MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

June 14, 2018

Present: Drs. Ang, Ackerman, Ellis, Finley, Klein, Mutchnick, O’Leary, Shekar, Strickler, and Wozniak

Absent: Drs. Granneman, Kim, Levine, Puscheck, Rowley, Sood, and Swerdlow

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dr. Finley at 3:07 p.m.

1. Approval of the Minutes of May 24, 2018:

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of May 24, 2018 was deferred to the next meeting.

2. Personnel Actions:

   The proposed appointment of Gregory Washington, M.D. as Assistant Professor of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences (Clinician Educator) was approved.

   The proposed appointment of Peifeng Li, M.D. as Adjunct Professor of the Department of Physiology (Clinician Educator) was approved.

   The proposed appointment of Ritsuko K. Pooh, L.L.B. M.D. Ph.D. as Adjunct Professor of the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology (Clinician Educator) was approved.

3. Report from the Dean:

   a. Academics. Dr. Sobel spoke briefly about the SOM Post baccalaureate program. The program was started ~50 years ago, and was the first in the nation to address the challenges faced by college graduates from disadvantaged backgrounds to compete successfully for admission to medical school. Each year, 12-14 students, whose quantitative identifiers (grade point average, MCAT score) do not meet the standards of the Admissions Committee, and who satisfy the specific criteria of the postbac program, spend a year completing an abbreviated version of a classical Year 1 medical school curriculum. Postbac students, who maintain an average of B or better in all of their classes, are admitted to the medical school and join the current year’s matriculating class. Dr. Sobel was pleased to report that ours is now a certificate-granting postbac program and that he was proud to participate in the graduation ceremony that was being held later in the afternoon. Among the other matters related to academics, Dr. Sobel praised the talk given by Darrell Kirch MD, President of the AAMC, to the graduating Class of 2018. He also apprised the EC of two formidable issues our students are facing, the influx of foreign nationals who compete for residencies and the over the top stress induced by an inordinate emphasis placed on USMLE Part I scores.

   b. Hospital negotiations. Dr. Sobel reported the continuation of weekly meetings between WSU and DMC representatives to negotiate a 5-year contract between the University Physician’s Group and the hospitals for clinical and administrative services. The deadline to reach an agreement has been set at the end of August. Dr. Sobel also updated the EC about...
matters related to the private discussions with Ford hospital, which are moving toward a formal Letter of Intent signed by both parties in the near future. In contrast, negotiation with University Pediatricians is at a complete standstill. UP has, in fact, cut ties to the University. A new practice plan to represent WSU and Ford hospital at Children’s Hospital is under consideration.

3. Report from Stephen Lanier, PhD, WSU Vice President for Research:

a. Division of Laboratory Animal Resources. Dr. Lanier introduced Gerry Hish, DVM and Director of Veterinary Surgical Services, who briefed the EC about the status of the animal facility in Scott Hall, which is the largest of the university’s nine vivariums. Built in 1971, the Scott Hall vivarium had not been updated since 1985. A comprehensive evaluation of the facility was conducted by an outside team of experts who reported significant deficiencies ranging from poorly designed space and outdated equipment to a failing HVAC system. In concluding his presentation, Dr. Hish advised the committee that the current state of the Scott Hall facility was dangerously close to being out of compliance with state and federal regulations and at risk of being forced to close. Dr. Lanier estimated the cost of bringing Scott Hall’s vivarium into the 21st century to be 4-5 million dollars. The laundry list of persistent physical plant problems in Scott Hall sparked a discussion focused on the pros and cons of moving forward with the renovations, provided the financial resources became available. Considering the renovation costs relative to the research dollars earned by principle investigators, whose work is dependent on the facility, Dr. Lanier is confident that the investment will have only a positive effect on the financial health of the SOM.

b. Human Research Protection Program (HRPP). Dr. Lanier’s recruitment to Wayne State University was based partially on his outstanding track record in HRPP administration. He has retained HRP, a Consulting Group out of Lake Success, New York, specialized in matters related to research ethics and compliance, for advice in his effort to restructure HRPP at WSU.

3. Report from the President:

a. EC membership vacancies. Dr. Finley has already opened a dialogue with Phillip Phillip MD, whom he would like to recruit to replace Dr. Wozniak, who has accepted a position at the University of Pittsburgh and will be stepping down from the EC this coming August. Dr. Finley also reported he will contact L. Keoki Williams, MD at Ford Hospital to replace Dr. Strickler’s seat on the committee.

b. Vacancies on other committees under the purview of the EC. Dr. Finley reported that Jason Mateika, PhD has graciously agreed to replace Dawn Misra, PhD, as Chair of the Research Development Committee.

4. New Business:

a. Faculty success. Just as the EC has been working with the Research Development Committee to draft a proposal that outlines steps Dr. Sobel might consider to boost the success by faculty on the Research Educator track to secure extramural funding, EC members would like to see a similar effort made to ensure success in P & T for Clinical Educators. On this point, Dr. Strickler has drafted a document outlining his ideas to serve as the starting point of a proposal focused in this area.
Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

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