

NEWS BULLETIN

## National Neurosurgical Activities

MUHAMMAD ANWAR CHAUDARY (*Chief Editor*)

Neurosurgery is an inherently dynamic specialty, developing at a very rapid pace, more so because of the involvement of and its dependence on advanced technology. The international neurosurgical scene is full of cutting edge research presented in dramatic meetings, conferences, workshops and courses. The local neurosurgical landscape is no exception. Its panorama is changing as the development of neurosurgery is gaining pace in Pakistan. Prospects look good considering the fact that the activity on the academic front is also getting richer. The following compilation of the individual events gives a flavour of this richness.

### Activities of PSN

**Election were held during the 29<sup>th</sup> National Neurosurgery Conference 2016 held at Lahore on November 4 – 6, 2016.**

**Following were elected as members of executive Committee of PSN.**

<i>President:</i>	<b>Prof. Mumtaz Ali</b> <i>Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar</i>	<b>Cell: 0300-8583277</b>
<i>Senior Vice President:</i>	<b>Prof. Dr. Salman Sharif</b> <i>LNH, Karachi</i>	<b>Cell: 0333-2267287</b>
<i>Vice President:</i>	<b>Dr. Abid Ali Langa</b> <i>Quetta</i>	<b>Cell: 0333-7504178</b>
<i>General Secretary:</i>	<b>Prof. Shahzad Shamus</b> <i>KEMU, Lahore</i>	<b>Cell: 0322-4001600</b>
<i>Finance Secretary:</i>	<b>Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Chaudary</b> <i>Professor of Neurosurgery PGMI / AMC Lahore General Hospital, Lahore</i>	<b>Cell: 0321-4333004</b>
<i>Joint Secretary:</i>	<b>Dr. Ajmal Khan</b> <i>LGH, Lahore</i>	<b>Cell: 0321-6666767 Cell: 0306-4767776</b>
<i>Press and Publication Secretary:</i>	<b>Dr. Muhammad Usman</b> <i>LRH, Peshawar</i>	<b>Cell: 0333-9150608</b>

**31<sup>st</sup> National Neurosurgical Conference** will be held at Nawab Shah by Prof. Shamas Raza Brohi will be the Organize the Meeting. **Contact Mobile:** 0321-3207376, 0332-2824160 (Prof. Shamas Raza Brohi).

**SAARC Neurosurgery** was organized by the Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Chaudary at PINS LGH Lahore. 8 Workshops were held during 2 days in March 28 – 29, 2018 while Main Conference was held at PC Lahore

during March 30 – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2018. Delegates from 14 countries participated. Near 200 research articles were presented.

## Sequence of Elections for Executive Committee of PSN

Year	President	Senior Vice President	Vice President	General Secretary	Joint Secretary	Finance Secretary	Press and Publication Secretary
2017-18	KPK	Sindh	Balochistan	Punjab	Open	Open	Open
2019-20	Sindh	Balochistan	Punjab	KPK	"	"	"
2021-22	Balochistan	Punjab	KPK	Sindh	"	"	"
2023-24	Punjab	KPK	Sindh	Balochistan	"	"	"

## Minutes of PSN General Body Meeting 25 November, 2017, Islamabad

The PSN General body meeting (GBM) was held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 at Serena, Islamabad, on the occasion of 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Pakistan Society of Neurosurgeons, under the chairmanship of Prof. Mumtaz Ali, President Pakistan Society of Neurosurgeons.

The following members of the Executive Committee were also present;

1. Prof. Salman Sharif (Senior Vice President).
2. Dr. Abid Ali Langa (Vice President).
3. Dr. Ajmal Khan (Joint Secretary).
4. Prof. Muhammad Anwar Chaudary (Finance Secretary).
5. Dr. Muhammad Usman (Press and Publication Secretary).

The proceedings started with the Recitation of the Holy Quran by the President.

The following agendas were discussed and decided accordingly:

### Agenda No. 1: PSN New Website Launch

The PSN website was not active from the last 2-3 years, so new website was made by the Press and Publication Secretary and it was launched. The launch was done successfully by the current president (Prof. Mumtaz Ali) and past presidents, including, Prof. Tariq Hashim Khan, Prof. Rasheed Jooma, Prof. Tariq Salahuddin and Vice President of CPSP, Prof. Naqeebullah Achakzai. The website address is, [www.paksn.org](http://www.paksn.org)

After the launch a brief tutorial was given by the Press and Publication Secretary to those who launched the website. Besides other things, tutorial also included online membership application/process.

Following were the suggestions, made by the members of the PSN;

- Prof. Rasheed Jooma proposed to form the committee of the Past presidents of the PSN and this section should be in-corporate in the website. He proposed the name of Prof. Tariq Hashim Khan as the coordinator of the committee. This point was well taken by the house and was approved by the President. President advised Press & Publication Secretary to do so.

- Women in Neurosurgery (WINS) section was incorporated in the PSN website. Dr. Aneela Darbar, the Chairperson of WINS section highlighted the need and objectives of WINS. She said three main principles of the WINS would be;
  - i. There should and will be parallel WINS session in the Annual PSN conferences.
  - ii. Scholarship funds will be sought out for female Neurosurgeons of Pakistan.
  - iii. Female Neurosurgeons will be provided short term observer ships/fellow ships abroad.

### **Agenda No. 2: Membership of PSN**

- In the last GBM at Lahore, on the occasion of 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of PSN, it was decided that from next Annual Conference onwards, the membership fee of the PSN will be taken along with the registration fee of the conference. And this will be the solely responsibility of the host to do so. But due to some misunderstanding and miscommunication from both ends, this did not happen. So, it was decided and announced that this task is MANDATORY from now onwards.
- The membership fee of PKR 5000/= was collected by the Joint Secretary of PSN, in the GBM, from the members who were present.
- President PSN, Prof. Mumtaz Ali requested and suggested to all the seniors to make sure that their colleagues and juniors should pay the Annual membership fee of the PSN on time, rather they should collect the fee and then submit in the society's account.
- Dr. Shahid Ayub asked about the membership number procedure. In reply to this Prof. Anwar Chaudary assured that it will be the same old procedure, which will be followed.

### **Agenda No. 3: To upgrade the PSN Status in the WFNS**

- It was suggested to upgrade the members record in the PSN website and only those member's names should be mentioned who have paid their Annual dues. This suggestion was approved by the President.
- After that there was debate on how many members should be mentioned in the website, as the website is public, so if we mention more members, then the fee of the WFNS will be more. Prof. Naqeebullah Achakzai come up with the suggestion that we should be fair with the WFNS and we should mention the correct number of members. And it's only 8 – 10 USD for each member to get registered with the WFNS through the PSN. This 8-10 USD could be easily deducted from the PKR 5000/=, which the member has to pay annually to the PSN as a membership fee. The point was well taken and it was decided to mention the correct number of the members in the PSN website.
- It was suggested by the house to make an official Whatsapp group of the PSN members for robust communication and in that group only those members should be included, who have paid their Annual membership dues. Executive committee approved that and the responsibility is given to Press and Publication Secretary to form that whatsapp group. Also the minutes of GB meeting of the PSN should be shared in that group.
- Just like any other national (e.g. CPSP) and International (AANS, CNS etc) organization/neurosurgery society, only those members will be mentioned in the good standing list, who have paid their Annual membership fees.

### **Agenda No. 4: Audit Report of PSN Accounts**

The audit report was presented by Finance Secretary, Prof. Muhammad Anwar Chaudary. He presented the report in detail and said that PSN is in negative balance and he donated that funds to the PSN. So, now the current balance is zero.

Prof. Anwar further said that he is hosting the upcoming SAARC Neurosurgery Conference, which will be

going to held in March 2018. He said that it's difficult to make a new account for that, so he'll be using the PSN bank account instead. The GB had no objection on that and President approved that request.

### Agenda No. 5: Enhancement of PSN Funds

Following were the main points;

- I. As the PSN accounts are in negative balance so, earlier in the EC meeting, Prof. Mumtaz suggested to Prof. Anwar to donate 10% of the Registration fee of the SAARC Neurosurgery Conference, to the PSN. Others members were of the same opinion and Prof. Anwar agreed on that.
- II. The organizer/host of the PSN Annual Conference, should donate to the Society;
  - i. A lump sump amount of PKR 500,000/=
  - OR
  - ii. 10% savings from the Conference.
- This point was not well taken by the members, so open voting was done in the GBM and none of the option was validated by the members.
- III. For fundraising of the PSN, following worthy members showed their willingness to donate the funds to PSN as;

Serial No.	Member	Donation (in PKR)
1.	Prof. Tariq Safi	500,000/=
2.	Prof. Tariq Hashim Khan	200,000/=
3.	Prof. Tariq Salahuddin	100,000/=
4.	Dr. Naeem-ur-Rehman	100,000/=

President approved that and the house appreciated that very much.

### Agenda No. 6: Educational/Academic Activities

International scholarships were already started and 4 young neurosurgeons, 1 from each province, were selected for Euro spine course diploma (basic modules) at France. Furthermore 4 more young neurosurgeons were selected, 1 from each province, for short term observer ships / fellowships internationally.

The PSN scholarship selection committee comprised of President and Press & Publication secretary. Prof. Salman suggested to add one past president in that committee to make process more fair, for the next year (2018 intake). He suggested the name of Prof. Rashid Jooma. President further suggested to nominate Prof. Salman Sharif and Prof. Anjum Habib Vohra, additionally in the PSN Scholarship selection committee. All the EC members and the house agreed on that.

So, decided and approved by the President, the PSN Scholarship Selection Committee will comprise of following members;

1. President PSN, Prof. Mumtaz Ali.
2. Prof. Rashid Jooma.
3. Prof. Anjum Habib Vohra.

4. Senior Vice President PSN, Prof. Salman Sharif.

- Prof. Rashid Jooma accepted this offer from the President with open arms.
- Prof. Tariq Safi proposed to formulate the named scholarships for young neurosurgeons. The scholarship name would be after the one who is donating the funds in that scholarship, e.g., Tariq Safi Scholarship or Tariq Hashim Khan Scholarship etc. These scholarships will be used to support educational/academic activities nationally and internationally.
- President suggested to have the Nurses in Neurosurgery session in each Annual conference, as it is the norm in rest of the world. By doing so, we can train our nurses, because these are the personnel who are present 24/7 with the patients and if they are trained properly, they could make a huge difference.
- President requested all the members present that who so ever is arranging academic activities in their regions, should inform the PSN and it should be in collaboration with the PSN, this ultimately will have a good impact on the event in all aspects.
- Prof. Anwar Chaudary requested the General body that the presenters who presented their work in the conference should make the articles and it should be sent within two weeks to be published in the society's official Journal.

### **Agenda No. 7: Hosting of ACNS 2022**

Prof. Shahzad Shams showed his willingness in the last GBM of PSN, at Lahore to host ACNS 2022. He was not present, so it was decided to first discuss with him, that still he is willing or not to host the mega event? Prof. Anwar Chaudary suggested that, if Prof. Shahzad Shams is not willing, then we three (Prof. Muhammad Anwar Chaudary, Prof. Asif Bashir and Prof. Khalid Mahmood) are interested in the hosting of ACNS 2022. Press and Publication Secretary reminds all the members that who so ever is interested should send his proposal before 31 December 2017. Furthermore, the potential host has to make a presentation to be presented in coming ACNS 2018 meeting in Dubai.

In this regard following is the email which was received from the ACNS secretariat;

### **Agenda No. 8: Hosting of Coming 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of PSN 2018**

Three Applications were received as;

1. Karachi (Prof. Raza Rizvi, JPMC).
  2. Nawabshah (Prof. Shams Raza Brohi).
  3. Peshawar (Prof. Mumtaz Ali, Prof. Azmatullah, Prof. Mohammad Siddiq, Dr. Shahid Ayub).
- A lot of discussion on the issue was done and finally it was decided to handover the conference to Nawabshah, under Chairmanship of Prof. Shams Raza Brohi. President approved that and also announced. And it was suggested that a proper liaison should be made by the PSN executive committee and the host of the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual conference of the PSN, to make the facilities available and for the proper arrangements of the conference.
  - In the end Prof. Salman Sharif announced the forth coming academic activities by his department. Dr. Abid Ali Langa (Vice President PSN) requested to provide PSN scholarships to Balouchistan neurosurgeons, equally. President PSN assured him that this was done in the past and will be the practice in the future as well. The meeting ended with the vote of thanks by the chairman.

*Minutes Compiled by: Dr. Muhammad Usman  
Press and Publication Secretary, Pakistan Society of Neurosurgeons*