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

**Thursday, July 18, 2024 at 4:30 PM**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Zoom Meeting**

***Pending Faculty Senate approval***

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 pm with a quorum of members present.

1. Housekeeping

* Attendance rules (attend a minimum of 60% of the monthly meetings) were reviewed.
* Dial-in attendees must email Valerie Guerrero with their call-in number for proper identification.
* Please remain muted unless speaking, and the chat will be monitored for questions.
* If you anticipate an absence, reach out to Valerie Guerrero to excuse it.

1. Approval of Minutes - June 2024

There were no corrections to the minutes from the previous meetings, so they were accepted as written.

1. Reports

* Faculty Affairs update- Dr. Nahid Rianon, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
  + The APT Committee completed promotion and tenure reviews
  + Results: 82 promotions from Assistant to Associate (7 with tenure) and 45 promotions from Associate to Professor (13 newly with tenure).
  + Promotion and Tenure seminar will be held July 24, 2024 at 12 pm on Teams.
* Interfaculty Council (IFC) update- Dr. Erin Fox, Faculty Senate Chair-Elect
  + UTHealth Houston recently held an inaugural Departmental Chair Development Program, focused on leadership, operational skills and well being

1. New Business

* Results for elections for Faculty Senate and Interfaculty Council Positions- Dr. Summer Ott, Faculty Senate Chair
  + Drs. Barbara Orlando and Amber Campbell have been elected Faculty Senate Chair-elect and Secretary-elect, respectively. Their terms will start 9/1/2024. Drs. Erin Fox and Matthew Baker will be Faculty Senate Chair and Secretary on 9/1/2024.
  + Drs. Harnoor Singh, Julie Gutierrez, and Gurur Biliciler-Denktas were elected to represent IFC starting 9/1/2024.
* Continuing Medical Education Committee update- Dr. Zi Yang Jiang, Committee Chair
  + Historic overview of CME activities
  + Reaccreditation in 2027. Review in June 2027, Decision in July 2027
  + Learning Management System for CME
    - CE tracking with CE Broker
    - CME Passport for exploring and managing CME opportunities
* 2024-2025 Prescription Plan Change & PTO benefits – Patricia Hinojosa, Executive Director, Payroll & Benefits, UTHealth Houston and Mike Tramonte, Senior Vice President, Finance and Business Services and Chief Financial Officer, UTHealth Houston
  + There was a discussion of pros and cons for moving to a paid time off system from our current system of separate vacation and sick leave.
  + Vacation accrual rates are determined by the State of Texas.
  + UT System institutions who have moved to a PTO system typically own their own hospital. UTHealth Houston currently does not, but may in the future.
  + Benefit Annual Enrollment is occurring July 15-31, 2024.
  + There is no increase in out-of-pocket costs for employees only, but there is an out-of-pocket increase of 7.5% for employee & spouse, employee & children and employee & family
  + No evidence of insurability is required to sign up for short- or long-term disability plans
  + UT System is discontinuing Livongo and Omada
  + Inspira is the new administrator for UTFlex, with a new spending limit of $3200 and new debit cards will be issued
  + Questions? Please contact the Benefits Team: [benefits@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:benefits@uth.tmc.edu)

1. Announcements

* No meeting in August
* Annual Enrollment Benefits Fair: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, July 25, 2024 - MMS Leather Lounge
* Congratulations to Ben Bobrow, MD, as the first Vice President for Healthcare Innovation
* Women Faculty Forum John P. and Kathrine G. McGovern Excellence Awards Reception honoring:

Shira Goldstein, MD; Bindu Akkanti, MD; Susanna Spence, MD; Ji Young Yoo, PhD; Kendra

Carmon, PhD; and Irina Serysheva, PhD. Reception will take place July 23, 2024 in the 5th floor gallery

* Promotion and Tenure Seminar for Faculty and Administrative staff via Teams on Wednesday, July 24th
* Next meeting: September 19, 2024 at 4:30 PM

1. Adjournment time: 5:38 pm