MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

September 28, 2017

Present: Drs. Ackerman, Ang, Ellis, Finley, Granneman, Klein, Levine, O’Leary, Puscheck, Rowley, Shekar, Sood, Strickler, and Wozniak

Absent: Drs. Kim and Mutchnik

Also Present: Dr. V. Delaney-Black, C. Brain, and R. Cooper

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

1. Approval of the Minutes of September 14, 2017:

The minutes of the meeting of September 14, 2017 were approved as revised.

2. Personnel Actions:

The proposed appointment of Christopher Chapman, MD as Associate Professor of the Department of Ophthalmology (Clinician Educator, non-tenure track) was denied at the requested academic rank. Instead, the EC approved the appointment be made at the level of Assistant Professor.

The proposed appointment of Ralph Williams, MD as Assistant Professor of the Department of Family Medicine & Public Health Sciences (Clinician Educator, non-tenure track) was approved.

The proposed appointment of Sarmad Almansour, MD as Assistant Professor of the Department of Internal Medicine (Clinical Associate Professor, Voluntary) was approved.

The proposed appointment of Joyce Benjamins, PhD as Professor Emeritus of the Department of Neurology (Research Educator, tenured) was approved.

3. Report from the Dean:

a. Student enrollment: Dr. Sobel was just informed that the number of students registered at Wayne State University for the 2017-2018 academic year had reached 7000 and was expected to increase to 8-9,000 for this period. Hence, after remaining stagnant at 4-5,000 students for the past 15 years or so, the University is finally experiencing the doubling in student enrollment that has become a nation-wide trend.

b. University Pediatricians: The current contract disputes between Wayne State University (SOM) and the Department of Pediatrics stem from conflicts over the physician practice plan dating back to the mid-2000’s. No one knows more about the circumstances that spoiled the SOM’s relationship with Pediatrics than Bonita Stanton, MD, who chaired the department from 2002 until 2011. Dr. Stanton, who left Wayne State University in 2016 to accept a position elsewhere, recently returned to the SOM campus at Dr. Sobel’s request where she addressed the Pediatrics faculty. Given Dr. Stanton’s favorable legacy as a former Chair, the hope is that the faculty would trust her opinions and consider negotiations with Dr. Sobel in a positive light.
c. Faculty recruitment. After many years of fiscal conservation, Dr. Sobel was pleased to announce that all of the Basic Science departments have been given the green light to hire new faculty.

4. Report from the Office of Faculty Affairs (reported by Dr. Delaney-Black):

a. Speed mentoring: OFA will host a two-hour speed mentoring workshop on February 15, 2018, where members of the Executive Committee will be available to answer questions about the P&T process. The workshop will be held from 5-7 pm in the Scott Hall cafeteria and at locations (TBA) in the Mazurek Educational Commons. Food will be served. EC members who will have participated in at least one round of P&T by Feb 2018 are eligible to volunteer their services for this event.

b. Faculty data management software: Funds were released for OFA to purchase the license for the Faculty180 software platform by Interfolio. Faculty180 is expected to revolutionize the acquisition, storage, and output of faculty data for the annual selective salary review. Compared with other companies that specialize in software solutions specific to the needs of Academic institutions, Interfolio delivers the biggest bang for buck and provides two benefits that were not offered by their competitors: a customer service helpline and a gateway to a fee-based document preparation service that will be used to standardize the format faculty CVs in the School of Medicine at the cost of $35 per CV.

5. New business:

a. Updates to EC member roster: Regrettably, a conflict that would have prevented Dr. Philip from attending the October 26th P&T meeting arose and he resigned his position on the Executive Committee. Paul Swerdlow, MD, Professor of the Department of Oncology, was voted unanimously to replace Dr. Philip on the EC as Treasurer of the Faculty Senate through June 2019. The invitation was graciously accepted by Dr. Swerdlow.

b. EC members were advised that there is an imminent need to fill vacancies on University-wide committees that are sanctioned under Article XXX of the AAUP-AFT contract.

4. Old business:

a. Updates to EC member roster: Milton Mutchnik, MD graciously accepted the invitation to serve on the EC as the tenured Member-At-Large faculty from a clinical department through June 2019.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon H. Ackerman, Ph.D., Secretary, Executive Committee of the SOM Faculty Senate