MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

December 14, 2017

Present: Drs. Ackerman, Ang, Ellis, Shekar, Finley, Kim, Klein, Levine, Mutchnik, O’Leary, Puscheck, Rowley, Sood, and Swerdlow.

Absent: Drs. Granneman, Wozniak and Strickler

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dr. Finley at 3:18 p.m.

1. Approval of the Minutes of November 9, 2017:

The minutes of the meeting of November 9, 2017 were approved.

2. Personnel Actions:

The proposed appointment of Bomi Kim, MD, PhD as Assistant Professor of the Department of Pathology (Research, non-tenure track) was approved.

The proposed appointment of Jeremy Welwarth, DO as Assistant Professor of the Department of Emergency Medicine (Clinician Educator, non-tenure track) was approved.

3. Report from the Dean:

a. New Chair of WSU Pediatrics. Dr. Sobel announced that Herman Gray, M.D., will be the new Chair of the Department of Pediatrics, appointment effective as of January 1, 2018. Dr. Gray is the former president and chief executive officer of the DMC Children’s Hospital of Michigan, and replaces Mary Lou Angelilli, M.D., who has served as interim chair of the department since Feb. 20, 2017. Given Dr. Gray’s long-standing successful working relationship with both the DMC and Tenet Healthcare Corporation, there is reason to anticipate that he will be named President of the Pediatrics Practice plan as well as Pediatrician in Chief.

b. University Pediatricians (UP) physicians group. Dr. Sobel reported that the UP Board Members voted to terminate their relationship with WSU, effective March 2018. In Dr. Sobel’s opinion, this action was ill-advised by the attorneys who represent the practice group considering all of the benefits its members will lose once the tie to WSU is severed in the spring. There have been rumblings about potential partnerships between the UP and our neighboring universities in Ann Arbor and Lansing, MI, since the summer, though university laws prevent our “sister” universities from engaging in serious negotiation talks with WSU faculty pediatricians while their contract with our university is still active. Dr. Sobel informed the Executive Committee that all of the current faculty in the Department of Pediatrics has been offered the opportunity to maintain their affiliations with WSU as members of the department under Dr. Gray and of the new physician practice plan that will be established for WSU pediatricians. In response, the attorneys for the University Pediatricians physicians group have filed a request with the judge in charge of the case to allow for partnership negotiations to begin now, rather than at the end of April, between current UP members and other universities. Clearly it would be to UP’s advantage to be able to present a counter offer to the group’s current members if the details can be worked
out such that the WSU pediatricians know they are guaranteed a smooth and timely transition to an affiliation with a new university. With respect to the pediatricians who choose to resign from their faculty appointment at WSU, the university policy will be to deny such persons the possibility of a voluntary appointment for two years.

4. Report from Dr. Baker (Vice-Dean for Medical Education):

   a. LCME accreditation. Dr. Baker emphasized that our School’s ability to surpass the expectations of the LCME committee during their accreditation review last April was largely due to the Herculean efforts on the parts of the SOM faculty who deliver the preclinical curriculum to our medical students, and the outstanding leadership in the Office of Undergraduate Medical Education (Dr. Matt Jackson, Ph.D. and Dr. Christopher Steffes, M.D.). While we have been granted full accreditation for the maximal time allowed (7 years), an LCME sub-committee will return in December 2018 to view the progress that has been made towards completing a new benchmark called “segment review” that was just added to the list of requirements to be satisfied for accreditation. The site team who visited us last April realized that there had not been sufficient time from when the new requirement was posted for our School to have made progress in the area of segment reviews. Dr. Baker further reported that in the time since April 2017, the SOM has completed a formal review of the first segment (Year 1 curriculum) and is well on its way to completing the second segment (Year 2 curriculum), which puts us on course to be well-prepared for upcoming visit next December.

   b. Curriculum revision. Dr. Baker gave a brief overview of the significant changes that will be made to the medical student curriculum beginning with the class that will begin their studies August 1, 2018. Our School is moving from a 2 + 2 model, in which the basic sciences were covered during the first two years of medical school, followed by clinical education and training in the last two years, to an integrated curriculum in which newly admitted students will begin clinical skills training within weeks of starting the program.

   c. Goals of new curriculum. Dr. Baker described the new curriculum in terms of three blocks over a 48 month period: 18 months preclerkship, with students ready to see patients at the end of this block, followed by 12 months of clinical immersion, with the goal that after 2.5 years, our medical students will be at the level of interns entering residency programs. The last 18 months will be devoted to advanced professional development and integrating basic science with daily clinical practice.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

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