

Minutes of the Governing Council (GC) Meeting of the Indian Society for Medical Statistics (ISMS), held at SGPGIMS, Lucknow, during the 35th National Annual Conference in 2017.

Date, Venue & time : November 1, 2017, 6:30 PM, Lecture Theatre Complex, Meeting Room, SGPGIMS, Lucknow (UP).

Names of attendees : Dr C M Pandey (in Chair), Dr N Sreekumaran Nair, Dr B. Binukumar, Dr Ajit Sahai, Dr Anil Mathew, Dr A K Bansal, L Jeyaseelan, Dr Venkat Putcha, Dr V K Tiwari,

Names of Absentees : Dr B Antonisamy and Dr Abha Aggrawal.

Special Invitees (as Past Presidents): Dr PSS Sundar Rao, Dr B L Verma, Dr K R Sundaram, Dr Arvind Pandey and Dr D K Subbakrishna (Pl. check names ??).

Agenda Items

1. Welcome by the President	Prof. C.M Pandey
2. Approval of the previous minutes- EC & GB meeting.	Prof. N Sreekumaran Nair
3. General Secretary's Report	Prof. N Sreekumaran Nair
4. Treasurer's Report	Dr. B. Binukumar
5. Bulletin Editor's Report	Prof. Ajit Sahai
6. Report of the Web coordinator	Prof.N.Sreekumaran Nair
7. FSMS Committee's Report	Prof. C.M Pandey
8. Awards' Committee Report	Prof. Arvind Pandey
9. Search and Nominating Committee's Report	Prof. B.L Verma
10. Biostatistics Education Committee activity updates	Prof. C.M Pandey
11. Alternative naming of ISMS Annual conference	Prof. C.M Pandey
12. Journal's Publication – possibilities & challenges	Prof. Ajit Sahai
13. Forthcoming Annual Conference of ISMS	Prof. N Sreekumaran Nair
14. SOP for Society's webpage	Dr. Venkat Putcha
15. Election of President – Elect	Prof. C.M Pandey
16. Any other items (with permission of the Chair).	Any member

1. Welcome

President, Prof. CM Pandey, welcomed the members to the GC meeting and later, the General Secretary, Prof. N Sreekumaran Nair took over agenda items one by one, as enlisted above.

2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous GB & GC Meeting, held on 1st & 2nd December 2016 respectively at ISI, Kolkata (WB).

The GC unanimously accepted and approved minutes of the GC and GB meetings, held on 1st & 2nd December 2016 respectively at ISI, Kolkata.

3. Report of the General Secretary

Prof. N. Sreekumaran Nair presented report of various activities, undertaken by the Society during the year 2017, after he had taken over as GS of the Society. Copies of the report were circulated among the members.

General Secretary briefed the GC regarding the transfer of the ISMS Secretariat - record transfer, account transfer, updating Membership Directory, uploading of Membership Directory on the Society's website, enrolment of new members (35 new members including 2 annual members), ISMS Constitution 2017 and Fellowship & Awards Rules 2017 finalization & their printing. He also briefed about the preparation of certificates and mementos for the awardees. Presently, we have, in total, 899 members in the Society. The follow-up of registration of the Society was discussed and GC requested one of our Governing Council (GC) members - Prof. V. K. Tiwari, New Delhi, in discussion with Former Treasurer, Dr. A. K. Bansal, to follow it up. Prof. Tiwari kindly agreed to do so and inform the development from time to time to the Secretariat. It was agreed in the GC meeting that all concerning papers shall be handed over to Prof. V. K. Tiwari here at SGPGI, Lucknow itself. ..

The General Secretary proposed the following activities for the coming year (2018).

- a) Initiate CME programmes in collaboration with academic institutions and industries.
- b) Explore feasibility of engaging with other field of health care, namely- AYUSH, Dental, and Public health etc.
- c) Think over Innovative programmes to improve students' representation in ISMS.
- d) Continue membership drive.
- e) Explore feasibility of regional chapters.
- f) Create a data bank of biostatistics expertise in the country.

GC discussed and approved these proposals. However, GC insisted that creation of regional activities, shall be done in a planned way and these regional activities, in no way, will adversely affect programs of the main body (HQ Office of ISMS). It was further emphasized that our identity shall not be compromised while undertaking any of the above other proposed activities at any stage.

The GC appreciated the sincere efforts made by the Constitution & Awards Rules Committee, under the leadership of Prof. BL Verma.

GC approved the report and the proposals of GS.

4. Report of the Treasurer

Dr. B Binukumar, Treasurer, presented the audited report of the Society for the financial year 2016-2017. Copies of the report were circulated among the members. Further, he presented the details of various deposits and current account balance as on 30th November 2017. Report was approved.

5. Report of the Editor

Dr. Ajit Sahai, Bulletin Editor, presented his report of the ISMS Bulletin. He mentioned that due to various reasons, some issues of the Bulletin could not be published during the past one year. Lack of contributions (publishable material) and desired cooperation from some colleagues – mainly attributed to this state.

The GC appreciated Editor's efforts and approved Editor's report. GC also thanked Prof. Ajit Sahai for his continuous efforts to revive the Bulletin during his tenure (he shall be completing his tenure as Bulletin Editor this year).

6. Report of the Web Coordinator

Web Coordinator, Prof. B. Antonisamy could not attend the GC meeting due to his foreign trip. On behalf of Prof. B Antonisamy, General Secretary presented his report verbally. He emphasized that web updating was smooth throughout the year. .

The GC appreciated Prof. B. Antonisamy's contributions to the Society (he shall also be competing his tenure as Web Coordinator this year).

7. Report of the FSMS Committee

President - as Chair of this Committee, presented the report of the FSMS Committee which was approved by the Governing Council. He informed the GC that there were four nominations for FSMS and amongst them, 2 have been recommended for FSMS in 2017.

The awardees are Prof. Anil C Mathew, Coimbatore and Dr. Ajit Mukherji, New Delhi. The FSMS will be presented to them during the 2018 Conference.

8. Report of the Awards Committee

Prof. Arvind Pandey, Chairman of the Awards Committee, presented his report to the Governing Council. He gave recommended names by the Award Committee for various awards as under.

- a) Prof. BG Prasad Award: Dr. L Satyanarayana, ICMR, NOIDA
- b) Smt. Suraj Kali Jain Award: Dr Vasantha, NIE, Chennai
- c) Prof. P.V. Sukhatme Award: No nomination received this year.
- d) Smt. Saroj Shukla Travel Scholarship: No nomination received this year.
- e) Prof. K R Sundaram Award: Dr Ashish Awasthi, IIPH, Gandhinagar

GC approved the above recommendations

9. Search Committee and Nominating Committee Reports

Prof. B.L.Verma, Chairman of the Nominating as well as Search Committee presented recommendations of both the Committees for the approval of the GC.

- i) **Search Committee Recommendations:**
 - a) **Lifetime Achievement Award:** As this award was instituted by the Society in the year 2015 and so, Committee made its recommendations from the back date for 3 years as given below.
 - 2015: Prof. PSS Sundar Rao, Bengaluru (to be presented in 2017)
 - 2016: Dr. S. Radhakrishna, Hyderabad (to be presented in 2017)
 - 2017: Prof. PP Talwar, New Delhi (to be presented in 2018)
 - b) **Smt. Ramrati Lalima Sahai Award – 2017 :** Prof. Arvind Pandey, New Delhi
(It will be presented to him during 2018 Conference).
 - c) **Prof. A Indrayan Travel Grant:** As this grant was not given to anybody last year (2016), following rules, previous year's grant was carried over to this year . Thus,, this year, this grant was recommended to 2 members ; one for 2016 and the other for 2017, as under:
 - 2016: Dr. R J Yadav, New Delhi (50% of the grant amount) & Dr. Abha Rani Aggarwal, N Delhi (50% of the grant amount).
 - 2017: Prof. N K Tyagi, Belagavi

d) **Professor SK Bhattacharya Oration - 2017:** Prof Rakesh Shukla, Cincinnati (USA):

This Oration shall be delivered by him in 2018 annual conference.

GC approved these recommendations.

ii) **Nominating Committee Recommendations:**

Prof. B L Verma, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the committee report in GC. Members recommended by the Committee for different positions were as under:

a) **Governing Council Member:** He informed that five (5) nominations were received against two (2) vacant positions of Governing Council member. Dr. S S Ganguly, Sultanate of Oman and Dr. C B Tripathi, Delhi, were recommended to the Governing Council as Member for the term 2018-2020.

The GC approved their election as Governing Council member.

b) **Editor-in-Chief:** Only one nomination: of Prof. K Thennarasu, Bengaluru, was received. However, as the complete homework by the Committee, constituted for the journal last year (2016), was not done and as such, some basic issues, related to the publication of the journal remained still undecided. In such a situation, Committee, did not recommend any body for the position of Editor-in-Chief.

c) **Editor-ISMS Bulletin:** The Nominating Committee nominated Prof. K. Thennarasu, Bengaluru, for the position of Bulletin Editor, and desired that he should accept this position. Prof. Thennarasu very kindly agreed to accept this position for next 5 years (2018-2022).

It was desired by the members that the Committee formed for the Journal last year (2016) should complete its work soon and explore feasibility of starting the Society's journal.

d) **Web Co-ordinator:** Prof. L Jeyaseelan was nominated by the Committee for the position of Web Coordinator for the next term (2018-2020). Further, Prof. Jeyaseelan is already a Governing Council member. While he takes over the Charge as Web Coordinator, he will automatically become Council Member and his present position as GC member will get vacated. Name of Prof. B. Antonisamy was recommended by the Committee for this position for the remaining one year period of the present term (ie, for the year 2018).

GC approved these proposals and congratulated all above elected members.

10. Biostatistics Education Committee Report

President Prof. CM. Pandey, as Chair of this Committee, updated the GC members about the efforts taken by this Committee (including his efforts on getting MCI President for the Lucknow 2017 Conference). Members discussed various options on activities of this Committee for improving biostatistics component in medical colleges and other para-medical institutions of the country and suggested to include AYUSH, DENTAL and other similar Councils in the domain of its work. GC referred this item for further discussion in the General body meeting.

11. Alternate naming of ISMS conference

President proposed the idea of renaming the ISMS annual conference event to a more attractive name like Congress, colloquium etc. The GC suggested to explore such a possibility by inviting more ideas from the members on the subject..

12. ISMS Journal Publication

GC discussed the long pending issue for publishing an official journal of the Society. GC's view was that Society had formed a 3- member Committee (Dr Ajit Sahai, Dr B L Verma & Dr Venkat Putcha) in the year 2016 for exploring possibility of publishing a Journal. This Committee somehow, could not complete its job and submit its report. Members' feeling was that - this Committee should complete its work and submit its report (covering all issues related to the publication of the journal). In the light of Committee's Report, Society will take a decision on the subject next year (2018). .

13.Future ISMS Conferences

General Secretary Prof. N. Sreekumaran Nair presented three proposals for upcoming annual conferences.

2018 Conference – Letter of invitation from Director NIMHANS, Bengaluru and a stand by proposal from Dr. B.Ganesh, Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai.

GC referred this matter for further discussion in the General Body.

2019 ISMS Conference: General Secretary informed that there was an E-mail communication from Dr Aleyamma Mathew, Professor and Head, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

GC advised to explore its possibility , along with other possible suitable venues for the year 2019. GC thought of taking a decision in this effect next year only, after reviewing different proposals received by the Society.

14. SOP for Society Web Page

Dr.Venkat Putcha expressed some difficulty to get into the SOP in the current year. He assured members that he will be further working with Prof. L Jeyaseelan, our next Web Coordinator, in this regard.

15. Election of the President Elect:

President informed the GC that since there was no consensus amongst the nominees for this position, as per the new ISMS Constitution, President has to constitute an Adhoc Committee during General Body meeting to conduct the election. It was decided that the election process should be completed before 31st Dec 2017. As decided earlier, the members enrolled in the Society, before 1 December 2016 shall be eligible for casting their votes in this election. President will form this Committee for the election purpose in the GB meeting.

16.Any Other Item

Prof.PSS. Sundar Rao opined to have long term plan for ISMS. Dr B L Verma, agreed with the idea and suggested that ISMS may have a Vision Document 2025 (on the lines of some other organizations, like the ICMR) and work accordingly. Members showed their agreement with these suggestions.

President thanked all the members for their active participation and valuable suggestions in the meeting. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



President

General Secretary

Dated :December 27,2017

Place : Puducherry