MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

April 23, 2015

Present: Drs. Aaron, Ellis, Finley, Fridman, Heath, Rossi, Sheng, Shisheva, Thomas, Uberti, Vaishampayan, and Welch

Absent: Drs. Kapatos, Lerner, Levine, Meert and Monsell

Also Present: Associate Dean Delaney-Black, Ms. Mary Uryga, and Dr. Roth

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dr. Sheng at 3:15 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes of April 9, 2015: The minutes were approved without revision.

The meeting commenced with Dr. Ambika Mathur, the Dean of the Graduate School, who came at the invitation of the Executive Committee. She provided a report on the status of the Graduate School which oversees all doctoral, masters, and graduate certificate programs. The Graduate School encompasses 7201 students and 898 faculty. Notably, enrollment has increased by eight percent over the last year. The Graduate School provides 25 percent of the graduates of the university as well as 25 percent of the revenue.

Dr. Mathur also noted that the Graduate Office manages the GRA and Rumble Fellowships Graduate Program Investment in Masters Programs. In addition, the office supports a one-time GRA for individual faculty, funds for interdisciplinary studies and for faculty to get together to submit a T32 and grant writing center, a data management office and fellowship boot camp.

Among the accomplishments of the previous year have been the achievements of both BUILD and BEST NIH grants which has raised Wayne State University's national reputation and visibility. Wayne State University has been highlighted in the Congressional Book on the NIH report in 2014 because of these achievements.

She went on to describe in greater detail Phase 1 of the BEST award plan and that they have now proceeded to Phase 2 with weekend sessions for three to six graduate students to interface with biotech and other aspects of scientific endeavor besides tenured track faculty positions. This is to acknowledge that 70 percent of students who graduate with a doctoral degree do not go on to tenured track faculty positions and that this has to be acknowledged, and they need to be prepared for that.

In further discussion with the Executive Committee, Dr. Mathur provided an explanation of how general funds are allocated to graduate students as a whole and to the School of Medicine in particular. It was pointed out that the Graduate School does not get funds from indirect cost and, at this time, has no access to new funds. Sixty percent of its funding comes through NIH and 40 percent through graduate tuition. Dr. Sheng then inquired as to approaches to promote the masters programs since biotech
companies are looking for masters in interdisciplinary studies even more than individuals with doctoral degrees.

In contrast to graduate students, the postdoctoral competition for fellowships is shared with the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR). At this time, there has been discussion but no change in the requirement for United States citizenship and preference for graduation from Wayne State University as criteria. This decision was made that the individuals receiving these fellowships would be able to have training grant eligibility through extramural funds.

Dr. Mathur stated that she would be more than happy to return to provide any further information and that she and her office would welcome any questions. She expressed her thanks to the School of Medicine for its activity in the graduate programs and encouraged continued participation. It is to be noted that Dr. Sobel, the Dean of the School of Medicine, was present for the entire presentation by Dr. Mathur.

**President’s Report**

Dr. Sheng proceeded to report that the President of the University will be attending the Executive Committee Meeting on June 25, 2015, and Dr. Lanier will return to the Executive Committee on May 14, 2015. She encouraged all members to be present for those meetings.

Information from the Policy Committee has been provided suggesting that there is a plan for all email throughout the University to assume the wayne.edu domain. There are two individuals on the University IT Committee from the School of Medicine. These are Kevin Hayes and Jeff Nathan. The issues regarding HIPPA as well as the complexity of having several different domains – med.wayne.edu, dmc.org, and karmanos.org has provided considerable discussion.

On April 14, Dr. Kessel invited Dr. Sheng to the Research Committee of the Academic Senate. This occurred immediately after the electricity issues that plagued Scott Hall. Discussion surrounded the focus of iBio. There were queries as to why iBio space is allocated without consideration for saving faculty who are still at risk from infrastructure problems. The competing issues or retention versus recruitment and accelerated deterioration were discussed at length. Dr. Shisheva and others raised concerns as to what would happen if the generator fails once again, if there is concerted plan, and flow of responsibility as to how to deal with an emergency should it occur. It was agreed that this would be discussed with Dr. Lanier when he comes for his next visit. It was generally agreed that there should be clarity regarding who is assigned to take care of the Medical School infrastructure and that responsibility for follow through be monitored and held accountable. There was general agreement that there should be a response team 24/7; a list of immediate problems that should be prioritized; noting of what is in place versus what is still required; and allocation of IDC funds to infrastructure.

Finally, given the recent crisis regarding the power outage at Scott Hall, Dr. Rossi commented that this actually is not only of significant importance to the research enterprise at the School of Medicine but
that it also spans the teaching aspects since classrooms and computer streaming was interrupted and that servers that house some of the clinical data are housed in the building.

**Personnel Appointments**

Prior to voting on personnel appointments, Dr. Roth reported to the committee that she has been working with faculty coming up for promotion. There was discussion regarding the FTA factors being the same as FTE factors. However, most of the FTA faculty have not been reviewed on an annual basis like the FTE faculty. Thus, they have not had teaching grids from the previous time of promotion. On many occasions they have not had the teaching grids completed from the time previous promotion. It was noted that one of the requirements is that all teaching grids from the previous promotion to the current year need to be provided in the packet for promotion. Thus, there was a motion placed that FTA faculty provide a one-year grid and four-year narrative of teaching and complete evaluative data for one year at the time of promotion. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Appointments:**

Dr. Mariam Hazem for Assistant Professor Clinician Educator FTA, Department of Internal Medicine, was approved.

Dr. Heather Lochner for Assistant Professor Clinician Educator FTA, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, was approved.

Paul Barach, MD, MPH, Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Submitted by Noreen Rossi, MD, on behalf of Steve Lerner, MD.