

**Indian Society for Medical Statistics**  
**Minutes of the General Body (GB) meeting held on December 10,**  
**2021**

The meeting was held with virtual platform on December 10, 2021 at 5.30 PM. The following was the agenda for the meeting.

**The General Body meeting agenda - 2021**

**Date: December 10, 2021, Time: 5:30 PM to 7:00PM, Venue: Virtual Platform**

- 1. Welcome by the President**
- 2. Silent prayer in respect of demised society members - Prof. K. Ramachandran, Prof V K Srivastava, Dr.N.S Murthy, and untimely demise of Gen. Bipin Rawat and 12 defence personnel's.**
- 3. Approval of minutes of the 2020 GC & GB meetings**
- 4. Report of the General Secretary with GC recommendation**
- 5. Report of the Treasurer**
- 6. Bulletin Editor and Web-coordinator reports with GC recommendations**
- 7. Recommendations of FSMS Committee, Search committee and Awards committee with GC recommendations**
- 8. Nominating committee report with GC recommendation**
- 9. High power committee report**
- 10. Election of President elect- Progress with GC Recommendation**
- 11. Prof. R N Srivastava award result**
- 12. Venue for the Annual conference 2022**
- 13. Thanking the retiring GC members**
- 14. Any other matter with the permission of the chair**
- 15. Vote of thanks by General Secretary**

The president of the society Dr. L Jeyaseelan Chaired the meeting and General secretary presented the agenda. Then agenda items one by one taken for discussion.

**1. Welcome by the President**

The President of ISMS Prof. Jeyaseelan welcomed all members for the meeting with a request to have a fruitful discussion.

## **2. Silent prayer in respect of demised society members -**

**Prof. K. Ramachandran, Prof V K Srivastava, Dr.N.S Murthy, and untimely demise of Gen. Bipin Rawat and 12 defence personnel's.**

Members of the general body observed one minute silent prayer in respect of departed members of the society during the year and untimely passing away of defence personnel's.

## **3. Approval of minutes of the 2020 GC & GB meetings**

General secretary presented minutes of 2020 General body and Governing council meeting. All members unanimously passed the minutes.

## **4. Report of the General Secretary with GC recommendation**

General Secretary presented report of activities carried out by the secretariat during 2021.

Secretariat maintained regular Communication with members regarding announcement, notifications of the society, various news items like conference, workshops, vacancies etc. which are relevant for the members, and other similar items to society members time to time.

Thirty eight new life members have been enrolled and ISMS membership certificate have been sent to all new members. Periodically secretariat updated new members e-mail ID's in the ISMS google group. Secretariat provided materials like draft Minutes of GC and GB, and copies of general communication for members etc to the web coordinator for updating and it has been regularly uploaded in the site.

High power committee and secretariat represented to the National Medical Commission regarding faculty position and qualification to the medical colleges/institutes. NMC partially modified the notification. High power committee continuously worked for presenting our case including ratifying the qualification in the appointment. Committee is further pursuing it with NMC. There will be a separate brief about it by Prof. B L Verma, The Chair of the committee.

Secretariat Prepared all mementos and certificate for 2019 and 2020 awards and planning to courier it after the meeting or as suggest by GB.

Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences (Deemed to be University) at Karad is expressed their willingness to host the 2022 conference, received official letter from Dr.Satish Kakade, Associate Professor at Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences which is supported by Officials of the University.

The General Secretary informed the recommendation by ISMS Governing Council Meeting which was held on December 8, 2021.

- a) Further improve communication with members
- b) Initiate web updating process in coordination with new web coordinator.
- c) Revise membership list and update physical register of members, Fellows, and awardees.

Speed up the society registration renewal with the help of some agency, Prof. CM Pandey agreed to provide input and help in this regard.

General body approved report.

## **5. Report of the Treasurer**

Treasurer Dr. Binukumar presented treasurer's report and audited statement. There were enquiry about donation connected with FSMS award. Treasurer informed the GB that now payments are regular and all awardees have been paid.. General body approved this minutes.

## **6. a) Bulletin Editor's report with GC recommendation**

General secretary read the report submitted by the Bulletin editor. From the Editor's office, multiple announcement inviting materials for ISMS Bulletin was sent to all members of ISMS. The editor on behalf of editorial committee consisting of renowned persons in various fields of medical statistics and biostatistics requested for original/ review article, short communications and case reports, etc. This is to disseminate the research work and to expand understanding of fundamental principles of biostatistics and application in biomedical research to members' through publication.

The editorial office with a separate Gmail account (ISMS.editor@gmail.com ) was used to communicate with other members. During the period multiple email request were sent to ISMS members to publish their work and disseminate the information of various academic activities.

Due to seriousness of COVID pandemic and its severity during second wave, after the circulation of last ISMS Bulletin during Dec. 2020 we have not received any manuscript or material. Hence, after taking consent from the resource persons, we released of ISMSCON2020 pre-conference workshop materials in YOUTUBE channel of ISMS

Editor during the month of August 2021. The contents are edited and available in 9 videos. (It would be nice if we could provide the link).

- (1) Sample size for Equivalence and Non inferiority Studies (Part 1 & Part2)
- (2) Non Inferiority Trials: Design and sample size (Part 1 & Part2)
- (3) Adaptive Designs In Bio-pharmaceutical Development (Part1 - Part5).

Until last month, the total viewership was about 250. Editor requested all member to subscribe the channel and get the benefit from this specialized resource materials. We the support of the member we try to bring the next issue of ISMS Bulletin as early as possible.

Bulletin editor thanked all editorial board members for accepting the task of reviewing the articles and requested all members to have active participation in bringing the ISMS Bulletin.

Members felt that the bulletin publication should be more regular and with more content with news items, conference materials, photographs of ISMS events etc. Members also felt it is good to have an active Editorial board by including more young talents of the society to further strengthen the bulleting publication. ISMS secretariat and bulleting editor agreed to work jointly on implementing these suggestions. The Editor was asked to come out with the new bulleting within 3 months.

## **6. B)Web-coordinator reports with GC recommendation**

General Secretary briefed to the general body regarding the report of Web-coordinator and discussion on it in the in the governing council. Prof.Jeyaseelan has been working as President and web coordinator. Hence all communications to website have been routing through Dr.Jeyaseelan. Now Nominating committee recommended Dr.Prasanna Samuel, Head of the department of Biostatistics at CMC, Vellore as the web coordinator which has been approved by GC. GB also approved this recommendation.

The general secretary informed the GB about the GC discussion regarding outdated materials still existing in the website and GC's suggestion regrading updating these materials in the ISMS website. It require dedicated manpower which require funding.

Members felt financial support can be provided from the society. A committee with more young members may be formed to support web-coordinator. However members opined that all material uploaded in the website should have approval from the secretariat and it should flow through secretariat. With these suggestions GB approved report.

#### **7. Recommendations of FSMS Committee, Search committee and Awards committee with GC recommendations**

The Chairs of FSMS committee, search committee and award committee presented their reports in GC. After considerable discussion in the GC recommendations were approved by GC. General Secretary presented these GC recommendations to GB for GB approval.

The recommendations are.

#### **FSMS committee Recommendation**

Prof.Saurabh Ghosh, ISI, Kolkata

Prof. P. Marimuthu, NIMHANS, Bangalore

#### **Search Committee recommendations**

Life time achievement award: Dr. Padam Singh, New Delhi

Prof. S K Bhattacharya Oration: Prof. C M Pandey, Lucknow

Smt. Ramrati Lalima Sahai award: Prof. P. Venkatesan, Chennai

#### **Award committee recommendation**

Prof. K R Sundaram Young researcher award: Ms.Sukhanshi Khandpur

Department of Molecular Medicine and Biotechnology, SGPGIMS, Lucknow.

Prof. B G Prasad award: Dr.Prashant Ramdas Kokiwar

Department of Community Medicine, Malla Reddy Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad

Prof. P V Sukhatme award: Dr.Gajendra K Vishwakarma, IIT, Dhanbad

Further committee Chairs felt that there is a lack of objectivity in selection criteria for these awards. It is also difficult to check the submitted papers for the award have been already published or awarded. Hence Chairs suggested there should be a self attestation statement from the applicants in this regard. During 2020 GB meeting there was a suggestion for making this criteria and then President Dr.P.Venkatesan requested Chairs of award, search and nomination committees together form the criteria. However nothing materialised. Hence GB entrusted the present President to form a committee of six members to formulate objective criteria.

Many members also felt that the selection of awardees for prestigious awards like oration should be more Professional and Scientific and it should not tarnish the image of the society.

GB approved these recommendations.

#### **8. Nominating committee report with GC recommendation**

General Secretary briefed the General body that there were six applications for three post in the governing council. However the nominating committee fails to get a consensus among applicants and hence as per the decision of 2020 general body meeting, GC recommended for election. After a considerable debate regarding pros and cons of election, GB approved the election process for all positions.

#### **9. High power committee report**

The chair of High power committee Prof. B L Verma briefed the GB regarding its preparation of report and its continuous deliberation with National Medical Commission (NMC). Matters have been partially sorted out. However still there are issues to be resolved and committee in touch with NMC in this regard. GB appreciated the effort of committee.

#### **10. Election of President elect- Progress with GC Recommendation**

President of the society briefed the GB about the status of president elect election, its debate in GC and GC recommendation. There were three candidates for the post of President elect and past President Prof. P Venkatesan constituted an election committee to conduct election. Committee started work of election with input from

secretariat. Unfortunately middle of the process one candidate expired which created a dilemma of going ahead with the election or not?. Many senior members suggested it would be wise to get opinion of GC before taking a decision. Hence presented the matter to the GC. GC recommended to the present president to form an election committee at the earliest and conduct the election with two candidates..

The GB further debated about having a regular election committee. Many members felt this may dilute the role of nomination committee. However other members felt still nomination committee can have a role in receiving nominations, working on the consensus in case of more applicants etc.

#### **11. Prof. R N Srivastava award result**

Prof.Saurabh Ghosh representing Prof.R.N.Srivatsava award jury presented the unanimous decision of the jury. There were two papers which have been evaluated by the jury and called for presentations. Mr. Palash Malo selected for the award.

#### **12. Venue for the Annual conference 2022**

Dr.Satish Kakade, Associate Professor of Statistics from the Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences send the request for hosting the annual conference with approval from his management. Also that there was a late proposal (received in the middle of GB meeting) from ICMR-Institute of occupational health which the GB suggested to explore for the 2023 conference.

This was discussed in the GC and Dr.Kakade proposal was recommended. Dr.Kakade was asked to make a presentation in the GB about hosting the 2022 annual conference at Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, Karad which he did and GB approved it.

#### **13. Thanking the retiring GC members**

The general body expressed their gratitude to three retiring members Dr.Kalaivani, Prof.SK. Singh and Prof.DP. Singh who are retiring from the governing council by December 31, 2021.

#### **14. Any other matter with the permission of the chair**

Many members felt the need for upholding quality of prestigious presentation like Oration and plenary talks. They felt some of the selections were not up to the mark which may tarnish the image of the society.

Suggestions were made regarding the conduct of a series of workshops in between the conferences. The secretariat informed the members that a plan has been set and the work will be undertaken accordingly.

#### **15. Vote of thanks by General Secretary**

General secretary proposed vote of thanks to all members.



Dr.N.Sreekumaran Nair

General Secretary