

## FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE AND DISABILITY (FSD)

### Annual Meeting

10:00 AM -12:00 PM, Saturday, February 13, 2016

Congressional Room, Marriott

Washington, DC

#### AGENDA

- Call to Order/Introductions:

President Richard Mankin called the meeting to order and introduced special guest, Emma Sacks. Also were present were Angela Foreman, Imke Durre, Inge Durre, Rory Cooper, Yoshiko Miwa, and Laureen Summers.

There was discussion about the activities of members since last year. Angela Foreman discussed her projects as PI and Study Director for Clinical Study for a medical device company in the San Francisco bay area, as well as her activities as Treasurer of FSD. Emma Sacks is the 2009 FSD student grant recipient, conducting research on prenatal care in Zambia. Currently she is on the faculty of Johns Hopkins University. Imke and Inge Durre discussed their work and educational outreach activities in Asheville, NC. Rory Cooper of the University of Pittsburg discussed his recent outreach service as a Lemelson Invention Ambassador. Yoshiko Miwa discussed her recent publications and made comments about the current economic and social status of persons with disabilities in Japan. There are many changes being made to reduce costs and reduce the numbers of persons receiving disability pensions. Yoshiko's statements led to further discussion that, although new technology is being developed enabling disabled persons to perform work in Japan, the United States, and elsewhere, considerable difficulty remains for persons to find employment. Laureen noted that American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) EntryPoint and other students with disabilities frequently ponder whether to disclose their disability after they begin full-time employment because disability still carries a stigma in the modern workplace. Additional institutional and governmental efforts to "level the playing field" would help remove these lingering barriers.

Laureen Summers discussed setting up a successful 2016 Luncheon for Students with Disabilities after several years when it was not possible to have a luncheon. FSD had provided a \$5000 grant as seed money for support of the luncheon. Laureen also discussed her efforts this year to find new partners and sources of funding for EntryPoint student internship positions. These efforts are ongoing and members of the AAAS Committee on Opportunities in Science are planning to offer suggestions about how EntryPoint can be adapted to operate successfully in the current funding environment. Yoshiko Miwa will be exploring ways in which companies in Japan may be able to provide financial support for the EntryPoint program. Also, development of a national organization of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics students and professionals with disabilities, perhaps assisted by modern collaboration technology such as AAAS Trellis may provide additional opportunities to develop suggestions and obtain financial support for EntryPoint.

- Minutes - February 13, 2015 (San Jose, CA)

The minutes from the San Jose meeting were approved as posted on the FSD web site.

- Treasurer Report- Angela Foreman

The treasurer report was presented. Angela noted that this is a year when FSD renews its Articles of Incorporation as a nonprofit corporation in Washington DC. The treasurer report is posted in the 2016 FSD Newsletter.

- Science Student Grant Committee Report 2016– Richard Mankin

The Student Grant Committee (Angela Foreman, Imke Durre, Lauren Summers, and Richard Mankin) reviewed 3 applications (4 persons had submitted incomplete applications) and selected Heather Page, a PhD. student in oceanography at the University of California, San Diego, Scripps Institution of Oceanography for the project “Effect of ocean acidification on coral-algal competition and influence of reef benthic communities on seawater carbonate chemistry.”

- New Business

1. There was discussion in relation to the presentations of several travel awards to minority and women graduate students at the 2016 AAAS Minority and Women Scientists and Engineers Breakfast. In addition to receiving recognition, the students presented posters on their research at the annual meeting. A motion was passed that FSD offer to partner with AAAS and the other sponsors of the breakfast to enable the FSD student grant honoree each year to be recognized at the breakfast also. Possibly, funding could be developed also to provide a travel grant enabling the student to attend the AAAS meeting, present a poster, and receive formal recognition at the breakfast. First, it will be necessary to identify all of the organizers and confer with them about feasibility.
2. It was also discussed that future Luncheons for Students with Disabilities might benefit from a preview of Family Science Day activities if one could be arranged with the organizers. Scientists with disabilities present at the luncheon could serve as participants in the activities. A motion was passed that FSD consult with the Family Science Day organizers to determine feasibility. Subsequently it was determined that resources were not available currently to provide a preview of Family Science Day. Consequently, it may be best instead for now to encourage parents to bring their children to the Family Science Day activities on Saturday and Sunday. Scientists with disabilities could be encouraged to participate as mentors. If resources became available, a preview at the luncheon could benefit those who could not arrange personal transportation on the weekend.

These possibilities will be pursued during the current year for possible implementation in 2017.

- Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM. –Respectfully submitted by Richard Mankin, February 14, 2016.