**McGovern Medical School at UTHealth Houston Faculty Senate**

Thursday, August 17, 2023

**Minutes**

1. Call to Order: 4:30 pm
2. Housekeeping
3. Approval of Minutes - July 2023
4. Reports
   1. Faculty Affairs Update – Dr. Kevin Morano, Senior Vice President for Academic and Faculty

Affairs

* UTHealth Houston and Memorial Hermann Hospital System are close to finalizing their affiliation agreement.
* The new Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs will be announced soon.
* 146 Promotion and Tenure applications for FY 2024. Total Faculty: 1,778 faculty
* Quarterly Regional UT meeting:
  + UT System compliance with Senate Bills 17 (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) & 18 (Tenure) – feedback on the University compliance statement was provided from the Deans and the Interfaculty Council. We are hoping for more clarity on any necessary changes in order to be compliant with the law.
  + Dean Hancock’s one-year anniversary is on September 1, 2023. He has facilitated recruitment of 166 new clinical faculty, 53 new staff positions and multiple researchers with over $50 million commitment towards this growth.
  + Proposal to the Board of Regents for approval of tuition and fees at tuition of $21,083 per year, increased to $24,600 FT28. These costs are much lower than the national average of $38,000 for public medical schools.

b. Interfaculty Council (IFC) Update – Dr. Summer Ott, Faculty Senate Chair-Elect

* Dr. Bethany Williams, Associate Professor, MMS Dept. of Neurology – IFC Chair 2023-2024
* Dr. Ross Shegog, Professor, School of Public Health, Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences - Chair Elect
* IFC Subcommittee Reports: https://www.uth.edu/ifc/
* Highlights:
  + Administrative affairs: Dr. Linh Bui: Assess two areas for faculty development: 1) Available programs for faculty leadership training for the 6 schools and 2) Readiness of the UTHH for faculty and support structures for the upcoming TMC3/Helix Park Collaborative Research Hub
  + Faculty Status Rights and Responsibilities – Dr. Shane Cunha: revisit 5 years of IFC subcommittee reports and recommendations
  + Governance and Academic Affairs – Dr. Nicholas De Lay: review the impact of course evaluations and process within each school.

1. New Business
   1. Continuing Medical Education Committee Report – Zi Yang Jiang, MD, Chair, CME Committee

* Recap of FY 23 activities and Historic Data: 1116 activities, 19 conferences, with very good Physician attendance.
* Reaccreditation: we received a complimentary report and are reaccredited for 4 years, through 7/31/2027. The next site visit is expected in early 2027.
* Future Goals:
  + Accreditation with Commendation. Allows for 6 years extension
  + We need to have a total of 8 points in areas such as 1) promoting teams, engaging students to plan events, 2) addressing public health priorities, 3) support CPD for CME team, 4) optimized communication and technical and procedural skills, and 5) Improving healthcare quality <https://www.accme.org/accreditation-rules/accreditation-criteria>
* Steps to hold a CME event;
  + Talk to chair and DMO
  + Fill out the form: <https://form.jotform.com/230855833180053>
  + Identify planning committee, gap analysis (how it changes treatment plan), respond to questions about commercial support and registration, collaboration with nursing school
  + Payment vendor is changing, the CME office/Treasury is investigating alternatives
  + CME Director Position has been approved and will be hired now that we are accredited
  1. MMS Medical Student Research Office (MSRO) –Overview – Mary E. Kollmer Horton, PhD, Director, Medical Student Research Office
* MSRO placement in MMS is in Office of Educational Programs.
* Goals: 1) communicate and mentor students on all areas of research and scholarly opportunities, 2) Provide programs and services to students to support them in achieving their scholarship goals, 3) celebrate and find collaborators
* Mission: Support training of next generation of physician researchers and scholars – in classroom time, website, individual meetings, research forums and newsletter
* Programming: Summer Research Program, Scholarly Concentrations Program, Collaborative Programming with student organizations.

Future goal: MMS Medical Scholars Program (5 years medical school program – with one year dedicated to research – need funding)

Other Services: writing resources/workshops, proposal review and meeting support

Grants: individual fellowships, philanthropic support, NIH training grants

* Programs:
  + Scholarly Concentration Program (SCP): 15 certificate programs that supplement students’ medical program in a structured way (new programs are under development). We have an average of 50 SCP graduates per year.
  + Summer Research Programs (SRP): 60 Summer Research Program stipend scholarships amounting to $150,000. The program is increasing in both student interest and faculty support.
  + Albert Schweitzer Fellowship Program (ASFP) – fellows engage in community health programming and projects.
  + Facilitated Acceptance Program with the Rice University Medical Humanities Program – the Rice program will admit 8 humanities juniors every year.

The faculty mentor page for the McGovern Medical School Summer Research Program (SRP) is available on a new search engine. **If you are willing to mentor a student, please** [**log on to view the NEW search engine and enter your research project information**](https://apps.uth.edu/fmse/) **for the search engine no later than September 5, 2023,** so that the SRP can list you on the [**MS1 website**.](https://med.uth.edu/oep/msro/msro-programs/srp/)

* 1. Faculty Senate Recap – Georgene Hergenroeder, PhD, Chair Faculty Senate
* > 170 Senators, Representing: 1778 faculty
* Strength in Diversity Task Force
* Reviewed the programs conducted over the year
* Special thanks to the members of Standing Committees and the Chairs plus Dr. Nahid Rianon, Dr. Simbo Chiadika, Valerie Guerrero, Johnson George, Dr. Kevin Morano and Dr. Nancy McNiel

1. Announcements
   1. Learning Healthcare Symposium at UTHealth Houston - Dr. Susan Wootton

* Celebrating 25 years of Developing and Translating Evidence to Practice at UTHealth Houston – October 3, 2023. Keynote speaker: Richard Platt, MD, MSc, Professor and Chair, Harvard Medical School Department of Population Medicine, President, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute. 8 – 12:15pm, Memorial Hermann Conference Center
  1. UTHealth Houston Office for Faculty Affairs and Development inaugural Distinguished Speaker Series presents Jagat Narula, MD, PhD, *Academic Health Care Centers, Faculty Involvement, and Research Collaboration: Bringing Science and Society Closer Together.* 12-1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27, in the

Beth Robertson Auditorium in the Fayez S. and Susan K. Sarofim Research Building, 1825 Pressler St.

* 1. The University Executive Council approved three policy revisions in August, which are now updated online:

HOOP 101, Disability Accommodation

Changes made to comply with the new Pregnancy Workers Fairness Act and “PUMP” Act and streamline procedures.

HOOP 183, Non-discrimination, Anti-Harassment and Equal Opportunity

Changes clarify the rights of former employees with respect to complaints and provide flexibility in handling complaints involving employees no longer at the university—additional changes to comply with the new Pregnancy Workers Fairness Act and “PUMP” Act.

HOOP 214, Clinical Research Billing

Changes proposed by Sponsored Projects Administration to conform to current practices.

1. Adjournment

**Next meeting: Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 4:30 PM**

Dr. Georgene Hergenroeder – Chair

Dr. Summer Ott – Chair-Elect

Dr. Simbo Chiadika – Secretary

Kathryn Leal, MS, CGC – Secretary-Elect

Dr. Nahid Rianon – 2021-2022 Past-Chair