

## **Pancreas Section Business Meeting**

The annual meeting of the PAN Section was held on Monday, June 1, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

1. Randy Pearson has served on the AGAI Council for the past four years and as Chair of the Section for the last two years. His outstanding leadership and invaluable contributions were duly recognized by the Section membership.
2. The results of this year's election were announced as summarized above. Rodger Liddle welcomed Chris Forsmark as newly elected Vice-Chair of the Section and thanked those who served on the Nominating Committee. The members of the Nominating Committee will serve as counselors to the PAN Section for the next two years.
3. Rodger Liddle led a discussion of the AGAI Council's Task Force for Section Self-Assessment. Over the past year the AGAI reviewed the potential need for re-organizing the Council's sections and developed the following plan for evaluation and potential reorganization of Sections.

The Council Self-Assessment Task Force determined that there would be no change in the current Council section structure but that the sections should be evaluated on a regular basis. Although the Task Force did not feel the need to dissolve or modify existing sections and to create new sections at this time, guidelines for doing this in the future were made.

The Task Force recommended that the Council perform regular self-assessment which would address the following questions:

- A. Is each section meeting the needs of its membership?
- B. Does each section continue to reflect its focus within the broad field of digestive diseases?
- C. Are the leaders of each section keeping in touch with where the section is and could be going?

It was recommended that each section perform a self-assessment during the months after DDW and provide a written report to Council to be discussed at the fall Council meeting. Each section will have its most recent self-assessment available at its annual business meeting at DDW, for discussion with section members.

The indicators listed below will assist each section and the Council Chair track whether each section is growing or remaining stable.

- A. Membership count and trends
- B. Abstract submissions and trends
- C. Attendance at DDW for section invited speaker sessions including a summary (mean, range, combined total, etc.) and trends
- D. Elections
  - a. Nominating Committee members (number, by section)

- b. Candidates, prior to nominating committee selections and final slate
- c. Vote counts
- d. Proportional counts
- E. Meeting minutes

The Task Force Offered the Following "Guidelines for Modifying Existing Sections"

1. Is the section no longer addressing the needs of its members?
2. Does the section no longer reflect that area of gastroenterology, or how research and clinical practice is structured?
  - a) When the number of abstracts falls below a certain threshold
  - b) When the number of members falls below a certain threshold
  - c) Redundancy of descriptors
4. The Section reviewed the abstract descriptors, number of submissions, acceptances, etc. for DDW 2009.
5. The Section reviewed the oral sessions including Research and Topic Fora and the State-of-the-Art Lecture and recommendations were solicited for next year's meeting.
6. Several members commented that the schedule for PAN oral sessions was not distributed to members via email as has been done in the past and that it would be very helpful if this information was more readily available prior to the meeting. A change was made this year, and instead of including the schedule in the email to members, the schedule was available on the Web through an email link. However, this was not obvious to many members and it was recommended that we provide the Section's schedule of presentations in a more readily available format prior to next year's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.