

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

**June 22, 2017**

**Present:** Drs. Aaron, Ellis, Finley, Fridman, Kim, Klein, Lerner, Levine, Meert, O'Leary, Puscheck, Rowley, Shisheva, Sood, Strickler, Tancer, Thomas, and Wozniak

**Absent:** Dr. Vaishampayan

**Also Present:** Dr. V. Delaney-Black, N. McIntyre, and S. Cooper

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Meert at 3:05 p.m.

**1. Approval of the Minutes of May 11, 2017:** The minutes of the meeting of May 11, 2017 were approved as submitted.

**2. Introduction of New Executive Committee Members:**

Dr. Meert, President of the Executive Committee, introduced the two new Full-Time Affiliate (FTA) members of the Executive Committee, Dr. Michael Klein of Children's Hospital of Michigan, and Dr. Ronald Strickler of Henry Ford Hospital. In turn the other members of the Executive Committee introduced themselves to the new members.

**3. Personnel Actions:**

The proposed appointment of Geoffrey Potts, M.D. as Assistant Professor of Dermatology (Clinical Educator) was approved.

The proposed appointment of Linda Saab, M.D. as Assistant Professor (Clinical Educator) of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences was approved.

**4. Report of the Dean:**

a. Dr. Sobel reported that he is soon finishing the process of 2-hour reviews of each department. Only Pediatrics remains. He is determined to review not only the finances of each department, but also its accomplishments, challenges, and faculty who are coming and leaving.

b. Dr. Sobel reviewed the fiscal processes in the University (Main Campus). VP Decatur is highly organized and has saved money and led new developments, including new dormitory space and newly acquired buildings, leading to a large increase in dormitory space.

c. In the School of Medicine, the students are off for exams. Students accepted for the first-year class are considering their options. More than 50% of accepted students are female.

d. The physical needs of the buildings and physical plant are being reviewed.

e. Professor Larry Stephenson is writing a book recounting the history of our School of Medicine, and Dr. Sobel is reviewing each chapter upon completion.

f. There was a discussion of the problems of PhDs in obtaining sufficient research funding support. Dr. Sobel is open to organizing advisory groups of faculty to consider and discuss their advice.

g. In order to enhance the amount of funding support for clinical research, we need to direct Chairs to recruit clinical researchers who are successful in obtaining such funding. He cited the success of collaborative efforts in research between basic science and clinical departments, as with the Departments of Anatomy and Cell Biology and Ophthalmology.

h. The School of Medicine receives virtually no research funding from our clinical partner, the DMC. Dr. Sobel is examining 3-4 other hospital institutions as possible partners. We would strive to have a collaborative relationship between our clinical research and a clinical partner. He hopes that by December he will be able to announce a new partner relationship.

i. Dr. Sobel recounted the history of the purchase of the Troy Building by UPG for clinical practice. It was not being used effectively, so several years ago it was sold for a profit of \$25-30M. UPG used the money to pay off debts to the University, and then re-leased the building back from the purchaser at a high rate and with UPG responsibility for maintenance. UPG then went into debt. Dr. Sobel is hopeful that UPG will be even in the coming year.

j. The School of Medicine offers retention packages to successful faculty members who are at risk of leaving. However, we are losing about one well-funded faculty member per month.

k. Replacement of a research faculty member costs \$750,000 for a startup package.

l. The School of Medicine has saved money in the retirement of 42 faculty members.

m. In response to a question, Dr. Sobel stated that he would be willing to engage with a Research Committee to consider suggestions for greater success in research funding.

n. In response to a question about the increase in control of funding by the Office of Vice President for Research (OVPR), Dr. Sobel promised to engage Vice President for Research Lanier on issues such as bridge funding, GRAs, and other sources of internal funding for SOM faculty. It would be better if funds could be allotted to the SOM, and then decisions within the School would allocate funds according to School criteria and judgments.

o. Dr. Sobel expects the SOM to come out of bankruptcy, and then there will be additional funds to invest in research.

p. Dr. O'Leary pointed out the inadequate physical facilities in the Elliman Building in addition to the well-known problems in Scott Hall.

##### **5. Report of the Committee to Review the Clinical Educator Track and Its Criteria for Appointment and Promotion:**

a. The Chair of the Committee to Review the Clinical Educator Track and Its Criteria for Appointment and Promotion, Dr. Rowley, presented his report from the Committee. He had reviewed criteria for promotion of such faculty members at approximately 50 US medical schools, and found that about 25 have a mechanism for awarding promotion for excellence in fewer than the three areas of Scholarship, Teaching, and Service. He proposes criteria for promotion with excellence in Teaching and either Service (other than Clinical) or Scholarship, and with accomplishment in the third area. The proposed criteria will be sent out electronically to the members of the Executive Committee for review and vote on adoption or denial.

##### **6. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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