

AHC FACULTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

December 21, 2012

Minutes of the Meeting

[In these minutes: 2013 Third Thursdays, AHC External Review Committee Report, Spring Forum, AHC FCC/Collegiate Chairs' Luncheon, Senate Committee on Finance and Planning Update]

These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes reflect the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.

Present: Ned Patterson, (chair), John Connett, Les Drewes, Cynthia Gross, Robert Kratzke, Diane Schadewald for Kathleen Krichbaum, Sandra Myers

Regrets: Colin Campbell, Kathleen Krichbaum

Others attending: Vernon Weckwerth

I). Professor Patterson called the meeting to order, and welcomed those present.

II). Members unanimously approved the November 16, 2012 minutes.

III). Professor Patterson reported that Vice President Terry Bock has agreed to fund an additional Third Thursday in May, which will give each AHC school an opportunity to present this academic year. The remaining Third Thursday dates and hosts were noted:

- January 24, 2013 – School of Dentistry
- February 21, 2013 – College of Pharmacy
- March 14, 2013 – AHC Office of Education – Dr. Brandt
- April 18, 2013 – Medical School – Duluth
- May 16, 2013 – School of Nursing

Professor Patterson proposed moving the committee's Friday, April 19 meeting to Thursday, April 18 and holding it in Duluth to coincide with the Third Thursday event that Duluth will be hosting. Professor Drewes stated that he would look into the Duluth Medical School schedule for that day to determine the best time for the Third Thursday event to start.

Professor Gross stated that she will be unable to attend the April Third Thursday because she will be out of town, but that she will ask her alternate, Professor Natalia Tretyakova, to attend in her stead, and, if she is not available, she will ask one of her Duluth College of Pharmacy colleagues. Professor Patterson stated that it is important that each school have representation.

Professor Patterson also mentioned looking into having the April Third Thursday presentation broadcast to the Twin Cities via ITV. Because it is highly unlikely that Twin Cities' faculty would show up in a room to watch a 5 – 10 minute presentation, he suggested that the April presentation be a bit longer, e.g., 15 – 20 minutes. The logistics and details for the April AHC FCC meeting and Third Thursday will need to be worked out.

Professor Patterson then asked Professor Myers whether she had identified a speaker for the January Third Thursday that is being hosted by the School of Dentistry. Professor Myers stated that she is planning to present in conjunction with someone in from the Program of Mortuary Science on mercury abatement prior to cremation. Professor Schadewald proposed using “environmental responsibility in dentistry and mortuary science” as a title.

IV). Moving on, members spent time discussing the AHC External Review Committee report that the President's Office released earlier in the week. Professor Patterson went off the record to provide information about the discussion at yesterday's FCC meeting about the report. At the end of his update, he asked members for their thoughts on how the committee should best go about conveying ideas/suggestions related to the Medical School strategic planning process that Dr. Friedman has been asked to spearhead as well as provide him with input on the Department of Medicine's chair search. A number of specific comments and suggestions were posed and these included:

- The Medical School strategic plan should solicit input from all Academic Health Center (AHC) units and ideally include direct input from other faculty in the strategic planning process.
- When new hire searches are conducted, more should be done to leverage the inter-school synergies that exist given the emphasis on interdisciplinarity. Each school's strategic plan should highlight its strengths in order to make joint funding and appointment opportunities possible. In terms of hiring new faculty, more emphasis should be placed on hiring faculty whose area of research has the potential to lead to collaboration with other faculty doing similar research. There should be less “silo-hiring” and more should be done to promote synergistic research interests.
- The success of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) is central to the success of not only of the Medical School but the other AHC schools as well. If the CTSI were to fail, it would be devastating for the University. More emphasis needs to be placed on ensuring its success. The Medical School strategic plan needs to put forward the CTSI as a priority. Additionally, the Biomedical Discovery District should be integrated with the CTSI as part of the translational development work that is being done.
- The Masonic Cancer Center should be used as a model for promoting other interdisciplinary research opportunities.
- World-class strategic thinkers are needed to work on the Medical School's strategic plan. Consider looking to the Carlson School of Management to identify people who could help with this process.

- The coordinate campuses of Duluth and Rochester must be looked at when developing the Medical School's strategic plan. More should be done to capitalize on the Duluth and Rochester campuses.
- The Medical School strategic plan needs to put forth a strong vision.

Professor Patterson asked about the timing of providing Dr. Friedman with the committee's input. He noted that he has a one-on-one meeting with Dr. Friedman on January 14th, but wondered if he should contact him prior to that meeting. After some discussion, it was decided that Professor Patterson would contact Dr. Friedman as soon as he is able to do so. Professor Patterson requested Renee Dempsey, Senate staff, write up the minutes from this meeting as soon as possible in preparation for his conversation with Dr. Friedman.

Given the committee's discussion about the CTSI, Ms. Dempsey was asked to extend an invitation to Dr. Bruce Blazar to attend the committee's January 25 meeting to share his vision for the CTSI and to find out about his involvement in the strategic planning process for the Medical School. Professor Patterson added that Tucker LeBien, AHC associate vice president for research, and Dr. Yoji Shimizu, director of graduate studies, University of Minnesota Medical School, have been scheduled to attend the committee's February 15 meeting to discuss interdisciplinary graduate education from a research perspective.

V). Next, the committee discussed the spring forum it plans to host. Professor Drewes proposed that Professor Patterson, as chair of the AHC FCC, act as the forum moderator. Professor Gross stated that she envisioned Professor Patterson giving the opening remarks and welcome, but felt that one of the other three faculty members who were previously mentioned should serve as the moderator. She stated that in her opinion involving as many people as possible is better. At an earlier meeting, members suggested the following faculty as possible moderators:

- Professor James Cloyd (College of Pharmacy)
- Professor Barbara Elliott (Medical School – Duluth)
- Professor Jim Neaton (School of Public Health)

Members agreed that all three of these individuals would do an excellent job in the role of moderator given they are all very gifted communicators. Needing to make a decision, a vote was taken to determine the order in which these individuals would be contacted:

1. Professor Elliott
2. Professor Neaton
3. Professor Cloyd

Professor Drewes volunteered to contact Professor Elliott to see if she would be available to serve as moderator for the upcoming forum on March 4. He agreed to follow-up with Professor Patterson and Ms. Dempsey. If Professor Elliott is not available, Professor Connett agreed to ask Professor Neaton.

VI). The committee then talked about the upcoming AHC FCC/collegiate chairs luncheon from 11:30 – 1:00 on Monday, January 14 in the Dale Shephard Room at the Campus Club. It was decided that the agenda items for this meeting would be:

- Mentoring junior faculty.
- Spring forum and what each school can/will do to promote attendance.

VII). Professor Patterson welcomed Professor Olin who serves as the AHC FCC representative on the Senate Committee on Finance and Planning (SCFP). He noted that Professor Olin was invited to provide the committee with a SCFP update. Professor Olin thanked the committee for the opportunity meet with them and highlighted the following:

- The heavy light rail construction should be finished this fall. Remaining work still needing to be done is installation of towers. The towers will be closer together on campus than elsewhere on the line in order to reduce the electromagnetic fields.
- The University was successful in its negotiations for two types of monitoring systems to monitor vibration on the line.
- Originally, buses and bicycles were to share lanes, but now the buses and light rail will share lanes for a three-year trial period.
- No decision has been made whether the University of Minnesota will be a free zone similar to the free zone between the Terminal 1 – Lindbergh Station and Terminal 2 – Humphrey Station.
- The budget for the next two years is sufficient, however, beginning in 2014 or 2015, depending on what the legislature does, the University may experience more budgetary problems and changes may need to occur to address any budget shortfall.
- The University continues to have a good debt rating, and still has a capacity for additional debt, although it would be necessary to identify revenues to pay the debt service should it incur additional debt.
- A 2% growth in research dollars is being projected over the next several years.
- There have been and continue to be discussions about the opening of the Cancer and Cardiovascular Research Building and the financial impact this will have on departments.
- The University continues to work on reducing the amount of space it leases.

Professor Patterson thanked Professor Olin for the update. He added that the AHC FCC will be discussing the University's biennial budget request with Dr. Friedman at its February 6 meeting and invited Professor Olin, as the AHC FCC representative on the SCFP, to attend this meeting as well. Professor Olin suggested that the committee may want to consider inviting Associate Vice President Beth Nunnally to a meeting before they meet with Dr. Friedman to hear about the AHC's budget so that they can have a more informed budget discussion with Dr. Friedman.

In closing, Professor Olin asked members if they wanted copies of all of the handouts that have been distributed at the SCFP meetings. If so, members were told to contact him.

VIII). Hearing no further business, Professor Patterson adjourned the meeting.

Renee Dempsey
University Senate