

# Minutes of the 4th (108th in total) Meeting of the Board of Directors and the Enlarged Executive Committee

- 1 Date and Time Wednesday, December 2nd, 2025, 9:00-13:00
- 2 Venue Conference Room, 9F Hongo Bldg, 7-2-2 Hongo, Bunkyo, Tokyo, Japan
- 3 Names of directors in attendance (Total number of directors: 20 persons)  
Koji Yamanaka (President; Nomination Committee Chair; Neuroscience Research Steering Committee Chair), Haruhiko Bito (Vice President; International Collaboration Affairs Committee Chair), Ayako M. Watabe (Vice President), Takashi Hanakawa (Director of General Affairs; Ethics Committee Chair), Masanori Murayama (Treasurer), Akiko Hayashi-Takagi (Outreach Committee Chair), Rieko Ikeda (Muramatsu) (Neuroscience News Editing Committee Chair), Kiyoto Kasai (Academic Diversity Committee Chair), Hiroshi Kawasaki, Fumi Kubo, Kumi Kuroda, Mariko Miyata, Kenichi Ohki, Toshihisa Ohtsuka, Noriko Osumi, Sayaka Kimura (Takemoto) (Diversity Committee Chair), Ken-Ichiro Tsutsui,  
(Number of directors in attendance : 17 persons, all directors attended the meeting via web conference)
- 4 Chairperson Koji Yamanaka
- 5 Names of auditors in attendance (Total number of auditors: 2 persons)  
Taisuke Tomita, Yuki Goto  
(Number of auditors in attendance: 2 persons)
- 6 Committee Chairs in attendance Jun Kunimatsu (Advisor to the President; Working Group Chair for the 50th Anniversary Event of JNS's Foundation), Junichiro Yoshimoto (Advisor to the President; Information Infrastructure Committee Chair), Kazutaka Ikeda (Annual Meeting Committee Chair), Takanori Uka (Animal Experiment Committee Chair), Tetsu Okumura (BrainBee Committee Chair), Hiroyuki Kamiguchi (President of the 49th Annual Meeting), Yukiko Goda (President of the 50th Annual Meeting), Hideya Sakaguchi (Industry-Academia Partnership Committee Chair), Takuya Sasaki (Website Committee Chair), Kinichi Nakashima (Altman Award Selection Committee Chair), Yasunori Hayashi (Brain Science Dictionary Committee Chair), Fumino Fujiyama (President of the 48th Annual Meeting), Tetsuya Matsuda (Advocacy Committee Chair)

7 Secretariat in attendance	Maya Eguchi, Shiho Jinushi, Akiko Kubodera, Ayuko Sampei, Yuko Yoshida
8 Absentees	Hitoshi Okamoto (Director), Kenji Tanaka (Director), Masashi Yanagisawa (Director), Keiichi Kitajo (COI Committee Chair), Hirokazu Hirai (President of the 50th Annual Meeting), Thomas J. McHugh (NSR Committee Chair), Hidenori Yamasue (Japan Neuroscience Society Young Investigator Award Selection Committee Chair), Hiroaki Wake (Future Planning Committee Chair)
9 Reported Items	
Reported Item No. 1	Report on the minutes of the previous meeting of the Board of (English Version)
Reported Item No. 2	Report on list of Committee Members
Reported Item No. 3	Report on General Affairs
Reported Item No. 4	Report on conclusion of the 48th Annual Meeting of the JNS (2025)
Reported Item No. 5	Report on preparation for the NEURO2026, the 49th Annual Meeting of the JNS
Reported Item No. 6	Report on preparation for the 50th Annual Meeting of the JNS to be held in 2027
Reported Item No. 7	Report on Neuroscience Research
Reported Item No. 8	Next Editor-in-Chief of NSR
Reported Item No. 9	Report on conclusion of Working Group for the 50th Anniversary Event of JNS's Foundation
Reported Item No. 10	Report on Federation of Asian-Oceanian Neuroscience Societies (FAONS)
Reported Item No. 11	Report on handling of members not registered in the Academic Domain and Domain Composition Ratio
Reported Item No. 12	Report on the Board of Councilors Election
10 Agenda Items	
Agenda Item No. 1	Establishment of the "Bylaws Concerning Committees"
Agenda Item No. 2	Revisions of the Japan Neuroscience Society Young Investigator Award Rules and Regulations
Agenda Item No. 3	Revisions to the Neuro-Navigator Program
Agenda Item No. 4	Venue of the 52nd Annual Meeting of the JNS (2029)
Agenda Item No. 5	Membership Categories
Agenda Item No. 6	Discontinuation of Mailing Paper Payment Slips for Annual Membership Fees
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11 Reports on Activities from Each Committee and Working Group	
Reported Item No. 1	Report from the Japan Neuroscience Society Young Investigator

	Award Selection Committee
Reported Item No. 2	Report from Altman Award Selection Committee
Reported Item No. 3	Report from Nomination Committee
Reported Item No. 4	Report from Future Planning Committee
Reported Item No. 5	Report from Annual Meeting Committee
Reported Item No. 6	Report from International Collaboration Affairs Committee
Reported Item No. 7	Report from International Collaboration Affairs Committee - Working Group for Collaboration among Japanese, Chinese and South Korean Neuroscience Societies
Reported Item No. 8	Report from Information Infrastructure Committee
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Reported Item No. 10	Report from Website Committee
Reported Item No. 11	Report from Outreach Committee
Reported Item No. 12	Report from Industry-Academia Partnership Committee
Reported Item No. 13	Report from Advocacy Committee
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Reported Item No. 16	Report from Academic Diversity Committee
Reported Item No. 17	Report from Diversity Committee
Reported Item No. 18	Report from Ethics Committee
Reported Item No. 19	Report from Animal Experiment Committee
Reported Item No. 20	Report from BrainBee Committee
Reported Item No. 21	Report from PIC of the Union of Japanese Societies for Biological Science
Reported Item No. 22	Report from PIC of the Union of Japanese Societies for Brain Science

## 12 Summary of proceedings and results

Koji Yamanaka, the President, took the chair at the appointed time, convened the meeting of the Board of Directors using a web conference system consisting of a web line and a web conference device, declared the meeting open, and stated that this meeting of the Board of Directors was duly convened because there was a quorum of Directors present as described above. He also confirmed that the web conference system allows attendees' voices to be transmitted to other attendees in real time, enabling them to express their opinions to each other as if they were all in the same room, and then began deliberations on the agenda.

### [Reported Items]

Reported Item No. 1 Report on the minutes of the previous meeting of the Board of (English Version)

Koji Yamanaka, the President, requested that any requests for corrections to the English version of the minutes from the previous board meeting be submitted to the secretariat by December 10. He explained that, unless there are any specific requests, the minutes are scheduled to be posted on the

website as is.

Reported Item No. 2 Report on list of Committee Members

Koji Yamanaka, the President, presented a list of committee members, reflecting any additions or changes made since the extraordinary board meeting held in June. The list was approved without objection.

Reported Item No. 3 Report on General Affairs

Takashi Hanakawa, the Director of General Affairs, reported on the membership composition, changes in the number of members, and titles of co-sponsorship and sponsorship. Although the total number of members reached a record high, it was reported that the number of full members (when considering only this category) is on a downward trend. It was explained that issues regarding membership categories are scheduled to be discussed later in the agenda.

Reported Item No. 4 Report on conclusion of the 48th Annual Meeting of the JNS (2025)

Fumino Fujiyama, the President of the 48th Annual Meeting of the JNS, reported on the conclusion of the 48th Annual Meeting of the JNS, which was held in Niigata in 2025. She noted the support provided for childcare assistance and the 50th Anniversary Events, and expressed her gratitude to the board members, committee chairs, and all those involved. She also asked that the results of the participant survey be reviewed at a convenient time.

Reported Item No. 5 Report on preparation for the NEURO2026, the 49th Annual Meeting of the JNS

Hiroyuki Kamiguchi, the President of the 49th Annual Meeting of the JNS, reported on the status of the preparation of NEURO2026, a joint meeting of the 49th Annual Meeting of the JNS, the 69th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Neurochemistry, and the 36th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Neural Network Society. Reports indicated that, as part of a new initiative to encourage participation from researchers in other fields, a free one-day pass for first-time attendees had been introduced.

Reported Item No. 6 Report on preparation for the 50th Annual Meeting of the JNS (2027)

Since Hirokazu Hirai, the President of the 50th Annual Meeting of the JNS, was absent, Ayako Watabe, Program Committee Chair, presented a report on preparations for the 50th Annual Meeting of the JNS (2027) in his stead. It was reported that the Executive Chair and Program Chair had been appointed. It was noted that the selection of speakers for the plenary and special lectures would proceed in the coming months.

Reported Item No. 7 Report on Neuroscience Research

Since Thomas J. McHugh, Editor-in-Chief, was absent, Ayako Watabe, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, presented the 2025 NSR Committee activity report on his behalf. Regarding future activities, in addition to regular editorial duties, plans were presented for the selection of next year's NSR Paper Award and the organization of the award ceremony and awardee's lecture, as well as NSR public relations activities (such as displaying NSR promotional slides during presentations by the Editor and Board members, and operating a booth at NEURO2026). Koji Yamanaka, the President, made proposals regarding how to support the journal, including calling for submissions—such as review

articles—from members, with an eye toward the contract with Elsevier starting in 2027. In addition, it was suggested that discussions regarding the future direction of this journal should extend beyond the boundaries of individual academic societies.

Reported Item No. 8      Next Editor-in-Chief of NSR

Koji Yamanaka, the President, reported that while the current Editor-in-Chief's term was originally set to expire at the end of December 2025, it has been extended to the end of 2026 to align with the contract period with Elsevier. He added that the NSR Steering Committee is currently discussing the appointment of the next Editor-in-Chief in conjunction with the renewal of the contract with Elsevier.

Reported Item No. 9      Report on conclusion of Working Group for the 50th Anniversary Event of JNS's Foundation

Jun Kunimatsu, the Working Group Chair for the 50th Anniversary Event of JNS's Foundation, reported on the conclusion of the events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the JNS. He reported that both the event for members held during the 48th Annual Meeting of JNS (Niigata) and the event for the general public held at the Miraikan, the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation, were very well attended and concluded successfully. He also reported that the crowdfunding campaign had successfully reached its target amount.

Reported Item No. 10      Report on Federation of Asian-Oceanian Neuroscience Societies (FAONS)

Ken-Ichiro Tsutsui, an Advisor to the President, reported on the activities of FAONS. It was announced that plans are in place to establish the FAONS Secretariat within the National Institute for Physiological Sciences by December 2025, and that a meeting of the FAONS Board of Directors is scheduled to be held shortly. In addition, plans were outlined to proceed with preparations for the FAONS Congress, scheduled to be held in July 2026 in Hong Kong.

Reported Item No. 11      Report on handling of members not registered in the Academic Domain and Domain Composition Ratio

Takashi Hanakawa, Director of General Affairs, reported that, in preparation for the Election of Councilors, it was necessary to calculate the composition ratios of each Academic Domain to determine the allocation of seats. However, since there were still many unregistered members, the allocation was made using the method approved at the previous Board of Directors meeting. He noted that there were no particular complaints from members and that all members have now completed their domain registration.

Reported Item No. 12      Report on Preparations for the Election of Councilors

Koji Yamanaka, the President, reported on the status of preparations for the Election of Councilors. He reported that the election bylaws had been partially revised to increase the number of candidates that current Councilors may nominate from two to four. In addition, since nominations are currently being accepted, a call was made to Directors and Committee Chairs to stand for election whenever possible.

[Agenda Items]

Agenda Item No. 1      Establishment of the “Bylaws Concerning Committees”

Takashi Hanakawa, Director of General Affairs, presented a draft revision of the “Bylaws Concerning Committees”—for which amendments to specific wording had been proposed at the previous Board of Directors meeting—and the Board of Directors approved the draft by a majority vote.

Agenda Item No. 2           Revisions of the Japan Neuroscience Society Young Investigator Award Rules and Regulations

Since Hidenori Yamasue, Chair of the Japan Neuroscience Society Young Investigator Award Selection Committee, was absent, committee member Masanori Murayama proposed a motion regarding the revision of the Japan Neuroscience Society Young Investigator Award Rules and Regulations. Regarding the eligibility criteria for the Japan Neuroscience Society Young Investigator Award, a proposal was made to change the current requirement of a “total” membership tenure of at least three years to a “continuous” membership tenure of at least three years. When this was put to a vote, it was approved by a majority of the voting members, as originally proposed. It was explained that the terms and conditions in the call for applications had been revised accordingly, and this was approved without objection.

Agenda Item No. 3           Revisions to the Neuro-Navigator Program

Akiko Hayashi (Takagi), Chair of the Outreach Committee, proposed a change to the Neuro-Navigator system. Under the current system, Neuro-Navigator is required to post using hashtags from individual X accounts. Following deliberation, the Board of Directors approved, by a majority vote, the proposal to create a new official X account dedicated to Neuro-Navigator and to post exclusively from that account going forward.

Agenda Item No. 4           Venue of the 52nd Annual Meeting of the JNS (2029)

Koji Yamanaka, the President, provided an explanation regarding potential host cities for the 52nd Annual Meeting of the JNS (2029). Detailed information was presented on the three locations—Sendai, Niigata, and Takamatsu—for which provisional reservations have been made. As the final decision is scheduled to be made at the regular Board of Directors meeting in fiscal year 2026 (scheduled for May), members were asked to review the materials in advance.

Agenda Item No. 5           Membership Categories

Takashi Hanakawa, Director of General Affairs, explained the reasons why it is desirable to unify membership categories domestically and internationally based on various materials and the results of a member survey, and presented a proposal to abolish the current overseas membership system. The proposal was put to a vote and approved by a majority of the voting members. It was decided that specific measures to accommodate members residing overseas—such as reduced or waived membership fees for those living in developing countries and travel grants for students studying abroad or postdoctoral researchers—would be further discussed in the future.

Agenda Item No. 6           Discontinuation of Mailing Paper Payment Slips for Annual Membership Fees

Takashi Hanakawa, Director of General Affairs, proposed discontinuing the mailing of paper annual membership fee payment slips starting with the billing cycle for fiscal year 2026, citing reasons such as a decline in the number of users, cost reduction, and SDGs considerations. When this proposal was put to a vote, it was approved by a majority of the voting members.

Agenda Item No. 7            Revisions of Rules of Employment

Takashi Hanakawa, Director of General Affairs, stated that he wished to amend Article 56 (Mandatory Retirement) of the “Rules of Employment” for Secretariat staff, changing the mandatory retirement date from “the last day of the month in which the employee turns 60” to “the last day of the fiscal year in which the employee turns 60 (March 31).” When he submitted this proposed amendment to the Board of Directors for deliberation, it was approved by a majority vote.

[Reports on Activities from Each Committee and Working Group]

Reported Item No. 1            Report from Japan Neuroscience Society Young Investigator Award Selection Committee

Koji Yamanaka, the President, reported on the selection result due to the absence of Hidenori Yamasue, the Japan Neuroscience Society Young Investigator Award Selection Committee Chair. He stated that five candidates for the award (including one woman) were selected after confirming the selection policy. In addition to an explanation of the points discussed during the review, it was reported that Professor Takuya Sasaki from Tohoku University was elected as the next chair of the selection committee.

Reported Item No. 2            Report from Altman Award Selection Committee

Kinichi Nakashima, the Altman Award Selection Committee Chair, reported on the administration of the Altman Award. He reported that an award ceremony and dinner for the 9th (2025) award recipient had been held at the venue of the 48th Annual Meeting of JNS in Niigata, and that the call for applications for the 10th (2026) award is currently open, and he also outlined the schedule.

Reported Item No. 3            Report from Nomination Committee

Koji Yamanaka, the Nomination Committee Chair, reported that the committee continued to recommend members for various research grants and awards, various committee members, and academic society committee members. The goal was expressed that the committee will continue to recommend members on request in response to external requests and the academic society's needs.

Reported Item No. 4            Report from Future Planning Committee

Hiroaki Wake, the Future Planning Committee Chair, was absent, so Koji Yamanaka, the President, presented the activity goals and other matters on his behalf. It was reported that efforts were made to propose a revised version of the “International Hub for Unraveling the ‘Brain’ Universe” as part of the “Medium- to Long-Term Research Strategy for Academia Aimed at Formulating a Vision for Future Academic Promotion,” which is being compiled by the Science Council of Japan. Additionally, plans were announced to hold a luncheon panel discussion at NEURO2026 (the 49th Annual Meeting).

Reported Item No. 5            Report from Annual Meeting Committee

Kazutaka Ikeda, the Annual Meeting Committee Chair, reported that the Annual Meeting Committee had reviewed several matters referred to it through preliminary surveys and web conferences, and had submitted its official opinion. In particular, it was explained that regarding presentations at multiple academic conferences based on the same research, “presentations using exactly the same abstract are not permitted”; when the floor was asked for comments on this matter, no objections were raised. It was reported that NEURO2026 (the 49th Annual Meeting) will accept presentations based on

abstracts previously presented at other conferences or published elsewhere, provided that they do not infringe on the copyrights of those other conferences or publishers.

Reported Item No. 6 Report from International Collaboration Affairs Committee

Haruhiko Bito, the International Collaboration Affairs Committee Chair, provided an overview of the activities. A report was presented on activities based on collaboration with organizations and academic societies in other countries, as well as on grants received from overseas foundations for the annual meetings. As several memorandums of understanding with various organizations are due for renewal, the goal was set to conclude agreements that continue to promote international collaboration. In addition, plans were discussed for hosting networking events at the SfN and FENS conferences.

Reported Item No. 7 Report from International Collaboration Affairs Committee - Working Group for Collaboration among Japanese, Chinese and South Korean Neuroscience Societies

Haruhiko Bito, the Chair of Working Group for Collaboration among Japanese, Chinese and South Korean Neuroscience Societies, reported on the progress to date and future plans for the CJK International Conference. He explained that, as part of the second rotation among the three countries, the 4th CJK International Conference (2027) will be held in Japan, and that preparations will proceed in collaboration with Hirokazu Hirai, President of the 49th Annual Meeting in Makuhari.

Reported Item No. 8 Report from Information Infrastructure Committee

Junichiro Yoshimoto, the Information Infrastructure Committee Chair, reported that the environment for using the Society's official Slack workspace is now fully operational. It was also explained that the contract with the vendor responsible for maintaining and managing the Society's website had been renewed, resulting in an increase in the monthly fee. In addition, a plan was announced to revamp the Society's website within the next one to two years in order to reduce future operating costs and enhance security.

Reported Item No. 9 Report from Neuroscience News Editing Committee

Rieko Muramatsu, the Neuroscience News Editing Committee Chair, reported that the committee has been steadily continuing its editorial and publication work. Furthermore, at a meeting of the Neuroscience News Editing Committee, it was reported that following an investigation into the costs and publication platforms associated with the simultaneous release of an HTML version—a matter that had been under consideration for some time—the committee determined that implementing this plan was not feasible and therefore decided to postpone it. The committee also stated its intention to continue collaborating with the Website Committee through the sharing of submitted manuscripts and other means.

Reported Item No. 10 Report from Website Committee

Takuya Sasaki, the Website Committee Chair, reported that the website is updated on a daily basis and explained that the committee is considering a website redesign due to security concerns and maintenance costs. Meeting attendees requested that an FAQ section be clearly displayed on the homepage, and it was decided that this request would be addressed in the future.

Reported Item No. 11 Report from Outreach Committee

Akiko Hayashi, the Outreach Committee Chair, reported that a book commemorating the 10th

anniversary of the public lecture series “Masters of Brain Science” is currently in production, that archived videos of “Masters of Brain Science 2025” are being prepared for release on YouTube, and that planning and preparations for the content of “Masters of Brain Science 2026” are underway.

Reported Item No. 12 Report from Industry-Academia Partnership Committee

Hideya Sakaguchi, the Industry-Academia Partnership Committee Chair, provided an overview of the Industry-Academia Collaboration Symposium held at the 48th Annual Meeting (Niigata, 2025). It was also reported that the Industry-Academia Collaboration Symposium scheduled for NEURO2026 is currently being planned as a joint project with the Japanese Society for Neurochemistry. Additionally, it was reported that the copyright assignment agreements signed with presenters for the release of symposium videos on YouTube had been revised in response to requests and feedback from the presenters.

Reported Item No. 13 Report from Advocacy Committee

Tetsuya Matsuda, the Advocacy Committee Chair, reported that the committee continues to exchange views with ministries, the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED), and others. It was stated that the policy moving forward is to continue collaborating with various organizations and strive to incorporate input from the academic community into the content of ministry-related projects.

Reported Item No. 14 Report from COI Committee

Since Keiichi Kitajo, COI Committee Chair, was absent, President Koji Yamanaka spoke on his behalf to explain the committee’s objectives and other matters. As the committee’s mission is to identify conflicts of interest among Directors and committee members in relation to academic societies and conferences, members were asked to cooperate by submitting self-disclosures.

Reported Item No. 15 Report from Brain Science Dictionary Committee

Since Yasunori Hayashi, Brain Science Dictionary Committee Chair, was temporarily absent, President Koji Yamanaka delivered the report on his behalf. He added that while editing work is continuing, the committee is currently considering replacing some of the editorial board members.

Reported Item No. 16 Report from Academic Diversity Committee

Kiyoto Kasai, Academic Diversity Committee Chair, introduced the Basic-Clinical Collaboration Symposium being organized jointly with the Japanese Society for Neurochemistry at NEURO2026. He explained that the planned theme is brain tumors.

Reported Item No. 17 Report from Diversity Committee

Sayaka Takemoto, Diversity Committee Chair, reported that, in addition to continuing collaboration with other academic societies through the Japan Inter-Society Liaison Association Committee for Promoting Equal Participation of Men and Women in Science and Engineering, plans are currently underway for a lunchtime event at NEURO2026.

Reported Item No. 18 Report from Ethics Committee

Takashi Hanakawa, Ethics Committee Chair, presented a plan to determine the future direction of revisions, based on the recent update of the “Guidelines for Ethics-Related Problems with Non-Invasive Research on Human Brain Function” to the “Guidelines for the Ethical Design and Implementation of Human Neuroscience Research,” which took place during the previous term.

Reported Item No. 19 Report from Animal Experiment Committee

Takanori Uka, Animal Experiment Committee Chair, explained that the committee's mission is to gather information on animal experimentation. He outlined the committee's plan to continue working closely with the Liaison Committee for Laboratory Animal Scientists and relevant government agencies as it prepares for amendments to the "Act on Welfare and Management of Animals".

Reported Item No. 20 Report from BrainBee Committee

Tetsu Okumura, the BrainBee Committee Chair, reported on the results of the 12th Brain Science Olympics held in 2025. It was explained that the average score and the score required to advance from the preliminary round have been rising year by year. It was reported that the top prize winners were invited to the 48th Annual Meeting of JNS, held in Niigata in 2025, where an awards ceremony was held, and they also toured the Institute of Brain Science at Niigata University. The goal was set to continue preparations to ensure the 13th Brain Science Olympics is a success. A suggestion was made from the floor that it would be helpful to see how past award winners are contributing to the society.

Reported Item No. 21 Report from PIC of the Union of Japanese Societies for Biological Science

Taisuke Tomita, PIC of the Union of Japanese Societies for Biological Science Chair, reported that the committee had compiled explanatory notes for a glossary based on the document "Selection of Key Terms for Biology Education in High Schools" issued by the Science Council of Japan. It was reported that, of the 44 terms requested by this union, approximately half were already included in the Dictionary of Brain Science, and the draft was prepared based on that information. It was announced that work would proceed while the committee reviews the matter.

Reported Item No. 22 Report from PIC of the Union of Japanese Societies for Brain Science

Koji Yamanaka, the Chair of PIC of the Union of Japanese Societies for Brain Science, reported on the activities of the Union of Brain Science Associations in Japan. He also indicated the goal of continuing to work with the Union of Brain Science Associations in Japan to address the issues.

The meeting of the Board of Directors via the web conference system went smoothly from start to end, and the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned, stating that the agenda for today's meeting was concluded.

In order to clarify the above resolutions, these minutes shall be prepared, and the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Auditors present at the meeting shall affix their names and seals thereto in accordance with the provisions of Article 41 of the Articles of Incorporation.