

**Texas Genetics Society**  
**Minutes of the General Business Meeting**  
**(and list of awardees)**  
**George Bush Presidential Library and Museum**  
**College Station, Texas**  
**April 29, 2017**

**Minutes**

1. The meeting was called to order by Erika Abel, TGS President, at 12:39 pm and the minutes of the 2016 general business meeting were approved and are available on the TGS web site.

2. Treasurer's report: We have \$22,831.60 in our accounts. This is down slightly from our balance a year ago. Anticipated meeting expenses of ~\$12,500 remain to be paid and sponsorships from the American Journal of Human Genetics and the Texas A&M Institute of Genome Sciences and Society totaling \$1,500 remain to be collected. This is the best turnout we've had in some time with 74 trainees and 33 regular members registered for the meeting. Two Emeritus Members, Rodney Nairn and Robb Moses, are also attending the meeting. Over 20 institutions from Texas, Oklahoma, and Oregon are represented.

3. Erika thanked Penny Riggs, the local organizer for her help making the local arrangements for the meeting. She also thanked the sponsors, judges, and session moderators.

4. Erika thanked outgoing board members, Trey Fondon, Terje Raudsepp, Jonathan Rios, Samantha Fletcher, and Joe Angel for their service to the Society.

5. Trey announced the results of the 2015 election for BOD:

President-Elect: Jonathan Rios, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, Dallas  
Secretary/Treasurer: Tina Gumienny, Texas Woman's University, Denton

Board of Directors: David Nelson, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston  
David Aiello, Austin College, Sherman

6. Carolina Mantilla Rojas was elected by the trainees to serve on the Board of Directors for one year.

7. The election of Tina Gumienny as Secretary/Treasurer created a vacancy on the BOD. Erika announced that Caleb Phillips, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, was appointed by the BOD to fill the vacant position.

8. Erika announced that Pat Howard Peebles has been appointed to fill the vacant Historian position on the BOD.

9. Erika announced that next year's meeting would be held in College Station and that Penny Riggs, Clare Gill, and David Threadgill would make up the local organizing committee.

10. Richard Gunasekera and Debbie Threadgill were elected to serve on the nominating committee.

11. Erika announced that the BOD had discussed trying to set up an endowment to provide financial support for the TGS in the future and that the TGS is a 501c3 tax exempt organization and that donations made to the organization are tax deductible.

12. There was some discussion about trying to get schools to provide travel funds for students to attend TGS meetings.

13. Best presentation awards were selected by the judges and Erika presented awards to the following individuals for best Poster and Platform presentations:

**Poster Presentations:**

Graduate Student (tie): Emre Arslan

Graduate Student (tie): Geethanjali Ravindranathan

Undergraduate Student: Francisco Neal

**Platform Presentations:**

Postdoc Fellow: Lionel Faure

Graduate Student (tie): Xiaojie Yu

Graduate Student (tie): Baile Engle

Undergraduate Student (tie): Rebecca McDonald

Undergraduate Student (tie): Katrina Ngo

12. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Prepared by Joe Angel, Secretary/Treasurer and Tina Gumienny, Secretary/Treasurer-Elect

The following Awards were announced at the TGS annual banquet, March 27, 2015:

1. The Barbara Bowman Distinguished Texas Geneticist Award  
Dr. Ann Killary, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
2. TGS Distinguished Service Award  
Dr. Penny Riggs, Texas A&M University
3. Emeritus Members  
Dr. Robb Moses