1. Introduction

Dr. Heaton called the meeting to order at 6:21 pm.

2. Secretary’s Report

The reading of the minutes from the last business meeting of the Society held in February 2005 in St. Louis, MO, USA was waived.

3. Treasurer’s Report

Dr. Bigler reported that the Society’s finances are strong and secure. There is currently about $600,000.00 in the Society’s operating expenses account and CD investments. Bigler noted that this is typically the low point in the Society’s money flow, and that additional revenues will be added in the next few months from the collection of membership dues. The year end balance is projected to be $900,000 - $1,000,000.00. The Society needs to continue to work towards expanding its revenues, with a goal of $1,500,000.00 for base and contingency reserves.

4. Executive Secretary’s Report

Dr. Bornstein, Executive Secretary of INS, provided the following report. As of June 26, 2005, the Society has 4,478 active members. In the past two years, membership has grown 7.4%. 16% of the total membership is from outside of North America. 78% of the membership had paid their 2005 dues, which is somewhat lower than in past years (84% in 2004, 86% in 2003). 69% of members have created on-line accounts, compared to 54% at this time in 2004. Dues statements for 2006 will be mailed out shortly, and members were encouraged to take advantage of the electronic payment option.

5. Committee Reports

A. Program Committee – Dublin

Robin Morris, Chair of the Program Committee, provided the Membership with a review of the meeting, which has gone quite well. Dr. Heaton thanked Dr. Morris and his committee members on behalf of the Society for their hard work and a successful meeting.

B. Sites Committee

Dr. Bornstein reviewed the plans for future meeting sites, which are as follows: Boston,
Massachusetts, February 1-5, 2006; Zurich, Switzerland, July 26-29, 2006; Portland, Oregon, February 7-10, 2007; Bilbao, Spain, July 2007; Hawaii, February 6-9, 2008; and, Atlanta, February 11-14, 2009. In February 2005, the Board approved in principle holding the 2008 mid-year meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina and the 2009 mid-year meeting in Helsinki, Finland, pending further development of the proposals.

C. International Liaison Committee (ILC)

Bernie Marcopulos, Chair of the ILC, provide the membership with highlights of activities undertaken by the ILC in the past 6 months. She reviewed the results from the recently completed survey of non-North American INS members. She reported that Debora Scheffel, who has served as the ILC Support Consultant Program Coordinator, recently resigned from her position.

D. Publications Committee

Jack Fletcher, Chair of the Publications Committee updated the membership on the state of JINS. He reported that the lag time in submission to initial editorial decision, and the time between acceptance and publication have substantially been reduced in the past 6 months, while submissions continue to rise. He also reported that the second book for the INS book series based on the Vivian L. Smith Summer Institute, on neurogenetic disorders of development to be edited by Marcia Barnes, has been positively reviewed and critiqued by the Publications Committee. It is expected that the proposal will be accepted by Cambridge Press and will move forward. Fletcher requested that any members with ideas for Society publications contact him.

6. New Business

The meeting was opened to the membership for discussion of new business. The registration costs for attendance at the Dublin meeting were reviewed, as was the decision not to hold a dinner in conjunction with this meeting.

7. Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business, Dr. Robert Heaton adjourned the meeting at 6:32 pm.

(Approved January 31, 2006)