

Minutes of the January 4, 2010 GMCGA Teleconference

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Date: January 4, 2011.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sudhakar Rao, Bala Totapally, Sarma Koppolu, Mukesh Sanghadia, Kumar D. Ramiseti, Sarala Rao, K. Muralikrishna Rao.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Govind Rao, Lingaiah Katam, Ramesh Naram, Ravinder Surakanti, Santhosh Cheela, Syed Mukarram, Vasu R Garlapaty, Vithal Kusuma & Prabhakar Sharma.

The teleconference was called to order at 9:05 pm by Sarala Rao, President GMCGA.

Each member self introduced briefly and Sarala Rao outlined the agenda

ANNUAL MEETINGS:

At the very outset, Muralikrishna Rao reminded about their 40th anniversary class reunion and suggested to have the 2012 GMCGA annual meeting from 1/11/2012 to 01/15/2012 in Sydney, Australia. Local GMCGA alumni have been very enthusiastic and supportive.

Next, the floor was given to R.D. Kumar, the local organizer for the 2011 GMCGA annual meetings in September. He first apprised all the members and gave progress report of deliberations with the venue, Hyatt Regency, Newport Beach, CA. He mentioned that he has signed the contracts on 12/21/2010 for September 2-4, 2011. The annual meeting will begin with Friday evening arrival & reception, CME on 09/03/2011 and 09/04/2011 with other activities, banquet on Saturday night and dinner on Sunday night, and departures on Monday 09/05/2011, which is a holiday.

He suggested that the Save-The-Date card should include brief outline of the program, contact numbers, website address, where the registration is likely to occur, etc.

He also indicated that we are committed for 90 rooms, roughly 30 rooms/night for 3 nights-- 09/02-04/2011. Despite this commitment, it could be reduced to 80 rooms. The minimum expected expenditure is not less than \$7500 for catering at Hyatt Regency.

He also suggested that the registration fee should be \$300 for couple and \$200 for single. The fee includes the registration fee for the annual meeting, CME program fee, and approximately seven meals including the reception & banquet.

Sarala Rao asked about exhibit space and apparently will be available. This was discussed at some length. Sudhakar Rao, Mukesh Sanghadia, K.P. Sarma suggested to inquire a little bit more about the sponsorship fee. Sarala Rao mentioned that from her experience with the AAPI meetings, the charges were on a daily basis, but is unlikely for our meeting since GMCGA is not entirely a professional organization as is AAPI. The general feeling was that we should charge \$1000 - \$1500 for each booth.

R.D. Kumar has already been in touch with Glaxo. Sudhakar Rao suggested he will try to get Lilly and a couple of other pharmaceutical companies. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that the

pharmaceutical support would be able to cover the costs of the meeting.

Further discussion was held since R.D. Kumar has been in touch with a realtor expressed interested in supporting a booth and a presentation. After further discussion, it was agreed that it is reasonable to proceed with non-medical vendors to exhibit since it is not only a professional organization, but also a gathering of alumni and their families.

R.D. Kumar made a special plea to the members to personally call their friends and encourage them to attend. If all the executive committee members, now approximately 15, to get two additional alumni to attend, we should be able to have a decent gathering and a successful meeting of approximately 50 registrants and with spouses & children should be close to 100-150. He mentioned that he has contacted his classmates in the UK and a few have committed.

Details for the entertainment program will be discussed in the future meetings along with CME program details.

He mentioned that the airport is very close to Hyatt Regency and is easy to access from anywhere in the country. He mentioned about Newport Beach sand dunes for Sunday afternoon recreation and other activities.

There was a long discussion about the CME program, how long it should be, whether it should be on both days; this was tabled for the present, but R.D. Kumar will get feedback from the EC members via e-mail later on and present at the next meeting.

There was no further update from the website since Sudhakar Rao has not made any contact because of his other commitments. He will do so in the very near future and indicated that if he does not get desired results, we may want to change the vendor. He will report on this at the next meeting.

There was no update from the GMCAA since Dr. Lingaiah could not attend this meeting. However, K.P. Sarma updated the meetings held in Hyderabad during Sudhakar Rao's and his visits to India in December.

K.P. Sarma had another meeting and there was a request for shelter for relatives of patients in Gandhi Hospital. Another request was from Microbiology Department about immunohistochemistry. Whether GMCGA could accommodate these two projects was uncertain and hence these were tabled for the next meeting.

Since there was no new business, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm. The next teleconference will be on Tuesday February 1, 2011 at 9:00 pm EST.

Respectfully Submitted by
Sudhakar Rao, MD
Secretary