

AHC FACULTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

May 16, 2014

Minutes of the Meeting

[In these minutes: Debrief from May 15 Third Thursday, Future Third Thursdays, Agenda Items for June 3 Meeting with Dr. Jackson, Topics for June 20 Meeting with Provost Hanson, Thank You to Professor Patterson for Serving as Chair for the Past Two Years]

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), Colin Campbell for Paul Bohjanen, John Connett, Les Drewes, Kathleen Krichbaum, Wendy St. Peter

Regrets: Paul Bohjanen, Robert Kratzke, Sandra Myers

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

II). The committee began by talking about the May 15 Third Thursday meet and greet with Dr. Brooks Jackson, vice president and dean of the Medical School. Members who attended thought the event went well and were happy with the number of people who attended. At this event, Dr. Jackson clearly articulated his vision for the AHC, which emphasized research, scholarship and papers. In addition, he talked about the importance of securing grants to help get pilot projects off the ground.

Professor Connett suggested having a Third Thursday link on the AHC FCC website to give the event more visibility. Members liked this idea, and Renee Dempsey, Senate staff, agreed to work on it.

III). Moving on, the committee talked about ideas for Third Thursdays moving forward. The committee brainstormed ideas for future Third Thursdays, which included:

- Host two fall and two spring Third Thursdays for the 2014 – 2015 academic year. Finalize dates, presenters and topics over the summer so that an announcement can be sent out advertising the event.
- Focus Third Thursdays around areas of research and invite faculty who are currently engaged in interdisciplinary research.
- Invite both President Kaler and Dr. Jackson to provide a big picture overview of their vision for the AHC.
- Invite Dr. Bruce Blazar to the first fall Twin Cities Third Thursday to provide an update on the status of the Clinical and Translations Science Institute (CTSI). Then, consider using the remaining Third Thursday dates to showcase CTSA research, which would include poster sessions/presentations.
- Host another Third Thursday event at UMD.

- Hear from faculty researchers who were recipients of the recently announced interdisciplinary seed grants or other AHC funded grants. Poster presentations should be used to highlight grant and other resources that are available to researchers.
- Given the goal of Third Thursdays is to foster interdisciplinary collaboration among faculty who might not otherwise interact, consider using a “speed dating” approach to stimulate interdisciplinary collaborations. Solicit topics of interest from AHC faculty.
- Communicate and promote Third Thursday events to department heads and associate deans who then could encourage their respective faculty to attend in order to foster interdisciplinary collaborations.
- Bring together areas where there is a known overlap in research, e.g., organ transplant patients who are at a higher risk for cancer (Transplant Center, Cancer Center and Department of Dermatology).
- Solicit input from faculty about who they would be interested in talking to at a Third Thursday event, e.g., stem cell researcher.
- Possible ideas for Third Thursday topics include global/international health care initiatives and dementia/Alzheimer’s Disease.
- Imaging is another active research area that needs to be maximized at the University and brings together neurology and other fields where collaborations could occur.
- Use current National Institutes of Health Requests for Applications (RFAs) to identify possible Third Thursday topics, especially areas where the University is a leader.
- Use Third Thursdays as a way for the AHC FCC to work in conjunction with Dr. Jackson’s office to promote interdisciplinary research.

IV). The discussion then segued into agenda items for the June 3 meeting with Dr. Jackson. Members agreed on the following two items and also asked Renee Dempsey, Senate staff, to contact Dr. Jackson to see if he had any topics/issues he would like to get faculty perspective on.

1. Articulate the AHC FCC goal of wanting the relationship with Dr. Jackson to be a partnership, where true consultation occurs. The AHC FCC would like Dr. Jackson to view the committee as a resource.
2. Discuss strategies for how the AHC FCC can best work with Dr. Jackson to promote interdisciplinary research collaborations and the role Third Thursdays can play in furthering these efforts.

Members agreed that they want to make it clear to Dr. Jackson that they fully support his vision and mission and want to be a resource for him. In light of the change in AHC leadership, the committee now has the opportunity to reclaim the consultative role that is outlined in its charge.

V). Professor Patterson reported that Provost Hanson has been scheduled to attend the June 20 AHC FCC meeting from 9:00 – 9:45. The committee brainstormed topics they wanted to talk with her about and came up with the following ideas:

- Status of the AHC collegiate constitutions and bylaws. (Ms. Dempsey was asked to distribute the ad hoc Committee on College Constitutions report that was issued last fall so members could review prior to the meeting with Provost Hanson).
- Lack of a process for review of intermediate administrators, e.g., department heads, associate deans.
- Receive an update on the status of the Salary Equity Review Committees (SERCs).
- Hear about the compact process.

The committee requested that Ms. Dempsey convey to Provost Hanson that she limit her remarks to the above topics to about 20 minutes so the committee can use the remainder of the time to have an exchange/dialogue with her.

VI). Before adjourning, Professor Krichbaum on behalf of the AHC FCC thanked Professor Patterson for serving as chair for the past two years and presented him with a clock in recognition of his service.

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

Renee Dempsey
University Senate