

MINUTES OF THE WSU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FACULTY SENATE  
Meeting March 16, 2017

**1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Meert at 3:33 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the previous faculty senate meeting on September 15, 2016 were distributed and approved.

**4. Dean's Report, Dean Jack D. Sobel, M.D.**

- a. Dr. Sobel noted that the LCME site visit was scheduled for April 24 and 25. He reminded everyone that the school is not on probation but that it did have some deficiencies to address. He noted that much has been done to address those deficiencies and encouraged everyone to become familiar with the changes that have been made. He highlighted the tremendous progress that has been made, for example, in addressing diversity issues and in updating curriculum. He asked Dr. Baker to discuss some of the changes (see below).
- b. Dr. Sobel noted that Match Day was coming up. WSU students traditionally do above the national average.

**5. Report from the Vice Dean of Medical Education, Richard Baker, M.D..**

- a. Dr. Baker outlined the LCME timeline. In preparation for the LCME visit in April, a mock site visit with outside evaluators had recently been carried out. Those evaluators were impressed with the progress that has been made in such a relatively short time frame, since the original LCME evaluation in March 2015.
- b. Dr. Baker stressed the importance of educating the school about changes that have been made to address deficiencies noted in the original LCME visit. He said that a ~700 page briefing booklet that details the changes and progress had been prepared. The booklet has been sent to the LCME evaluators and will also be available to the school faculty.
- c. Dr. Baker outlined some of the progress on specific issues, including expanding diversity, changes to the admissions review process, updating curriculum, and strengthening curriculum management.

**6. Report from the President of the Faculty Senate, Kathleen Meert, M.D..**

- a. Dr. Meert called for nominations from the floor for upcoming elections for membership on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (EC).
- b. Dr. Meert discussed an issue with conducting the elections for the EC. To satisfy the Senate By-Laws, the election can only be held with a slate of appropriate candidates; for example, there must be a certain number of eligible candidates for each position, and there are specific rules governing the number of faculty from clinical and basic science departments and their tenure status. In some cases it has been difficult to create a slate that satisfies the By-Laws. A discussion ensued about the possibility of changing the Senate By-Laws regarding EC membership and elections. It was resolved that will be taken up further by the EC and possible changes will be presented to the Senate for approval.

**6. Report from the Chair of the Senate Research Committee, Donal O’Leary, Ph.D.**

- a. Dr. O’Leary began by describing the role of the Research Committee. He noted that it endeavors to assure that the research community has a voice in administrative decisions that affect faculty research. Administrators come to their meetings and take suggestions and input from the committee. He invited faculty that have problems with research to contact the committee.
- b. Dr. O’Leary outlined some of the issues and challenges that the Research Committee has addressed over the past year. These include the lack of budgets to support research at the Department level and the Vice Dean for Research’s office, infrastructure maintenance, and recruiting and retention of faculty. The Research Committee has advocated for reestablishment of the research grant incentive program.

**7. Old Business:** None

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Finley, Vice President, Executive Committee of the SOM Faculty Senate