

CAPSULE HISTORY

SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH ON NICOTINE AND TOBACCO

November 11, 1993. Enthusiastic participation by 50 scientists at the Third Nicotine Roundtable and registration of 250 attendees for the general nicotine conference of the American Society of Addiction Medicine provides a context for the idea of starting a scientific society for the study of nicotine and tobacco. Ovide Pomerleau, John Hughes, and John Rosecrans decide to work toward that end.

December 21, 1993. The above-named persons ask 20 of their colleagues in nicotine research to serve on an Invitation Committee, with sub-committees for planning various aspects of an organizational meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Boston on April 15, 1994, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine.

March 23, 1994. The Invitation Committee invites 100 colleagues to attend the organizational meeting.

March 28, 1994. The Nominations Sub-Committee recommends that SBM bylaws (council structure) be adopted as a model for the new society and that initial governance and leadership for the first year be determined by the three founders. Ovide Pomerleau is appointed *President*, Maxine Stitzer *Secretary-Treasurer*, and John Hughes and John Rosecrans *Member-Delegates*, each serving on the Board of Directors for one-year terms, starting April 15, 1994.

April 11, 1994. By recommendation of the Nominations Sub-Committee, the appointed officers draft tentative bylaws for the Society, devise a ballot for the election of additional officers to the Board, and provide a list of names for the new society. The appointed officers designate initial committee chairs to begin society business at the organizational meeting on April 15. The committees are *Development, Membership, Nominations, Program, Public Policy & Legislative Affairs, Publications, and Scientific Liaison*.

April 15, 1994. The recruitment period for the enrollment of new members for the society begins on this date (members who join between April 15 and August 31, 1994, are designated "Charter Members". The 100 or so prospective members in attendance at the organizational meeting are asked to recruit four colleagues each, to enable the Society to reach a goal of 500 members in the first year.

August 31, 1994. The Charter Members elect the remaining officers (the *1994 President-Elect* and *Member-Delegates*) to complete the seven-person Board of Directors for the first year. Enrollment ends for charter membership.

September 1, 1994. Enrollment begins for student membership and regular (non-charter) membership.

November 5, 1994. At the mid-year meeting of the Board of Directors (coinciding with the ASAM nicotine conference in Boston), a slate of officers for election is proposed by the Nominations Committee. The positions open for election are *1995 President-Elect, 1995 Secretary-Treasurer, and Member-Delegate* (to replace the *Member-Delegates* serving one-year terms in 1994). At this time, the *1994 President-Elect* appoints Council and Committee Chairs to serve in 1995.

March 25 (tentative), 1995. At the first annual meeting of the society, the *President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and the Member-Delegates* for 1994 finish their terms of office; elected officers, council chairs, and committee chairs for 1995 start their terms.