

## LWPES Membership Committee Report

4/10/2009

Samuel J. Casella, MD Chair

Kathryn Thraikill, MD

Chayim Newmark, MD

### **Yearly report of activities and accomplishments of the committee:**

As of 4/10/2009, we have approved 75 applications for Membership. We have an additional 42 applications that will be reviewed before the April 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board.

**Yearly schedule of activities for the committee:** The committee communicates by email, reviewing applications that have been assembled by Degnon Associates. Applications are batched into 3 large groups, and are reviewed in the weeks preceding the LWPES Board meetings. All applications are reviewed independently, and voting of each of the 3 members is tabulated by Degnon. We will meet in person at this year's PAS meetings, where Dr. Thraikill will become Chairperson.

### **Job description of the Chair and a statement of Committee Charge/purposes:**

The Chair of the committee assures that all complete applications are reviewed in a timely manner, and resolves any situations in which the individual votes are not congruent. The Chair also serves as a resource for clarification of Membership criteria.

The primary purpose of the committee is to review applications for membership, and to encourage Pediatric Endocrinologists to join our society.

**Identification of two or three initiatives/outcomes that the Committee will address in the coming year:** The Committee is concerned that potential members are not aware of the LWPES, or that they are unaware that Membership criteria are more inclusive than in years past. We believe that advertisements in professional journals might attract additional members.

The committee is also concerned that many members have fallen behind in dues (43 in arrears for 2008, 188 have not paid 2009 dues). It is not clear if this is the result of the increase in dues, the recent financial crisis, or a feeling that the LWPES provides insufficient value. We believe that a survey would provide better insight into this problem – and perhaps reveal potential solutions.

### **Any recommendations or items for discussions with the Board:**

Recognizing that financial resources are very limited, we ask the Board to consider providing \$1000 for advertising. This will not buy much space in professional journals, but we will try to negotiate a discounted rate with the Endocrine Society and other publishers.

Respectfully submitted, Sam J. Casella, MD 4/10/2009