

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

June 25, 2015

**Present:** Drs. Aaron, Finley, Lerner, Levine, Meert, Monsell, Rossi, Sheng, Shisheva, Thomas, Uberti, and Welch

**Absent:** Drs. Ellis, Fridman, Heath, Kapatos, Meert, and Vaishampayan

**Also Present:** Ms. Mary Uryga

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Sheng at 3:10 p.m.
- 2. Approval of the Minutes of June 11, 2015:** The minutes of the last meeting were approved as amended.

### **3. Dean's Report:**

a. LCME Report: Dr. Sobel discussed the critical elements of the LCME report, including diversity among students and faculty, and criticism of education of students, particularly in the first two years. He analyzed and evaluated the various points in the LCME report, and outlined strategies that he will employ to address them. He announced that Dr. Herbert Smitherman would be appointed as Interim Vice Dean for Diversity, and that a search would be conducted for a permanent Vice Dean for Diversity, to develop plans to address this critical issue. With respect to education, great attention will be given to this. Educational reorganization, especially in Years 1 and 2 will be carried out, class size will be re-examined, and the establishment of an academic Department of Medical Education will be considered. Outside consultants will be employed to assist in planning. He emphasized, as he has previously, that President Wilson is highly interested and involved in the SOM.

b. WSU VP for Health Sciences: David Hefner has been appointed. Among his responsibilities will be to explore collaborations with the DMC and Henry Ford Health System, and also relationships between the City of Detroit, WSU, and the SOM. He is also charged with working to improve coordination with UPG.

c. Henry Ford Health System: Dr. Sobel discussed the importance of Henry Ford for research collaboration and for education of our students. He discussed opportunities and problems as we move ahead.

d. Reorganization of basic science departments: Dr. Sobel emphasized that the exploration of basic science departmental reorganization is not being driven by financial considerations. The committee he has convened to consider this issue will probe, consider, and recommend. The Dean, President, and Board of Governors will ultimately decide what changes to embark on. It is hoped that opportunities for communication and collaboration will be enhanced, and that we can tie in effectively with the health needs of Detroit.

### **4. Personnel Appointments:**

The proposed appointment of Prashant Agarwal, M.D. as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician-Educator) was approved.

The proposed appointment of Kirsten Meldrum, M.D. as Clinical Professor of Urology was approved.

The proposed appointment of Robert Wilson, M.D. as Professor Emeritus of Surgery was approved.

**5. Visit of WSU President M. Roy Wilson, M.D.:**

a. Relationship between the SOM and the Henry Ford Health System (HFHS): President Wilson discussed the importance of HFHS to the SOM and possibilities for greater collaboration in various areas and also apparent impediments. The newly appointed Vice President for Health Sciences, David Hefner, will lead a Task Force that will continue to examine possible areas of cooperation and integration of HFHS with the SOM.

b. Vice President for Health Sciences: President Wilson explained that a consulting committee of ex-Deans from three prestigious medical schools had suggested such a position, and suggested that it not be combined with the SOM Dean. During the two-year appointment of David Hefner he will decide whether the position should be combined with a new SOM Dean whom he would seek in two years.

c. LCME Report:

i. Diversity: In 2009 he experienced the same problem of insufficient diversity at the University of Colorado, and they were able to turn it around. We need to recruit minority medical students and to review the admissions process. Financial aid should also be used more effectively, and he is considering applying some of his discretionary funds. Perhaps we should reduce the class size, but financial realities would delay this.

ii. Medical education: He is bringing in a medical education expert to advise on possible strategies to improve our compliance in the eyes of the LCME. He is proceeding with an appeal in October, 2015 which will address and lay out remediation plans for diversity and educational issues.

d. SOM reorganization: He is leaving the details of SOM reorganization to Dean Sobel. After the LCME remediation is under control, we'll need to reconsider the SOM Strategic Plan. Many changes are necessary to regain our status as a leading public SOM in the US.

e. Financial disadvantages: WSU has been financially disadvantaged in Michigan. He is optimistic about getting more money as the turnaround in undergraduate enrollment and their progress toward graduation become more evident.

**6. President's Report:**

a. SOM Curriculum Committee: According to the Curriculum Committee Guiding Policies (approved by the Executive Committee in 2013) the SOM Curriculum Committee, which provides periodic reports to the Executive Committee, is responsible for curricular reorganization. The Chair of the Curriculum Committee has been occupied by an Associate Dean. The Associate Dean votes only in the case of a tie. The nine faculty members have majority vote (four students and three administrators (chairs of the sub committees) are the other voting members.

b. Valedictory: Dr. Sheng expressed her appreciation for the support and cooperation she had received from the members of the Executive Committee in her two years as President-Elect and the following two years as President. She stated that she had always been impressed by the commitment and hard work by the EC members. Then the EC expressed to her once again its appreciation for her extraordinary leadership.

**7. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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