

CSNS Fall 2024 Southwest Quadrant Meeting: 09/28/2024

Attendees:

Ryan Ormond (Chair)	david.ormond@cuanschutz.edu
Ciara Harraher (Vice-Chair)	harraher@stanford.edu
Ernest Braxton	ebraxton@vsortho.com
Kenneth Blumenfeld	kennethblumenfeld@mac.com
Kristin Huntoon	kristinhuntoon@gmail.com
Joseph Camarano	josephcamarano95@gmail.com
Rob Rudy	robert.rudy@barrowneurosurgery.com
Anthony DiGiorgio	Anthony.digiorgio@ucsf.edu
Luis Tumialan	luis.tumialan@barrowbrainandspine.com
Mark Linskey	mlinskey@hs.uci.edu
Brian Gantwerker	dr.g@craniospinalcenter.com
Lily Kim	lilikhkim@stanford.edu
Jeremy Phelps	jtpmcd@hotmail.com
Cristian Gagnanello	gagnanello@uthscsa.edu
John Ratliff	jratliff@stanford.edu
Jessica Campos	camposjk@uci.edu
Joseph Chen	jchen@centerneuro.com
Meena Vessell	meenavessell@gmail.com
Bharat Guthikonda	bharat.guthikonda@isuhsc.edu
Jerome Volk	jvold@isuhsc.edu

Introduced three new resident fellows present, discussed their committee attendance and any early projects briefly.

1. Minutes from the last meeting.

Motion to approve (Huntoon), second (Tumialan), unanimous approval

2. One Reference committee member and alternate for spring meeting/AANS 2025 (Boston, MA)

- a. Meena Vessell as reference committee member
- b. Joseph Camarano alternate
- c. Motion (Guthikonda), second (Harraher), unanimous approval

3. CNS Nominations -

- i. **President Elect:** Brain Nahed, nominated by Ormond seconded by Huntoon. Unanimous in favor.

- ii. **Vice President:** Garni Barkhoudarian nominated by Linskey, second by Gantwerker Unanimous in favor
 - iii. **3 members at Large: Anthony DiGiorgio, Ryan Ormond, Kristin Huntoon**
- 4. **AANS Regional Director discussion:** requested by President to present first choice and an alternate. Will require a rules and regulation change so will only bring forward one name at this meeting.
 - a. Motion made by to nominate **Bharat Guthikonda for SW quadrant regional director** (Phelps) second (Tumialan) Unanimous in favor.
- 5. Resolutions:
 - a. I – Motion to support the ref committee position to support as amended. Linskey to speak
 - b. II – Motion to support the ref committee position to support as amended. Huntoon to speak
 - c. III –Motion to support the ref committee position to support as amended. Author (Camarano) Amendment proposed by author to conduct a survey to determine what determines a reasonable non-compete clause. Discussion about potential loss of this resolution if we reject . Camarano to speak.
 - d. IV –Motion to support the ref committee position to refer to committee. Discussion about partnership with spine section. Patient safety committee seems appropriate. Gantwerker to speak.
 - e. V –Motion to support the ref committee position to reject, Guthikonda to speak.
 - f. VI Motion to support the ref committee position to support as amended. Harraher to speak
 - g. VII –Motion to support the ref committee position to support. Discussion around how this doable. Assess the overall variability in what insurance companies are requiring. Camarano to speak
 - h. VIII – Motion to accept ref cmte to reject as written. Linskey to speak.
 - i. IX – Motion to reject the ref cmte to support as amended. There is too much variability and this will not yield useful or accurate data. Guthikonda to speak,
 - j. X – Motion to accept ref cmte to support as written. Campos to speak.
 - k. XI – Motion to reject ref cmte to refer to committee and reject the resolution. Not unanimous. Harraher to speak
 - l. XII – Motion to accept ref cmte to reject.Kim to speak.
 - m. XIII – Emergency Resolution: AANS regional director role. Motion to support the ref committee position to support . Campos to speak
- 6. State updates:
 - i. California – Harraher spoke. Prop 35 On the November ballot which is supported by physican organizations and will permanently allocate

MCO tax funds for Medi-cal provider reimbursement. Some opposition including Governor. Main priority of CMA to pass this ballot initiative. Economic health management cmte established in CA (office of healthcare affordability). This cmte sets spending cost targets. Wants to keep cost growth to under 3.5%. Need continued involvement by physicians. CANS BOD has drafted a letter to CMA asking them to stay focused on the issues that affect physicians practices and not direct as many resources to peripheral/social issues.

- ii. Colorado – Ormond spoke. Trial lawyers brought forward to two ballot initiatives to remove tort caps and remove peer review protections. \$50 -100 million budget estimated to fight this. Created counter ballot initiatives, lawyers had to disclose fees and limit payout to 25%. Asked legislators to bump tort caps. Connect them to consumer index. End result : Governor forced parties to negotiate. Had to settle with raising tort caps but the ballot initiatives were removed. Passed and signed.
- iii. Louisiana – Guthikonda. Many patients were covered under ACA but recently many are losing this coverage so seeing more self-pay/uninsured, hospital competition for all patients, including medicaid patients. New governor, threats to funding education and healthcare. Nursing crisis/unionization in one of the largest hospital systems.
- iv. Texas – Gragnanello-ban on non-compete clauses shut down. Pediatrics/Vessell: Medicaid enrollment changes – every year you have to re-enroll Medicaid, many healthy children uninsured, hospitals are financially suffering.

7. Motion to adjourn. Seconded. Unanimous.
Adjourned.