

International Society for Affective Disorders
Membership Committee Meeting
Sunday 5th March 2006
Lisbon, Portugal

Present:

Roumen Milev (Chair), Dr John Rush, Prof Tetsuya Hirose, Dr Gustavo Vazquez, Caroline Holebrook (Minutes).

1. Expansion of the membership

As a result of discussion the Committee agreed a general survey of the Fellowship would yield accurate information regarding the demands and expectations of the membership.

Action: Caroline to draft a survey

All delegates attending conference will be offered 3 months free trial membership of ISAD.

Action: Caroline will organise this offer in conjunction with Elsevier.

There will be a number of free memberships available to junior researchers which will be allocated by competition.

This strategy had been previously discussed by the Executive Committee. An extract of the Executive Committee meeting minutes is below. This model was in all major respects the same as that discussed by the Membership Committee.

Extract from the Executive Committee

The Committee agreed that ISAD should encourage young researchers to become members and eventually Fellows of the Society.

To encourage participation from this group the Committee will offer 25 free memberships (2 years duration) of ISAD, including an online subscription to the Journal of Affective Disorders, by competition.

- I. The awards will be judged on submission of an abstract of their research. This should include projected outcomes and a paradigm of why they are undertaking it.
- II. Alternatively; a submission detailing the protocol for a project in Affective Disorders and a supporting testimonial from their Professor.

(Note – We need to clarify the judging criteria – In conjunction with Sagar Parikh, Education Committee Chair)

The awards will be allocated by geographical regions in accordance with the ISAD Zone structure. (See attached)

Zones:

1 = 5 awards

2 = 5 awards

3 = 5 awards

4 = 5 awards

5 additional floating votes which can be awarded
anywhere excluding Zone 1

Award winners should be announced in the Journal of Affective Disorders and be encouraged to give JAD the first refusal on their publications.

2. Subscriptions

The committee felt a less complex membership structure should be explored.

Is it necessary for there to be specific categories?

The committee proposed that there be two categories:

- Fellows
- Members

The committee agreed that the zonal fee structure is helpful to those in developing countries.

Action: Caroline will refer this to the Executive Committee

3. Council

The committee agreed that a full council meeting of ISAD should be attempted to coordinate the working of the Society. Each Committee chair could then report back to the Council and allow initiatives to be joined up, preventing duplication and offering opportunities for collaborations where overlaps occurred.

Action: Caroline will poll the council to find a meeting at which a quorum will be attending.

CH 22/03/06