



**ASNM**  
American Society of  
Neurophysiological Monitoring

Dear ASNM Community:

I am writing to inform you that the ASNM has decided to cancel the 2020 Annual Meeting scheduled for May 15-17, 2020 in St. Louis, MO. This meeting will not be rescheduled, although some events will be otherwise accommodated as detailed below.

Canceling this meeting was a very difficult decision for us to make, but we felt it was the only prudent decision in the face of the global pandemic. ASNM's board wants our membership and conference attendees to know that we take your health and safety with the upmost care and concern. We know you and your health care systems are doing everything in your power to help manage this global pandemic. We are all in this together.

I understand that you may have many questions, so I've done my best to answer your questions below.

**Meeting Registrations:**

If you already registered for the Annual Meeting as an attendee, your registration fee will be refunded through your original source of payment within three weeks. If you paid with credit card, the charge will be reversed, and if you paid with check, you will receive a full refund in the mail.

**Travel and Accommodations:**

Please work directly with the hotel and/or your airline carrier to cancel or change your travel arrangements as you see fit. At this time, there are no plans to hold a meeting in St. Louis this year or in the future.

**Exhibitors:**

If you already registered for the Annual Meeting as an exhibitor (and are not a 2020 ASNM full year Sponsor), your registration fee can be refunded, or we can discuss other options. Please contact Affinity Strategies at [asnm@affinity-strategies.com](mailto:asnm@affinity-strategies.com).

**Sponsors:**

If you are a 2020 ASNM Sponsor at any level (e.g., platinum, gold, etc.), we understand that we are not able to provide the entirety of what we've offered in the 2020 Exhibitor Prospectus. We'd like to engage you directly to discuss options regarding how we can make this right. Please contact Affinity Strategies at [asnm@affinity-strategies.com](mailto:asnm@affinity-strategies.com).

**Awards:**

All awards will be given at the 2020 Fall Symposium in Vancouver. Given that the meeting is in concert with CANM, we're planning to give awards in a private setting (perhaps a dinner) so we don't impose on CANM activities.

**Mary Stecker Award:** This award will be applied to the Fall Symposium. Assuming the winner is able to attend, he/she will receive free registration, as well as a check for \$250 to be given in person at the Fall Symposium.

**Fellowship:** If any fellowship nominations are approved, the new Fellow(s) will be inducted at the Fall Symposium; again, likely in a private setting.

#### **Posters:**

Cancelled for 2020.

#### **Board of Directors Meeting:**

Right now, our plan is to hold this meeting at or around the Fall Symposium. We don't have anything urgent to discuss or decide, so we're comfortable delaying the meeting.

#### **Bylaws Update:**

As I announced in my March President's Message, we are updating our Bylaws. Our original plan was to put the final version to a vote of the Board, and a vote of the entire Membership, both at the Annual Meeting in May. Canceling this meeting gives us the opportunity to slow down and take more time. So, we will plan to send a draft to the entire membership this summer for an open comment period, then put the final version to vote in the Fall. Please look out for more communications from ASNM leadership in the coming months.

#### **Voting from Membership:**

At the Annual Meeting each year, all ASNM members attend the Saturday Business Meeting Luncheon where we typically review Society business and vote on two important things: 1) approving minutes from the previous year, and 2) the slate of candidates for the upcoming election. This year, we will do both votes electronically. Importantly, we will not be able to accept nominations from the floor of the meeting. Nominations have been open for months, so this shouldn't be a problem since every member has had the opportunity to nominate someone for candidacy for quite some time now.

#### **Transition of Power:**

- Will take place without ceremony on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 1PM EDT.
- Executive Committee:
  - Faisal Jahangiri will become President
  - Rich Vogel will become Immediate Past President
  - Laura Hemmer will become President-Elect
  - Jay Shils will remain Secretary
  - Willy Boucharel will remain Treasurer
- Leaving the Board:
  - Jeff Gertsch
  - Leah Hanson

- Bryan Wilent
- Joining the Board:
  - Cheryl Wiggins
  - Clare Gale
  - Tara Stewart
  - Lanjun Guo

**Educational Opportunities:**

In addition to the Fall Symposium, which is still being planned, the ASNM will continue to host new webinars. Additionally, we encourage everyone to take advantage of our existing online webinar content for your continuing education needs. We will be evaluating if we have the bandwidth to expand our webinar options and will communicate any changes that occur to membership.

Finally, I want to apologize for taking so long to make this announcement and thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate these challenging times. There was a ton of work to do behind the scenes, as canceling a meeting isn't as easy as one might think. We will continue to communicate updates as frequently as possible. Feel free to reach out to the ASNM staff at [asnm@affinity-strategies.com](mailto:asnm@affinity-strategies.com). It is our goal to keep this valued community as a source of strength and knowledge in our special profession and continue to build on the value ASNM can offer.

Thank you,

Richard Vogel, Ph.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Vogel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "V".

ASNM, President