

International Organization of MS Nurses

Date: March 09, 2023

Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting

Item	Discussion	Outcome
<p>Call to order and Introductions Marie Moore</p>	<p>Present: June Halper (CEO, Staff) Marie Moore Denise Bruen Marie Namey Beverly Layton Amy Perrin Ross Bonnie Blain Walette Widener Leny Almeda (staff) Jill Nelson Colleen Harris Erica Mitchell Joan Ohayon Sara Schafer Marguerite Herman (staff) Lynsey Lakin Marijean Buhse Megan Weigel (Zoom) Susan Agland* Tomicka McMillion* Jeffrey Hernandez* Regrets: Rachael Stacom Patricia Pagnotta Lynn Stazzone</p> <p>Welcome to new Board Members- *</p>	<p>Meeting called to order. 12:04 pm</p>
<p>Approval of Minutes Walette Widener</p>	<p>Walette asked for approval of the minutes</p>	<p>Marie Moore 1st June Halper-seconded. Minutes approved without edits.</p>

<p>CEO Report - June Halper Annual Meeting Update</p>	<p>Video Presentation/Nightingale Awards</p> <p>Video to be presented at International – Beverly asked if video may be shown at CMSC; Board agreed to showcase video/ possibly on a ‘loop’ in the suite and opening ceremony.</p> <p>Follow up on Subtitles - It was suggested to make sure subtitles are visible/clear.</p> <p>IOMSN Financials - Board reviewed financials/ Discussions focused on loss of revenue/funding.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lower membership 2. Decrease in Pharma Support <p>Lower membership 3/1/2023 - as per Peter Porco (Controller) 800 outstanding invoices.</p> <p>Outreach strategies to collaborative organizations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can we obtain updated demographics on members? 2. Pharma Outreach - How can members solicit/assist w/ Pharma funding? <p>Council of Sponsors - Marguerite provided a brief description of the Counsel of Sponsors and their role(s).</p> <p>Marie suggested we have a uniform ‘script’ when engaging with Pharma</p>	<p>Video to be presented at CMSC 2023</p> <p>June/Leny/Jillian to make sure subtitles are visible/clear.</p> <p>Utilize Regional Liaisons to reach out to members in their territory personally</p> <p>Email blast- however, will need to obtain primary/secondary email addresses. Update demographics.</p> <p>‘Script’ for Board Members – IOMSN staff - so we are all on the same page proceeding w/ securing funds, fundraising.</p>
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Financial Report - Jill Nelson	See report for details.	
Review of the IOMSN Committee and Project Reports:		Board approved.
Academic Outreach Committee - Bev Layton Marijean Buhse	Marijean presented the results of the Academic Outreach Questionnaire. 3/5/2023 - total respondents 59. Also, reviewed updates on slides/education.	Slides available on IOMSN website
ByLaws - Amy Perrin Ross	Amy Perrin Ross informed Board that CMSC Bylaws have been updated. She has focused efforts on IOMSN Bylaws. Three changes were proposed (Article 4, section 1A, Article 4, section 2; Article 9) Changes were reviewed w/the Board. Vote to make the changes approved by all members of the Board; unanimous vote to make recommended amendments/ Discussions were re. identifying members for Bylaws to work w/ Amy. Amy reminded the committee that members may “self-nominate.”	Amy will submit changes.
Communications Committee – Megan Weigel	Accomplishments from initiatives: Creation of IOMSN town hall meetings - 1/24/2023 - “Many Hats of Nursing” - 43 people attended. Social Media Highlights/Outreach	Board Members/non-members to review on the IOMSN website

	<p>reviewed. Megan suggested that all members of the Board make an effort to “tag” each other/post on IOMSN FB. other social media. Kudos to the Communications Committee expressed by Joan/other members of the Board.</p>	
<p>Education Committee - Colleen Harris-Denise Bruen</p>	<p>Slide Deck on IOMSN website updated; Novartis supported grant. Recognition to committee members</p> <p>Bonnie Blain - inquired about additional funding.</p> <p>Members were encouraged to review/utilize slides; Marie Moore inquired about the review process for accuracy prior to posting slides. Marie had questions re. accuracy of slides/current recommendations for pregnancy.</p> <p>Next steps: 6 regional programs - June added.</p> <p>June suggested that Board Members reach out to local nursing schools for opportunities to engage nursing students; reserves monies may be used to support this effort.</p> <p>Bev Layton - has tried this in the past along with Yolanda and met with resistance.</p> <p>Marie Moore/Lynsey Lakin/Jeffery Hernandez shared suggestions for how to incorporate the updated videos on IOMSN website or other educational data through alumni associations/residencies offered through members’ local universities.</p>	<p>Colleen presented the report on the next steps</p> <p>June has applied for funding</p> <p>Committee will review the inquiry re. pregnancy.</p>

<p>Membership- Joan Ohayon-Lynsey Lakin</p>	<p>Joan thanked members of the board for their support for the Nightingale awards. She highlighted the efforts of the International group. The ceremony at the 2022 Annual Meeting was a huge success; over 200 attended. Funding has not been confirmed for Nightingale Awards 2023.</p> <p>Future: Direct Outreach Bev: Inquired /suggested. Step 1 send out an email/reminder. Step 2 verify mailing address Joan would like to reach out to the 800 ‘returned’ invoices. Susan Agland: suggested submitting ‘commentary’ or ad to professional journals; targeting MD. Bev: Agreed w/ idea/letter to the editor</p> <p>Raffle at CMSC - “Refer a Nurse” - Give away Wednesday night. - Jeffery Hernandez. Suggestions for Give-Away: Megan’s book; It was suggested to have a “bar code” where people can pay with a credit card.</p> <p>Buddy Program: Marie inquired about what the plans are for this year. Feedback - A lot of the “buddies” were non-nursing professionals.</p> <p>Leny reviewed the process for how the buddy program works. Marie Moore inquired about “who did we target?” Feedback was solicited from members re. their experiences.</p> <p>Marie encourages members to partner w/ industry; she has received at least</p>	<p>Hospitality Suite at CMSC - Nightingale presentation/video to be shown. Wednesday night First Night - Marijean will be speaking.</p> <p>IOMSN staff will look into these options.</p> <p>June /Leny will ask Megan for signed book.</p> <p>Walette/Leny will work on coordinating baskets, etc. for the hospitality suite.</p>
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	<p>three names of new nurses that would be great for the buddy program.</p> <p>Jeffery requested ‘a card’ to give out to Pharma when they visit members’ offices.</p> <p>Marie: really emphasized the need to reach out to pharma and partner so “we can get the word out”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Suggestions: Letter to Editor - Raffle at CMSC “Refer A Nurse” - Leny/Wallette</p> <p>Buddy Program to contribute to the list of MSL/CLL. It was suggested to update the IOMSN database. Bonnie reviewed statistics from last year.</p> <p>Biogen has agreed to place the IOMSN slide at the end of their presentations/slide decks to help with IOMSN awareness.</p> <p>Marguerite Herman clarified just what exactly the “Council of Sponsors” is. Also, she added that the approximate costs for “booths” may exceed \$1,000; often up to \$5,000 to secure a spot in exhibit halls at any conference.</p> <p>Susan Agland: suggested that IOMSN should have representation- a ‘table’ or ‘booth’ at all International Meetings. Their national conference is in September. Ideas for cross-pollination/Susan Agland said that posting on other social media is in line with what IOMSN communication committee.</p>	<p>June/Leny may provide a list of current MSL/CLL that we may be able to speak with and distribute with talking points for board members</p>
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	<p>What would be the “pull” for Australian nurses or other international nurses to be members of IOMSN vs other “cross ocean” collaboration and increase networking.</p> <p>It was suggested that IOMSN become more visible at International Meetings i.e. ECTRIMS. Joan requested clarification on the process involved in having representation Internationally/costs.</p> <p>June would like to see us focus on APN, Neuroscience nurses, AANP.</p> <p>How to “sell IOMSN”? - members discussed ‘benefits to membership’.</p> <p>Jeffery Hernandez feels access to IOMSN website/all materials should be associated w/ membership. Nonmembers have Full access and a few members felt this may not be helping w/ memberships.</p> <p>Denies clarified: “If we kept all the information behind closed doors, more people might join to access the information.”</p> <p>Requiring membership for online access is recommended. “We may be missing the boat for some people who may not have the resources to network with our group” (Jeffery)</p> <p>June suggested we may need to hire a PR firm. June feels we need to poll “active members” - Why do you stay?</p>	<p>A membership survey will be sent – “<i>Why We Stayed?</i>” – IOMSN staff</p>
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	<p>Jill shared her frustrations with changes in MS.</p> <p>Bev: shared that members of the IOMSN board have discussed this over the years and it was felt that we wanted to get the word out; spread the word.</p> <p>“Why do we have it all free?”- Denise</p> <p>“Why do we not have it password protected? - Denise</p> <p>“I think it incentivizes participation.” Jeffery</p> <p>Jeffery: “Why would I renew my membership if I can get it for free?”</p> <p>List of Pharm/MSL/CLL- It was suggested to look at this list and see if we identify past members and reach out to them to collaborate.</p> <p>Discussions were had re. Industry and their past/current support for membership w/ their employees.</p>	<p>A membership survey will be sent –“<i>Why We Stayed</i>” – IOMSN staff</p>
<p>Nominations- Denise Bruen</p>	<p>June added comments Past Presidents can appoint - to avoid the perception of any influence.</p> <p>Amy reviewed By-Laws and reasons for having the past president be involved in this process.</p> <p>Treasurer: needed.</p> <p>Amy reiterated that members may “self-nominate.</p>	<p>Marie will reach out to Patricia and Megan regarding the need for nominations</p>

Research- Patricia Pagnotta (did not attend)	\$500 in the pot - June No funds have been designated	
Scholarships - Marie Namey Sara Schafer, Co-Chair	11 scholarship applications received - EMD Serono support. 2 did not meet qualifications because was not a member of IOMSN, and the other received a scholarship last year. Marie reminded Board that scholarship monies are designated for IOMSN members only and no more than 2 from the same organization. First come, First serve. Tomika McMillion shared details of upcoming VA educational offerings/open to the public.	Board members are encouraged to publicize/emphasize scholarship opportunities as benefit of IOMSN membership
International Reports Australia - Susan Agland	Susan reviewed leadership/positions - no changes have been made. The biggest change is the face-to-face conferences. Leadership group unchanged; President, Meaghan Osborne, V President Belinda Bardsley, Secretary Emma Christian, and Treasurer Mel McMurtrie. Funding changes through the government have affected a number of nurses. Susan discussed ongoing efforts in Australia to promote MSCN as well as post covid strategies to re-engage	

members and create opportunities for growth which include the following:

1. Alternative Meeting location altered to minimize travel costs, and increased registration, sponsorship opportunities to attend the conference. Increased face-to-face attendance, and increased membership (currently 99, up from 82 in 2022).
2. Increase awareness of MSCN role and increased need for access, esp in rural and regional areas. Multiple media engagements and governance outreach to highlight outcomes of the MS Nurse report ([msa_ms-nurses-report-summary_web.pdf](#) ([msaustralia.org.au](#)) utilized.
3. Opportunities were taken to showcase the role of MS nurses and the benefits of having access to MS-certified nurses, especially in areas w/specialty care is not available.

Australia can have any drug at any point “fall off” formulary. Generics have taken over the market. Avonex nor Rebif available any longer. Walette shared her experiences w/ International nurses and her time on MSNICB Board. She shared feedback from international nurses, their requests.

Susan shared that Pharma in Australia Pharma is no longer supporting nurses

	<p>to go outside their country. Susan feels that other nurses abroad do not understand what they are missing.</p> <p>Walette asked that we consider some of Susan's suggestions, particularly re. Annual Conference/Face-To-Face</p> <p>How can we get more International representation 'face-to-face' at our annual meeting?</p> <p>Increase international representation on our Board(s)?</p>	
Discussions	<p>Marie Moore - encouraged members to be "outward focused" while attending CMSC.</p> <p>Marie Namey- asked that we consider at least "one hour" to meet and greet/gather w/ members at CMSC First Night - which will be Wednesday night - one of our members, Marijean is talking.</p>	<p>Walette/Leny will work on the hospitality suite and ideas for membership recruitment; review the member survey</p>
Adjournment	<p>Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm</p>	<p>Marie Moore, Motion to adjourn. Lynsey, second the motion</p>

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Walette Widener