



Board Meeting Minutes

3/22/2011, 5-6 pm CST

The 1st Meeting of the 4th ACRE Board of Directors was convened by a Skype teleconference at 5:00-6:30 p.m. CT on Tuesday, March 22, 2011.

Present: Linda Cai, Yingjie Chen, Dayue Duan, Guo-Chang Fan, Zhongjie Sun, Hong Wang, Qinglin Yang, Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, Juming Zhong

Absent: Alex F. Chen

Meeting Coordinator: Yingjie Chen

Skype Coordinator: Juming Zhong

Resolutions from the 1st ACRE meeting:

- To organize the annual ACRE Scientific Meeting during the AHA Scientific Sessions.
- To consolidate current membership and recruit new members.
- To establish a new Task Force Committee to carry out the communication and integration with CnAHA.
- To update ACRE website and provide quarterly newsletter to ACRE members.

The ACRE new General Secretary Dr. Yingjie Chen and President Dr. Zhongjie Sun welcomed everyone to this meeting, especially Dr. Linda Cai who made exceptional effort to attend the meeting from Beijing. Meeting started at 5:00 pm CT.

1. Committee assignments & reports

Dr. Zhongjie Sun reported the process of the 2010-2011 nomination and election of the ACRE Board members. Zhongjie expressed thanks to the Nomination & Election Committee members (Drs. Xuejun Wang, Xupei Huang and Yong-Jian Geng) for their time and efforts in handling this important process which gives birth of the new ACRE Board. Zhongjie went through the election details and found that the votes meet the

requirement for Quorum & Voting according to the ACRE Bylaw (Article XIII). The election result is valid and legal!

Zhongjie appreciated active participation of all ACRE members in the election process and welcome new ACRE board members. The new ACRE Board is as follows.

Zhongjie Sun (**President**), Dayue Duan (**President-elect**),
Yingjie Chen (**General Secretary**),
Qinglin Yang (**Membership Committee Chairman**),
Juming Zhong (**Finance Committee Chairman**),
Hong Wang (**Education and Award Committee Chairman**),
Alex F. Chen (**Long-range Planning Committee Chairman**),
Jay Jianyi Zhang (**Program and Science Committee Chairman**),
Hua Linda Cai (**Public Affairs Committee Chairman**),
Guo-Chang Fan (**Editor-in-Chief**)

2. Strategic plans for revitalizing the ACRE

Zhongjie gave a brief introduction of the current status of the ACRE and emphasized the urgency for revitalizing the organization. All committee members concurred with Zhongjie's motion and made excellent suggestions for resuming and enhancing the ACRE's function. Zhongjie also emphasized that a collegial Board is the key to the success of the revitalization of the ACRE.

Dr. Qinglin Yang, as the Chair of the membership committee, inquired about the list of current ACRE members and membership status with paid membership dues. During the meeting, Dr. Juming Zhong emailed the current member list to attendees and Dr. Hong Wang made some changes to it by sorting the members by family names. Dr. Jay Zhang raised the concern that the size of the active ACRE members has not been increased since 2007.

Dr. Dayue Duan gave a brief review of the ACRE history [1st President Dayue Duan, 2nd president Donna Wang, 3rd president Alex Chen] and answered questions why the ACRE became less active in recent years. Zhongjie further pointed out that maintaining an active Board leadership and a collegial environment are critical for the prosperous ACRE, the home of the Chinese CV scientists.

All Directors agreed that consolidating current membership and recruiting new members are the top priority for the ACRE under current circumstances. Dr. Hong Wang suggested to request each committee member introducing five colleagues to ACRE, and to encourage all current ACRE members to bring in new members. A new column of "Liaison" should be added in "ACRE member list" to document the member's nice efforts in this important mission. Dr. Hua Cai suggested to promote ACRE and recruit new members at the ACRE Annual Conference.

Qinglin, Hong, Linda, Juming and Yingjie suggested that we should have quarterly newsletter, update the ACRE webpage and spread our ACRE booklet during conferences. Dayue, Guochang, Zhongjie reported that we are updating the ACRE webpage. In addition, Dayue explained why the ACRE webpage had not been updated since 2007. Recently, Dayue has resumed the ACRE website maintenance through the IT service at his university. The website has been updated and the members are encouraged to frequently visit the ACRE website for news and information on the members and future conferences and meetings. The new Directory of the ACRE Members will be on the website soon.

Jay suggested that the ACRE should contact the Chinese Ministry of Education and colleagues of cardiovascular community in China. He also emphasized a revisit of the ACRE mission statement (see below) is very important for the value of the ACRE and for the revitalization of the organization.

“The missions of the ACRE shall be to promote the excellence and advancement of cardiovascular research, education, drug discovery and clinical applications, to promote the professional development of its members, and to lead the effort of academic exchanges and scientific interactions among its members. For these purposes, the ACRE shall be the voice of cardiovascular basic sciences, clinical sciences, and population sciences and sponsor cardiovascular research and education programs, workshops, symposia, annual scientific meetings, conferences, and publications. The ACRE shall actively engage in academic exchanges between China and the outside world in the area of cardiovascular function, diseases, and drug discovery to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke.”

3. Future ACRE activities

Dr. Hong Wang initiated a move to organize “ACRE Annual Conference” during the annual AHA scientific session (one half day right before the AHA meeting) and a conference abstract award competition. Zhongjie and Yingjie seconded the idea. Zhongjie further suggested that Dr. Hong Wang, as the Chair of the Education and Award Committee, and Dr. Jay Zhang, as the Chair of the Scientific Program Committee, be responsible for this activity. Guochang suggested that we may submit AHA accepted abstracts to Dr. Hong Wang before September. All attendees discussed the possibilities that we hold half-day meeting prior to the AHA conference for this annual event. Linda and Yingjie initiated discussion about the possibilities to cooperate the annual event with AHA scientific program. There was also discussion about combine the annual ACRE Scientific Meeting and Award ceremony with the annual ACRE dinner.

The attendees unanimously passed the move by Dr. Hong Wang to organize the annual ACRE Scientific Meeting and Award Competition during the annual AHA Scientific Sessions. Hong and Jay will propose a plan for the “ACRE Annual Conference 2011” in the next committee meeting.

4. Format of future Board meeting

All attendees agreed that Skype is a good tool for future Board meeting.

5. The CnAHA issue

Dr. Dayue Duan briefed the attendees with the history and background of the interaction of the ACRE with CnAHA. The first Task Force Committee worked very hard with the initiatives to integrate the ACRE and CnAHA and provided a draft of the integration agreement and bylaws, which were approved by the 2nd Board of Directors. But the outcomes were not successful due to various reasons. Drs. Duan and Sun both re-emphasized the importance of the integration and the urgency to resume the communication with the CnAHA. Dr. Sun's move to establish a Task Force Committee to carry out the communication and integration with CnAHA was seconded by Dr. Yingjie Chen and unanimously passed by the attendees. According to the ACRE Bylaws, the President, Dr. Sun, will appoint the Task Force Committee and forward to the Board for approval.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m CT.

---Drs. Guo-Chang Fan, Dayue Duan, Yingjie Chen and Zhongjie Sun contributed this reports.