



The Distinguished Nigerian Physicians of Tomorrow

'...changing brain drain into brain gain'

P.O. Box 110381, Durham, NC 27709

www.dnpt.org

Present: Yetunde Ibrahim, Aishat Mohammed, Kenneth Nwosu, Chinedu Nwabuobi, Alex Adetunji, Ogugua Anene-Maidoh

Excused absence: Nneka Isamah

Unexcused absence: Tola Dawodu

The meeting was called to order at 9:08pm by Ms Ibrahim.

Funds: Ms Ibrahim stressed the importance of raising funds for the organization. She reported that she sent a letter requesting \$2500 to the current ANPA president, Dr Nwariaku, to be used to financially support DNPT members attending conferences. Although DNPT has not yet received a reply, Dr Kpaduwa, the former ANPA president assured Ms Ibrahim that the ANPA will continue to support our organization.

Ms Ibrahim discussed having DNPT patrons – an idea brought forth by Lanre Jimoh to financially support Project 3-2-2. Thus far Drs Fasusi and Onyekwere have expressed a willingness to serve in this capacity.

Bone Marrow Registry Drive: Mr Adetunji gave his report on work done for the proposed Bone Marrow Registry drive. He promised to get in contact with Dayo to follow up on the project, and work on getting a Pepsi grant to fund it, if possible.

Website: Mr Nwosu promised to have the information for purchasing DNPT merchandise available on the website. He informed the board that he could not put up Ms Dawodu's picture online as he had not yet received it. Ms Ibrahim promised to rectify the situation. It was also decided that the blurbs beside Ms Ibrahim and Ms Mohammed's names be removed and the schools of all board members be put on the website.

Fundraising: Ms Mohammed suggested that we ask ANPA members directly for funds for Project 3-2-2. She stressed that many members are not only interested in financially supporting DNPT but are invested in hospitals in Nigeria which would be a great incentive for them to contribute. Ms. Ibrahim proposed that all board members contact ANPA members in their respective regions.

Ms Mohammed will follow up with Peezy as regards revenue generated this quarter. She noted that only 17 DNPT members are using the service and stressed the need to get DNPT and ANPA members involved. Ms. Ibrahim promised to send an email to ANPA members encouraging them to buy T shirts and use Peezy.

Medical Missions: Ms Anene-Maidoh stated that her goal is to encourage DNPT members able to travel home to serve in hospitals (M1s and M2s during summer and M3s and M4s to do away rotations in Nigeria) and those unable/unwilling to travel to get involved in research and raising money and supplies for trips. She also intends to utilize DNPT members at home to serve as contacts and do necessary preparations prior to each trip. She suggested that during each mission,

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instead of focusing solely on screening and treatment, DNPT members need to be involved in public health and training personnel at home to handle medical issues on their own. Ms Anene-Maidoh mentioned a few medical missions organizations she felt DNPT could work with but expressed some concerns about the proselytizing that some of those organizations do during trips.

Ms Mohammed suggested that instead of working with organizations, we work with ANPA members who travel to Nigeria for medical missions trips. She stated that this will strengthen the relationship between DNPT and ANPA and allow greater flexibility for DNPT members. Ms. Anene-Maidoh promised to speak with the ANPA medical missions liaison to organize that.

Education: Mr Nwosu stated that his goal is to lay the groundwork for members interested in doing away rotations in Nigeria. He contacted Lanre Jimoh who met with the Minister of Health and asked for suggestions regarding this project. Ms Ibrahim emphasized the need for a database of professors in Nigeria willing to serve as mentors and promised to make her contacts at UniLag available.

Revision of Nigerian Medical School Curriculum: Ms Ibrahim informed the board about Dr Nwariaku attending a meeting at the Central Ministry of Health as regards revising the medical school and residency curriculum. She believes that DNPT can assist in this effort by collecting data about medical school experiences and proposed putting together a survey for medical students to fill. The consensus of the board was that the survey needed to explore aspects that students feel are lacking in their education, what they like the most, effectiveness of preclinical and clinical training, mentorship, diversity of patient population, relationship with professors, research opportunities and the appropriateness of requirements necessary for successful completion of clinical rotations. Ms Ibrahim stressed the need to work with NiMSA presidents to ensure robust participation by students. Mr Nwabuobi promised to contact them and get them excited about the proposed project. Ms Mohammed suggested that he talk to Deji at LASUTH and David Adetona at U.I. She also promised to give Mr Nwabuobi the contact information for Seun Adeyemi at OAU.

Mentorship: Ms Ibrahim informed the board that Drs Ogunyemi and Emuakpor have expressed an interest in serving as mentors for DNPT members and Dr Ogunyemi sent an email to ANPA members soliciting others willing to serve in this capacity. She suggested that we compile a list of students who would like to be mentored starting with graduating seniors. She would also like to have a list of DNPT members willing to serve as mentors for premed students especially with the coming interview season. She stated that she would like a survey for premeds on the website with a link on the facebook page. Mr Adetunji agreed and stressed that although there was an increase in membership after he contacted various African Students Associations, getting the students mentors will ensure their continued interest in DNPT. Ms Mohammed suggested that premed students work with ANPA members conducting research and Ms Ibrahim suggested clinical shadowing experiences and involvement in medical missions. Mr Adetunji promised to

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pass on the information to premeds via facebook once all the necessary arrangements have been made.

Role for Ambassadors: Ms Ibrahim stressed the need for Ambassadors to get involved in DNPT projects so the board does not do all the work on its own. She suggested that emails sent out to DNPT members summarize ongoing projects (as opposed to just sending out links) and actively solicit involvement. She added that ambassadors can serve as contacts during interview season (both medical and residency) to help reduce anxiety and hotel costs. She stressed the need for more Ambassadors in Midwestern states. Ms Anene-Maidoh asked that Ms Isamah send her a list of specific states in need of ambassadors so she can get people that attend schools in said states to serve as ambassadors. Mr. Nwabuobi also promised to contact a friend at Einstein to gauge their willingness to serve. Ms Ibrahim stated that David Adetona had expressed an interest in serving as an Ambassador and will formally invite the other NiMSA presidents.

Truancy: Ms Ibrahim stressed the need for board members to attend every board meeting as the work we accomplish as a body is dependent on everyone doing their part. She reminded everyone that meetings are on the 2nd Sunday of each month, that progress reports are necessary at each meeting and stressed that board members need to avoid any unexcused absences. Following a thorough discussion, the consensus reached was that after 2 unexcused absences a formal inquiry will be launched to gauge the truant member's ability to serve and after a 3rd unexcused absence, said board member will be replaced.

Ms Ibrahim thanked all members present for attending the meeting and bringing exciting ideas. She expressed her enthusiasm for the work the board can accomplish in the coming year.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:18pm.

Next Meeting: September 12th 9:00pm

Minutes by Ogugua Anene-Maidoh

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