MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

July 23, 2015

Present:   Drs. Aaron, Ellis, Finley, Fridman, Kim, Lerner, Puscheck, Rossi, Rowley, Shisheva, Thomas, and Wozniak

Absent:   Drs. Meert, O’Leary, Rongkavilit, Vaishampayan, and Welch

Also Present:   Ms. Mary Uryga, Dr. Linda Roth

1. Call to Order:  The meeting was called to order by Dr. Finley at 3:04 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes of July 9, 2015:  The minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted.

3. Personnel Appointments:

   The proposed appointment of Rajkumar Agarwal, M.D. as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician-Educator) was approved.  It will be suggested to the department to appoint a mentor.

   The proposed appointment of Roshani Agarwal, M.D. as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician-Educator) from Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics was approved.  It will be suggested to the department to appoint a mentor.

   The proposed appointment of Saurabh Chiwane, M.D. as Assistant Professor Of Pediatrics (Clinician-Educator) was approved.  It will be suggested to the department to appoint a mentor.

   The proposed appointment of Aimee Johnson, M.D. as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician-Educator) was approved.  However, she received a 0.5 FTE appointment and her % protected time was stated as 10%.  The department will be queried as to whether that means protected time is 10% of her 0.5 FTE, i.e., 0.05 FTE, or 10% of a whole FTE, i.e., 0.10 FTE.  Furthermore, an academic mentor needs to be named.

   The proposed appointment of Koyonne Mims, Ph.D. as Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences was tabled for several reasons.  Her CV needs to be revised in the SOM format.  Her protected time was stated to be 100%, but that needs to be clarified.  Furthermore, clarification will be sought regarding an apparent gap in her CV from October, 2014 to May, 2015.

   The proposed appointment of Salam Zeineddine, M.D. as Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine (Clinician-Educator) was approved, although the department would be required to provide a statement of protected time and assignment of a mentor.

4. New Business:

   a. Dr. Patrick Bridge, Acting Assistant Dean for Admissions, had submitted the names of seven faculty members whom he was recommending for appointment to the SOM Admissions Committee.  There was some question about the fact that all
seven are basic science faculty members, but he explained that he suggested them because the Admissions Committee is now lacking basic science members.

b. Dr. Shisheva reviewed the SOM Mission and Vision Statement. The basic science faculty are questioning the absence of basic research and education of graduate students in this document. Apparently, the document was revised by the Panel on Diversity chaired by Dr. Smitherman. The EC will point out this omission to Dean Sobel. Perhaps another committee or the Executive Committee will be asked to revise the Statement further.

c. The SOM Research Incentive Program is apparently on hold. The success of the program in stimulating research funding is being re-evaluated. Funding success may not be related directly to such an Incentive Program. Many factors affect funding success. The money can be put into the Indirect Cost Account as well as taken personally.

d. Dr. Puscheck suggested that putting more salary money on grants may provide a disincentive. She explained that faculty in OB/GYN who have put a percentage of their FTE on external NIH grants, thus shifting a partial source of salary from General Funds, may not receive the General Funds dollars back for their salary after the grant is completed, so that the department would be obligated to provide the salary funding. We need clarification from the Dean’s Office as to whether this is true.

5. Old Business:

a. Chairs and Members of EC subcommittees are to fill in their choices for subcommittees in which they wish to serve.

b. Delays in approval of clinical studies by Tenet: Dr. Ellis said that the process may be improving, but she is not yet sure.

c. Continuing problems with Scott Hall: The EC should invite Jim Sears to address problems.

6. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen A. Lerner, M.D., Secretary, Executive Committee of the SOM Faculty Senate