

ARO Council Meeting
Thursday, April 18, 2024, 2P-3P EST

Attendees:

Sunil Puria	Katharine Fernandez	
Anna Lysakowski	Brandon Cox	
Mike Bowl	Kristin Johnson, Executive Office	
Ronna Hertzano	Dawn Keglор, Executive Office	
Yuri Agrawal		
Radha Kalluri		
Lisa Olson		
Avril Genene Holt		

Apologies:

Unexcused:

Minutes:

Discussion on MidWinter Meeting Accreditation

The meeting began with a discussion on the idea of accreditation of the ARO MWM to access grant funding, brought up by the Executive Office. It was noted that the estimated cost for accreditation is around \$7,500, which could open access to significant grant money. Accreditation would allow ARO to offer Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits and potentially attract more funding opportunities. Avril Genene Holt inquired about the accreditation fee and its duration, to which ARO clarified that it is an annual fee. Dr. Holt also asked about the requirements for maintaining accreditation, and Dawn Keglор clarified that no additional reports would be required. Drs. Puria and Olson expressed their support for gathering more information on this initiative.

Security and Safety Concerns in Florida

The Executive Office presented estimated costs for items previously discussed such as on-site security for the meeting due to concerns around safety due to the legislative issues Florida has. Dr. Bowl raised concerns about having security on-site and noted that it could increase perceived danger and even make some attendees feel less safe overall. The group decided against hiring on-site security for the meeting. Hybrid attendance options were discussed and ultimately, Council agreed to continue with the Recordings Only meeting registration type for those that do not want to attend in-person due to the added audio/visual and staffing costs required to execute a hybrid meeting. Quotes for potential shuttle services for attendees from airport to venue hotel have not been secured yet but the Executive Office is gathering the information.

Funding for Diversity and Minority Affairs Committee's Scholars Program

The meeting also covered the proposal for funding the Diversity and Minority Affairs Committee's (DMAC) ARO Scholars Program. A request for \$20,000 from the Council to fund students for the program was discussed, with the possibility of additional funding coming from other sources. Council voted unanimously to approve the \$20,000 for the ARO Scholars Program. Deborah Tucci had mentioned in the past that she supported the idea of using Diversity Grant funds for the program and Council agreed that this is a funding mechanism worth pursuing in the future. The group expressed interest in supporting the program expansion this year but noted that Council cannot guarantee this level of funding year after year

and that the DMAC should begin their own fundraising efforts. Dr. Kalluri mentioned the possibility of grant applications and noted that she would reach out to some contacts for examples to take to the DMAC as a starting point. Dr. Kalluri stated these documents will be shared in a Google folder with the Executive Office to ensure collaboration.

Action Items

- 1. The Executive Office will gather quotes for potential shuttle services for the 2025 meeting.**
- 2. Dr. Radha Kalluri will gather example grant applications and create a shared drive. She will provide the drive to the Executive Office for easy coordination with the DMAC.**