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**PACIFIC COAST SURGICAL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
(Draft – Members to approve 2/2006)
Monday, February 21, 2005
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Laguna Niguel, California**

Call To Order

President Samuel E. Wilson called the meeting to order at 11:25am and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

A motion to accept the minutes from the February 2004 Annual Business Meeting as submitted was unanimously approved.

Announcements

President Wilson announced the death of the following PCSA members:

Lucian Buscaglia	Thomas Moore
William Krupski	Herbert Movius
William Longmire, Jr.	R.E. Robbins
Karl May, Jr.	Fredric Shidler

President Wilson urged those members who may have known any of the deceased to provide PCSA Management Services with an appropriate obituary and photo for next year's Program Book. He noted that the Caucus Councilors would be asked to forward death announcements as well. A moment of silence was observed.

Recorder's Report

Recorder Fred Weaver reported that the meeting seems to be a success based on initial feedback from the participants and the quality of abstracts given. There were 84 abstracts submitted with 25 podium presentations and 29 poster presentations being accepted. Three speakers and a facilitator were invited to present a panel discussion on simulators in surgical education. He noted that two abstracts were accepted from the WA/BC/AK Caucus; four abstracts were accepted from the OR/WA Caucus; seven abstracts from the Northern California Caucus; and, twelve from the Southern California Caucus. GI had the highest number of papers accepted followed by Trauma. Brendon Vissar received the Resident's Prize.

Recorder Weaver also noted that abstracts were submitted electronically through PCSA's web site for the first time without any complications. The Association will continue with the electronic submission process.

Archives of Surgery Report

Associate Editor Edward Cornwell, on behalf of Julie Freischlag, new Editor of the Archives of Surgery, reported that the Journal would continue with the traditions established by its previous Editor, Claude Organ, most notably the historic vignettes and its long-time relationship with PCSA. He relayed that there is a movement towards electronic submission of manuscripts. The process should be completed in time for next year's Annual Meeting. Corresponding authors with accepted manuscripts will receive 25 complimentary reproductions of their article. Dr. Cornwell described PCSA's relationship with the Journal as vibrant and rich. For the last three years, there were record numbers of paper submissions from the PCSA. Last year, 158 pages of the Journal were allocated to PCSA papers. Over the last 16 years, nearly 75% of the manuscripts submitted by PCSA have been published in the Journal. A rewarding relationship between the Archives of Surgery and PCSA is anticipated to continue for the years to come.

President's Remarks

President Wilson relayed that the PCSA is much more than a social group and that the cutting-edge papers and the number of papers published in the Archives of Surgery support that. He said the Association is very viable and noted that two of the most important national leaders in surgery, Dr. Claude Organ and Dr. Thomas Russell, continue to be active members of the Association.

President Wilson introduced the new management services team from the American College of Surgeons and commended them for their efforts in making the transition of management offices as seamless as possible. The team is already bringing many new insights to the organization.

Representative Reports

American Board of Surgery: Dr. William Schecter reported that a template is being developed for a new surgical curriculum for the first three years of residency in order to improve the uniformity, effectiveness, and efficiency of teaching across all surgical programs. He also noted that methods are being explored that could provide greater oversight to ensure the quality of surgical education and training programs. His written report was distributed.

ACS Board of Governors: Dr. Quan-Yang Duh reported that professional liability and tort reform are the top concerns of the fellows with physician reimbursement in Medicare and Medicaid running a close second. His written report was distributed.

ACS Advisory Council for General Surgery: Dr. Michael Hart reported that the ACS Surgery text is now available on-line for surgery residents. The ACS is developing its own web portal to enhance communication and interaction with fellows. And, the College has also distributed a voluntary affidavit for fellows serving as expert witnesses. His written report was distributed.

The full content of the Representative Reports will be posted on the PCSA Web Site.

Secretary-Treasurer Report

Secretary-Treasurer James W. Holcroft reported that the Association lost nearly \$100,000 in 2004, largely due to budget overruns with the Hawaii meeting. The Association is reversing this downward trend. A professional management service is helping to manage the Association, increasing the layer of oversight for expense approval and initiating budget saving measures in 2005, such as conducting the abstract process electronically. This year's Local Arrangements Committee has been very effective in reducing expenses at this year's meeting, and the Committees for Northern California and Washington-British Columbia-Alaska Caucuses have been making similar efforts. Cost-cutting measures have included eliminating a reception and dinner from the social program, not bringing the transcriptionist to the meeting, negotiating with the American College of Surgeons to return 75% of the hotel commission to the Association, increasing the registration fees to cover the cost of the meetings, refocusing on industry support, taking a tough stance on dues collection and attendance requirements, and starting next year, sending the Program Book electronically to the full membership with printed copies going to Annual Meeting attendees only.

Dr. Holcroft announced that the Council is recommending a membership dues increase from \$220 to \$250. The PCSA has not increased dues in several years. An increase would help PCSA balance its budget and grow reserves again.

A motion to increase the dues from \$220 to \$250 was approved with majority vote.

Lastly, Secretary-Treasurer Holcroft reported that there are 190 active members, 81 senior members, 33 non-resident members, and 23 new members for a total of 327 PCSA members. There are 229 non-dues paying members (retired and honorary). There are 21 open slots for new members. For this year, 14 new members are being submitted for approval, leaving 7 slots unfilled. He closed by stating that the Council discussed charging retired members up to 80 years of age a \$50 subscription dues fee but with the advisement of the Past Presidents in attendance, the Council determined not to initiate the fee.

Nomination of New Members

Dr. Livingston Wong, on behalf of the Nominating Committee that also included Drs. Theodore O'Connell and Thomas Russell, presented the new member nominees. A motion to accept the following applicants for membership passed by a majority vote of those members in attendance:

Cheryl Ewing, MD	N. Calif
Richard Bold, MD	N. Calif
San-Mo-Kang, MD	N. Calif
Electron Kebebew, MD	N. Calif
Mary McGrath, MD	N. Calif
Irene Wapnir, MD	N. Calif
James Wiedeman, MD	N. Calif
Martin Schreiber, MD	OR/HI
William Johnson, MD	OR/HI
Oscar Hines, MD	S. Calif
Emilia Dauway-Williams, MD	WA/BC/AK
Dana Lynge, MD	WA/BC/AK
Ravi Moonka, MD	WA/BC/AK
Michael Sobel, MD	WA/BC/AK

Audit Committee

Dr. John Hiatt, representing the Audit Committee that also included Dr. Thomas Berne, reported that the Committee reviewed the Association's financial books with the new management staff and found them in order. The members of the Committee were impressed with staff's depth of knowledge regarding the Association's financial position. Recommendations by the Committee include use of formal audits at the time the Secretary-Treasurer position changes; use of unannounced spot audits to identify any malfeasance with the Association's funds, and development of written protocols with regard to meeting expenses in order to avoid future budget overruns. The Committee will submit written recommendations to the Secretary-Treasurer. They will be considered at next year's Council meeting.

Resignations and Excused Absences:

A motion to accept the following member resignations and excused absences was unanimous.

Resignations:	Gregory Jurkovich	Mark Vierra
	Richard Simons	Richard Yeager

Excused for being unable to attend the Annual Meeting:

Arthur Hill	David Spain
John Hunter	Christoph Troppmann
James McClenathan	

President Wilson noted that the Council revisited the policy on Annual Meeting attendance and unanimously voted to keep the policy intact. Members will be expected to attend at least one in every four consecutive meetings. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of membership.

Honorariums

A motion to give each the Recorder and Secretary-Treasurer an honorarium in the amount of \$1,200 was approved unanimously.

Future Meetings

PCSA 2006 is scheduled for February 17- 20 at the Fairmont San Francisco; PCSA 2007 is confirmed for February 16 – 19 at the Fairmont Orchid on the big island of Hawaii.

Web Site

PCSA will renew its agreement with WhisperCom for ongoing web services. Suggestions about improving the web site should be sent to the management headquarters.

Membership Database

PCSA's database will now track the primary specialty for each member. The membership listing will not be offered for rent at this time.

ACS Advisory Council Appointment

A motion to appoint Dr. Michael Hart for another three-year term was approved unanimously.

Program Committee

Program Chair Fred Weaver announced that Dr. Geoff Stiles has agreed to come on board the Program Committee as the Southern California representative replacing Dr. Michael Shabot. Dr. Weaver expressed his gratitude to Dr. Michael Shabot for the time and effort he has given to the Committee over the past several years.

Nominating Committee Report

A motion to accept the following the nominations was unanimous:

- A. Dr. Stephen Etheredge as 2006 Vice-President and Councilor for Northern California.
- B. Dr. Bruce Stabile as 2008 President.
- C. Dr. Jim Atkinson as Councilor for Southern California.

President Wilson commended the service of those Council members whose terms are up on the Council: Dr. Russell Williams, Dr. Ron Latimer and Dr. Orlo Clark. Dr. Wilson also expressed his gratitude to Dr. John Butler, the Local Arrangements Committee, and the Program Committee, for their efforts in planning the Annual Meeting.

Induction of New President

President Wilson welcomed President-Elect Olcott to the podium and in handing the gavel over he conveyed his confidence in Dr. Olcott's abilities to carry forward the goals of the Association as the new President. President Olcott thanked Dr. Wilson for his dedication in serving the membership. He thanked everyone for a successful meeting.

President Olcott adjourned the meeting at 11:55am.

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Holcroft, MD
Secretary-Treasurer

