Anil C Mathew	January 2015
To enrol minimum three institutions to the Society through institutional membership	Dr. Ajit Sahai	2015
Amount to be released for the annual expenses of the Secretariat	Dr. A K Bansal	January 2015
Preparing the revised constitution/revised rules for the awards	Dr. A Indrayan Dr. B L Verma Dr. Anil C Mathew	June 2015
Look into registration of the Society	Dr. A Indrayan Dr. A K Bansal	2015
MCI recommendations on biostatistics-related curriculum, infrastructure and manpower in medical colleges	Dr. A Indrayan Dr. B L Verma Dr. Ajit Sahai Dr. K R John	2015