MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

July 28, 2016

Present: Drs. Finley, Fridman, Kim, Lerner, Meert, Puscheck, Rowley, Shisheva, Sood, Thomas, and Wozniak

Absent: Drs. Aaron, Badr, Ellis, Levine, O'Leary, and Vaishampayan

Also Present: N. McIntyre, C. Brain, R. Cooper, and J. Beaudett

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dr. Meert at 3:09 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes of July 14, 2016: The minutes of the last meeting were approved as revised.

3. Dean’s Report:

   The process of budget reviews with each departmental chair is under way. The clinical departments will be completed next week, and the basic science departments will be reviewed in the following week. The coming budget year (2016-2017) will be one of austerity. All departments will be expected to be whole by the end of that year. This should usher in a period of investing in growth.

   The SOM class of 2020 has just begun. They will be exposed to the new curriculum. The LCME will revisit in April/May, 2017, and Dr. Sobel expressed concern about a possibility of new citations. There has been great progress in enhancing the diversity of our medical students. The admissions process has been updated and modernized. Enhancing diversity of faculty will take longer, and faculty search committees will include diversity members. The post-baccalaureate educational program was not inspected by LCME, but it has been problematic, and it will be refurbished. The School must submit a report of changes and improvements to the LCME six months before the revisit. [Mr. Hefner suggested that Vice Dean for Education Baker be invited to report to the EC (he is already scheduled for August) and that we request an interim report at each EC meeting.]

   We need a more exciting entrance to the SOM. The exhibit of earlier medical artifacts will be moved to the library. The parking lot in the front of Scott Hall is unattractive, and it needs to be redesigned. An Executive Committee member advocated for investment in investigators’ labs and offices.

   Three months of contract negotiations about faculty administrative service for Tenet have been very frustrating, and they are expected to conclude by the end of July. Next will take place negotiations on the contract from Tenet to the SOM for education of residents by SOM faculty. Graduate medical education is very profitable, and we should have more leverage in that realm of collaboration with Tenet, so we need more equitable sharing. Vanguard and Tenet were required to invest about $800M in buildings, and they have complied with this obligation. On the other hand, there has been little investment in education.

   The Dean’s Fund will be enhanced by increased taxation of clinical departments. Dr. Sobel plans to demonstrate to the University that our financial house is in order, so we can renew financial investment of the University in SOM research. An EC member pointed out that the University has decided priorities for research support (e.g., bridge funding) that are not necessarily in coordination with priorities of the SOM.
An EC member asked about overhead charges. Dr. Sobel and Mr. Hefner replied that UPG expenses are being cut, in contrast to being ignored as before. An example of expenses to be cut is for unused clinical space. Bloated expenses of UPG administration also have been trimmed. Mr. Hefner concluded the discussion by stating that expenses are being reported honestly, and that we are working out of the deficit toward a growth phase.

4. Personnel Actions:

The proposed appointment of Deemah Mahadin, M.D. as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician-Eduator) was approved.

The proposed appointment of Rana Awdish, M.D. as Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine (Clinician-Educator) FTA was approved.

The proposed appointment of Aliya Hines, M.D., Ph.D. as Assistant Professor of Dermatology (Clinician-Educator) FTA was approved.

5. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

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