MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Date: January 22, 2015

Present: Drs. Aaron, Ellis, Finley, Heath, Lerner, Levine, Meert, Monsell, Rossi, Sheng, Shisheva, and Welch

Absent: Dr. Fridman, Kapatos, Thomas, Uberti, and Vaishampayan

Also Present: Interim Dean Sobel, Associate Dean Delaney-Black, Ms. Mary Uryga, Ms. Jean Dismuke, and Dr. Linda Roth

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Sheng at 3:11 p.m.

2. **Approval of the Minutes of January 8, 2015:** The minutes of the last meeting were approved as amended.

3. **Dean’s Report:**

   a. Dr. Sobel expressed his appreciation for the White Paper on Faculty Recruitment developed by the Executive Committee and transmitted to him.

   b. Basic science departments: A committee chaired by Associate Dean Walz is reviewing the situation and future of the Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and of Immunology and Microbiology, and will soon report with recommendations to Dean Sobel.

   c. iBio: Dr. Sobel reviewed the history of this building project, and stated his view that this magnificent building will be a great boost to research in the School of Medicine. However, many issues have been left undecided, and Vice President for Research Lanier is now addressing details. Dr. Lanier is willing to return to the Executive Committee to discuss his vision and plans for iBio. Dr. Sobel described some plans for structuring research in iBio, and felt that about half of the building will be utilized for newly recruited faculty.

   Dr. Sobel discussed the financial constraints to recruiting, especially a limitation of available tenure lines. The budget cut for the SOM in the next fiscal year is expected to be $1M, and this will add to constraints on tenure lines for recruitment.

   President Wilson is committed to restoration of academic excellence of the School of Medicine, but it is not clear whether that will be translated into more money/tenure lines for recruitment.

   d. Relationship with Henry Ford Health System (HFHS): The Affiliation Agreement with HFHS will be completed by the time of the LCME visit in March. The long-term relationship is very hopeful, and we look forward to more research collaborations. Furthermore, there are other important areas of possible collaboration, including public health, which may bolster our Public Health educational and research programs. President Wilson has developed a Task Force to bring Henry Ford closer into the SOM.

   e. DMC/Tenet: Interactions and negotiations are currently going well among Tenet, UPG, and WSU. WSU has been building dorms for students on Main Campus, and the SOM and the DMC may collaborate to create apartments for students and residents.
Hopefully, the DMC may also provide funds to recruit clinical chairs. Important discussions are also taking place between the SOM and DMC regarding Cardiology, which may ultimately also help to provide funds for research. Vice Dean Stanton is in charge of developing and furthering the relationship with the DMC.

f. UPG: Dr. Sobel emphasized that UPG is independent of the University and the SOM, but is owned by its faculty and contributes significantly to the financial support of the SOM, and there is a commitment to support research in the SOM. The leaders of UPG have been clinical chairs, but there will be changes and there will be greater transparency to the faculty.

4. President's Report:

a. The Provost is coming to the Executive Committee meeting on February 26, 2015. Dr. Sheng is trying to arrange for the three SOM faculty members in the Policy Committee (Drs. Kessel, Frank, and Artiss) to come to the February 12 EC meeting to discuss their perspectives on the University and the SOM. Drs. Kessel and Frank have accepted the invitation, and she is waiting to hear from Dr. Artiss.

b. The Executive Committee will be preparing for the upcoming School of Medicine election.

5. Personnel Appointments:

The proposed appointment of A Shan Qiao, Ph.D. as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Research) was approved.

The proposed appointment of Jay Pettegrew, M.D. as Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences was approved.

6. New Business:

Dr. Ellis reported that she had received a letter from the DMC and forwarded by the University requesting that she sign an apparently unreasonable contract requiring her to secure major insurance in order to conduct any clinical research within the DMC. This will be followed up with a review by the Executive Committee and further action as indicated.

Dr. Rossi reported that she had heard a report from St. Louis University about conflicts regarding clinical research with Tenet, which owns the medical center of the medical school.

7. Old Business:

A description of the EC subcommittees and their duties was distributed to the EC.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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