

MINUTES
Annual Membership Meeting
20th Annual Scientific Sessions
Sunday, June 7
Washington, DC

Call to Order:

William Zoghbi, MD, FASE, President of the Society called the meeting to order at 1:55 p.m.

Review June 2008 Minutes:

Rick Rigling, ASE Secretary, stated that the minutes from the prior annual business meeting were announced and posted in a June 1 e-newsletter for membership review. Additional copies could be found on the tables in the back of the room. After a proper motion and second, the members voted to accept the minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report:

James Thomas, MD, Treasurer of the Society reviewed the ASE's Financial Report from 2008 and end of year audit; then reviewed the April 2009 financial statements.

He stated that the Society's total assets were \$3.17 million on Dec. 31, 2008. The Society had 2008 revenues of \$5,283,687 and 2008 expenses of \$6,275,455. The loss for the year, not including the investments or depreciation of assets, was -\$1,668. He noted that there were several large factors influencing the year-end deficit figures:

- Over \$239,404 in depreciation expense was recorded for the Society's new assets including computers, furniture and software. The start-up costs for the new office included furniture and computer equipment for the 20 staff offices, conference room and reception areas.
- \$25,000 in bad debt from bankrupt IRT member PointBiomedical
- Loss of -\$750,696 in long-term investments due to the decline in the stock market

He then reviewed the April 2009 statements noting that:

- Membership retention is slightly lower than normal (but new members continue to exceed expectations)
- Lowered number of co-sponsored courses will negatively affect the educational income
- Several 2009 initiatives have already been cut to save funds—CAAHEP Grants, Stress Pocket Guide, Research Grants
- FASE applications are above target (941 current FASEs)
- Sonographer Chicago Course sold out and beat targeted income
- Concerto and E³ Courses were very popular and exceeded targeted income
- Guideline Binders are very popular and selling beyond target
- Elsevier ads and reprints selling beyond targets

He stated that the ASE's Investment Portfolio on April 30, 2009 had a value of \$2,459,010. He noted that ASE's investments are starting to regain their 2008 losses, and they have been repositioned with more short-term bond funds.

He stated that the Board approved 2009 Budget was balanced with income of \$6,127,270 and expenses of \$6,127,091. The projections for the current year-end forecast show the association with a loss of ~\$4,000 for the year. He emphasized that ASE will have to closely monitor expenses to retain any gains for the year.

Board of Directors Invocation:

Dr. Zoghbi recognized and thanked the outgoing ASE Board of Directors

- Pamela R. Burgess, RDCS, RDMS, FASE
- Kenneth D. Horton, RCS, RDCS, FASE
- Jonathan R. Lindner, MD, FASE
- Madhav Swaminathan, MD, FASE
- Malissa J. Wood, MD
- Jack Rychik, MD

Dr. Zoghbi recognized and thanked the outgoing ASE Council Chairs

- Emile Mohler, MD
- Stan Shernan, MD
- Peg Knoll, RDCS, FASE
- Peter Frommelt, MD, FASE

Dr. Zoghbi recognized and thanked the outgoing ASE Executive Committee Members:

- Past President: Thomas Ryan, MD, FASE
- Secretary: Rick Rigling, RDCS, FASE

Dr. Zoghbi introduced the new ASE Executive Committee:

- President: Roberto Lang, MD, FASE
- President-Elect: Sanjiv Kaul, MD, FASE
- Vice President: James D. Thomas, MD
- Treasurer: Neil A. Weissman, MD, FASE
- Secretary: Peg Knoll, RDCS, FASE
- Past President: William Zoghbi, MD, FASE

Dr. Zoghbi introduced the new ASE Board of Directors members, noting that they were approved by the membership from the results of the member ballot:

- Theodore P. Abraham, MD, FASE
- Deborah A. Agler, RCT, RDCS, FASE
- Tal Geva, MD, FASE
- Rebecca T. Hahn, MD, FASE
- Carol C. Mitchell, PhD, RDMS, RDCS, RVT, RT(R)
- Vera H. Rigolin, MD, FASE

- Incoming Council Chairs:
 - Marti L. McCulloch, BS, RDCS, FASE
 - Kathryn Glas, MD
 - Wyman W. Lai, MD, MPH, FASE
 - Robert Eberhardt, MD

State-of-the-ASE Presentation:

Dr. Zoghbi gave a brief presentation to the audience with an overview of his past term as president.

President's Address:

Dr. Zoghbi introduced Roberto Lang, MD as the new president of the ASE and handed him the ASE's presidential gavel. Dr. Lang then thanked Dr. Zoghbi for his "Inspiration, Dedication and Leadership as President of the American Society of Echocardiography from June 2008- June 2009" and presented him with a plaque in honor of his service.

Dr. Lang addressed the crowd and gave a brief presentation to the audience with an overview of his upcoming term as president.

2009 Awards Ceremony:

Jack Rychik, MD of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, in Philadelphia, PA was named as the 10th annual ASE Scientific Sessions Feigenbaum Lecturer.

The ASE Meritorious Service Award, which recognizes an individual's substantial contributions and generous efforts to the Society's betterment, was given to recipient Benjamin F. Byrd, III, MD, Professor of Medicine; Director of Echocardiography; Director of the Adult Congenital Heart Disease Program at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. Dr. Byrd is recognized for his many years of volunteer service, including leadership as chair of the ASE Membership Steering Committee and currently as chair of the ASE Advocacy Committee. As leader of our advocacy efforts, he has spent countless hours tackling many issues including coding and reimbursement, developing collaborative efforts with other medical societies and making sure that echocardiography is positively represented in the health care reform debates. ASE is indebted to him for his many years of service and as a role model of volunteerism for the field of echocardiography.

The Richard Popp Excellence in Teaching Award was established in 2001 in honor of Richard Popp, MD, FASE and recognizes a physician who epitomizes the ideal qualities of a mentor and role model. Rebecca Hahn, MD, FASE was the 2009 recipient of the Richard Popp Excellence in Teaching Award. Rebecca was nominated by her peers for her work at the Columbia University Medical Center in New York, NY, for her commitment to the field of echocardiography, and for her mentorship of Fellows and colleagues in cardiovascular ultrasound.

The Cardiac Sonographer Distinguished Teacher Award was established in 2001. This award recognizes a Sonographer who demonstrates teaching expertise in echocardiography, who serves as a role model for the profession, has acted as a mentor for students and fellow sonographers, and also exhibits the highest values in dedication to the field of echocardiography.

Marti McCulloch, MBA, BS, RDCS, FASE of the Methodist DeBakey Heart and Vascular Center in Houston, TX was named the 9th annual recipient of the ASE Cardiac Sonographer Distinguished Teacher Award. She was nominated by her peers as an active ASE cardiovascular sonographer instructor who is attentive to the cardiac sonographer values while epitomizing leadership values and dedication to the field of echocardiography.

He announced the establishment of a new award, the ASE Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes an individual who has had a lifetime of outstanding contributions to the field of cardiovascular ultrasound and has served as a role model through service, research and teaching.

This individual has a career in cardiovascular ultrasound spanning at least 25 years and is widely recognized at the local, national and international levels. The Society's first recipient of this Award was Jamil Tajik, MD, Professor of Medicine and Professor of Pediatrics at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, AZ. Dr. Tajik is known around the world as an effective teacher and excellent clinician. He has trained countless physicians and sonographers who have become international leaders in echocardiography. His research in echocardiography has spanned all aspects of the discipline and has helped fuel the integration of echocardiography into clinical practice. Dr. Tajik has served admirably as an ambassador for echocardiography.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss, the meeting ended at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robin Wiegerink
CEO