

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: August 22, 2013

Present: Drs. Aaron, Afonso, Bannon, Delaney-Black, Finley, Heath, Lerner, Monsell, Philip, Rossi, Sheng, Shisheva, Uberti, Welch

Absent: Drs. Levine, Stemmler (resigning at the end of August), and Vaishampayan

Also Present: Dean Parisi, Vice Dean Sonnino, and Ms. Mary Uryga

1. Call to Order:

Dr. Sheng called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of August 8, 2013 were approved; subsequently the date was corrected from the stated August 11.

3. Dean's Report:

Dean Parisi reported that she had visited the Perinatal Research Branch (PRB) with President Wilson the day before. It was an excellent interactive meeting with research presentations, including Dr. Romero, the Director. The President enjoyed himself and was impressed.

President Wilson is committed to progress in the School of Medicine, but he understands how small is our revenue stream, in part because of lack of funding from the Main Campus. He had not been aware that tenure covers full salary guarantee. Also, he wants to find out how much support UPG provides to academic salaries. At the suggestion of President Wilson, Dean Parisi and he have discussed a possible inquiry into reorganization of units by area of research focus. The President wants to re-examine the University budgeting process. While he is carrying out his 90-day review of the University and its problems and future, Dean Parisi would like suggestions and comments to be sent to him from the SOM.

Dean Parisi discussed huge declines over years of state dollars coming from the University to the SOM. The University is very dependent (61%) on tuition income, and their enrollment is dropping. Dean Parisi does not wish to go to President Wilson with hands out for state dollars. Rather, she would prefer to go to him with a description of our problems but also plans to improve, and then also to request his help in enabling our plans. It is clear that we need to recruit new faculty.

Dean Parisi posed the question of how we might organize ourselves optimally in the new era of research. Is there a better way to organize our structure to further trans-disciplinary research? Dean Parisi mentioned the Pediatrics Prevention Center and the Oncology research enterprise as examples of successful models.

Dean Parisi urged President Wilson to meet with the EC, and Dr. Sheng plans to invite him.

In response to a comment from Dr. Sheng, Dean Parisi discussed the problem of facilities in KCI, which not only impedes research of existing faculty, but also recruitment of new faculty. The Prentis Building is uninhabitable. Dean Parisi said that there are plans to move some faculty

from the Prentis Building to Elliman, but it is not easy to accommodate the existing investigators in Elliman.

Dean Parisi closed by thanking the EC for its support and ideas, and she looks forward to more ideas on how to address our problems.

4. Vice Dean's Report:

Vice Dean Sonnino reported on preparations for the March, 2015 LCME site visit. She reviewed the categories of evaluation, with emphasis on areas that are somewhat problematic around the country. She also reviewed categories which may be problematic for our SOM, and she discussed plans for remediation of such problems. Two major problems that she mentioned related to faculty were: 1) need for development of an explicit diversity policy, and 2) the need for all who teach our students to have definite faculty appointments, and she mentioned that there has been a problem with that especially at the VA.

5. President's Report:

Dr. Sheng discussed the scheduling of P&T Committee meeting(s) in the period roughly from the middle of October to the middle of November. EC members have been responding to a Doodle survey regarding their availability. Since Dr. Greg Kapatos will be replacing Dr. Stemmler in September to fill out his term, he will be added to the Doodle survey.

6. Personnel Appointments:

Three proposed appointments/reassignments were approved:
Preetha Balakrishman, M.D. to Assistant Professor (Clinician-Educator) of Pediatrics
Nashat Imran, M.D. to Assistant Professor (Clinician Educator) of Internal Medicine
Elizabeth Berger, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology and Ophthalmology (Research Track) was approved for transfer to tenure-track status (Research Educator Track).

7. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Stephen A. Lerner, M.D., Secretary, and Executive Committee of the SOM Faculty Senate