



ANNUAL MEMBERS' FORUM AND BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES

November 11, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

With proper notice given and a quorum of over 50 members present, Dr. Norah Terrault, AASLD President, called the 74th Annual Members' Forum and Business Meeting to order on November 11, 2023 at 1:00 PM ET.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Terrault presented a report of the major accomplishments achieved in 2023.

Recognition of Deceased Members

The contributions of the following individuals who passed away since the last annual meeting were highlighted, and members observed a moment of silence in recognition and remembrance:

- **Klaus Boeker, MD**
Professor
Leberpraxis Hannover Germany
- **Swati Joshi-Barve, MS, PhD**
Assistant Professor
University of Louisville
- **Gustav Paumgartner**
Retired Professor of Internal Medicine Director of Medical Clinic II
Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich
- **Sang Tran, MD**
INOVA Fairfax Hospital

Affirmation of Leadership Election

Dr. DeLeve, Past President and Chair of the 2023 Nominating Committee presented results of the incoming Councilor selection and general election results.

Affirmation of Officers for 2024

In accordance with the Bylaws, the Councilor-at-Large, elected by the AASLD membership, was affirmed as follows:

- **Rotonya Carr, MD, FACP**
University of Washington, for the term January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2029.
- **Harmeet Malhi, MD, MBBS, FAASLD**
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, for the term January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2026.

Affirmation of the 2024 Nominating Committee

The incoming members of the 2024 Nominating Committee as elected by the AASLD membership were confirmed as follows:

- **Doris Strader, MD**
University of Vermont Medical Center, for the term January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2025.
- **Laura M. Kulik, MD**
Northwestern Medical Group, for the term January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2025.

Acknowledgement of Officers for 2024

- Dr. W. Ray Kim, as President of the Association. Dr. Kim is Professor of Medicine and Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Stanford University.
- Dr. Grace Su, as President-Elect. Dr. Su is Professor of Medicine and Surgery at the University of Michigan Medical School.
- Dr. Carla Brady, as Secretary. Dr. Brady is Associate Professor of Medicine at Duke University
- Dr. Tamar Taddei, as Treasurer. Dr. Taddei is Professor of Medicine (Digestive Diseases) and Vice Chief of Faculty Development (Digestive Diseases) at Yale School of Medicine and Chief of Gastroenterology at the Veterans Affairs Connecticut Health Care System.
- Dr. Norah Terrault, Chief of Gastroenterology & Hepatology at Keck Medical Center of USC, will transition to Past President and Chair the Nominating Committee in 2024.

2024 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

AASLD achieved significant representation across institutions and geographic diversity. Additionally, we are pleased to report that 51% of committee members will be serving on a committee for the first time; 31% of members are non-Caucasian, and 41% identify as female.

2023 AASLD DISTINGUISHED AWARD RECIPIENTS

Dr. Terrault recognized the 2023 Distinguished Award Recipients:

- **Florence Wong, MD, FAASLD**
Distinguished Achievement Award
- **Jorge Rakela, MD, MACP, FAASLD**
Distinguished Service Award
- **Samuel So, MD**
Distinguished Advocacy Service Award
- **Elizabeth Rand, MD**
Distinguished Clinician Educator/
Mentor Award

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dr. Brady presented the secretary's report.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held virtually on November 4, 2022, were approved by an online vote by the membership in October 2023.

Membership Report

AASLD now has 7,312 members.

2022-2023 Membership Year- June 30, 2023
1,00 New Members. 8.6 percent Growth rate
82 percent retention rate

AASLD Bylaw Change

Approved Change to Terms – Title II, Section III in AASLD Bylaws: *The Councilor-at-Large, Secretary and Treasurer are eligible for nomination as Councilor after four years off the Board. The Councilor-at-Large is eligible for nomination as Secretary or Treasurer after four years off the Board.* This was passed with an overwhelming majority by our members.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Dr. Taddei reported that AASLD and the AASLD Foundation Financial Statements for FY2023 (July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023) were audited. The Finance Committee, which oversees the financial and investment activities of AASLD, reviewed the independent auditor's reports by GRF CPAs & Advisors.

The Governing Board reviewed and approved the FY2022 audit reports on October 20, 2022. The auditors reported that the financial positions for AASLD and the AASLD Foundation were strong and rendered an unmodified (clean) opinion regarding the finances and internal control procedures, the best audit report opinion any organization can receive.

Highlights of FY 2023:

- **Revenue** increased mostly from successful annual meeting and sponsorships income compared to the prior year.
- **Expenses:** Overall, we done a great job and were able to retain most of the program expenses within budget. We increased our efforts in engagement and global outreach program and as a result higher expenses were incurred in these categories.
- 87% of total expenses were spent on programs and 13% on leadership and administration compared to industry best practices of 77% and 23%, respectively.

AASLD FOUNDATION

Dr. Bruce Luxon reported that the Foundation funded over \$2 million in funding towards awards and education. The Research & Career Development award recipients, selected from a highly competitive applicant pool, demonstrated both exceptional aptitude and deep interest in liver disease research and treatment.

Dr. Luxon highlighted the Foundation's impact including:

1. Funded over 1900 PEOPLE – investing \$60M in our specialty.
2. Supported people in 46 states and 45 countries through our research grants, training program, or by giving travel awards for those very far away.
3. Invested in the RIGHT People, for every dollar the Foundation invested from 2014 – 2021 has resulted in \$6.19 in NIH Follow on Funding – so far.

Dr. Luxon also presented results from the 2023

Leadership Giving Challenge:

- 72 percent of members serving on a Committee or SIG Committee made a gift to the Foundation during the campaign period.
- Three teams hit the competition hard and fully supported the Foundation very early in the Challenge.
- Women's Initiative Committee won the Challenge.
- Second place team is the Hepatotoxicity SIG
- Third Place the Practice Metrics Committee
- 17 of 42 teams competing in 2023 had 100 percent participation – this compares to 5 percent in 2022.

Dr. Luxon's term ends 12/31/2023. He introduced the new Foundation Board Chair, Kimberly A. Brown, MD, FAASLD. Chair from January 1, 2024-December 31, 2026.

Recognition of Leaders with Ending Terms

Dr. Terrault recognized the following members who will be completing their terms on December 31, 2023, for their service and commitment to AASLD:

Governing Board

- **Laurie DeLeve, MD, FAASLD**
Past-President
- **Paul Martin, MD, FAASLD**
Councilor-at-Large
- **Bruce Luxon, MD, FAASLD**
Foundation Board Chair

INSTALLATION OF THE NEXT PRESIDENT

Dr. Terrault presented the AASLD gavel to Dr. W. Ray Kim, who will become the 75th President of the Association, noting her confidence in his leadership.

Appreciation of Retiring President

Dr. Kim expressed appreciation to Dr. Terrault for her years of service to AASLD and thanked her on behalf of AASLD members and the Governing Board for her dedicated leadership.

Incoming President's Address

Dr. Kim accepted the privilege of leading the Association as the incoming President and presented commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, including launching mentoring opportunities through Mentor Connect Program; launching AASLD's new member database, which will allow for more visibility and opportunities for under-represented minorities; and bringing more diversity to The Liver Meeting and across AASLD programming.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM ET.

Respectfully Submitted by



Carla W. Brady, MD, MHS, FAASLD
Secretary