

AHC FCC MEETING

Thursday, September 3, 2009

10:00 ~ 11:30 a.m.

Children's Rehab Center, room 406

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

Present: Brian Isetts (chair), Vernon Weckwerth, Cheryl Robertson, Colin Campbell, Susan Berry, Paul Olin

Guests: Assistant Professor Jill Stoltenberg, School of Dentistry FCC chair, Dr. David Ingbar, Medical School FAC chair

Chair Isetts introduced Jill Stoltenberg, the faculty consultative chair, School of Dentistry. He informed members that this was one of many meetings in the horizontal conversion of the AHC lines of communication project.

Members approved the minutes from the August 6, 2009 meeting unanimously.

Finance & Planning ~ Paul Olin

Dr. Olin asked members if they thought the AHC is unique in its managerial structure compared to the rest of the University. It is his observation that all of the AHC schools have a different system of administration from one another. Professor Weckwerth said he questions if it is faculty or administration that are in charge. Isetts reported that it has come to the attention of the University-Faculty Consultative Committee that in one of the AHC Schools there may have been a number of new faculty members employed over the last two years without faculty input and consultation. He said more information will be forthcoming, and he that he will keep the AHC-FCC apprised of this issue.

Olin said he attended the Senate Finance and Planning Committee meeting in August. He informed members that the new chair is Professor Russell Luepker, Epidemiology. He said information came out that there will be a great deal of litigation in regard to the production of the light rail project.

Olin relayed an experience a colleague had while traveling with a University laptop. On his trip, he was unable to access the internet due to encryption, rendering the computer basically useless. He said he understands the need for security but thinks employees should be able to utilize their computers more readily and easily. He would like to find out who makes the policies to see if some changes can be made. Isetts said that he would like to have more information in order to determine if the AHC-FCC needs to action in this regard.

Budget Update

Isetts reported that there may be more cuts made to the University budget during the current, and subsequent, biennium. He said it is uncertain at this time where the cuts would be made, but it appears certain that there will be extensive discussions on this topic in the future. Isetts said there is room and time for input from the University community. He reported that administration and faculty are working together to find a middle ground in the cuts so as not to overburden any one unit or department financially, and to encourage broad input. Olin thinks administration needs to ask what the initiatives are in each of the areas of consideration for cuts. If the initiatives are not in line with the University mission, the program may need to be cut instead of making cuts across the board. Weckwerth asked if the cuts include non-faculty staff and Dr. Berry said non-faculty staff have been affected by cuts. She said the administrative assistants are grouped in with the rest of the administrative infrastructure and should not be. She said they are a critical component to the success of the Medical School but positions are being cut, leaving much higher paid employees to spend their time doing paper work instead of teaching and research. Isetts agreed that increasing the faculty administrative burden is not a financially responsible use of faculty expertise.

Isetts noted from the University-FCC Retreat on 8/26 and 8/27 it was reported that there is a 62% F & A (facilities and administrative) rate for research conducted at the University. He is not sure if faculty are aware of this F & A rate, and there may need to be more transparency in the administration component of the F & A rate. Robertson said that the frustration she sees is that many departments have already made concessions with the recent cuts and have readjusted to what is now their "new normal" mode, but people are just beginning to understand that they may not have seen the worst of the budget crisis yet. Weckwerth noted that it appears the largest of the financial consequences will occur at the "Budget Cliff," which will occur after President Bruininks retires. Assistant Professor Stoltenberg imparted that administration should be financially reviewed as closely as any other department. She thinks there are other options to save funds besides cutting staff and programs to alleviate financial difficulty. Isetts said Dr. Cerra had talked about measuring the productivity of faculty and staff in the near future. Isetts said that is important information, but he would like to see the administrative burden of faculty included in metrics developed to measure faculty productivity.

Fall Faculty Forum

Isetts noted from the previous AHC-FCC meeting that the Committee seemed to have adopted an informal "slogan" for 2009-2010 of, "*now is the time, this is the year,*" as it pertains to studying the value of clinical scholarship. He introduced version four of the AHC Fall Forum schedule to members and noted the suggestion to utilize a panel discussion instead of breakout sessions for the afternoon component of the Forum. Members discussed the schedule and the need for a balanced timeline throughout the forum. Berry said there

are questions that need to be framed properly and asked. Isetts stated that the topic and timeline will be refined to include poignant questions and a specific schedule for each piece of the forum. He received input from a number of broad University constituencies suggesting important elements for the Forum, including the history and definitions of promotion statements for non-tenure track faculty as well as the history surrounding faculty voting procedures. He noted that the Office of the AHC Assistant Vice President Academic Health Center Education Administration is working on assembling a Task Force to study this issue, and may be seeking a faculty member to help conduct the analysis needed for the Task Force. Members liked the idea, but think it could be difficult to find someone eligible and available for the task. Members discussed the possibility of having Dr. Cerra speak during lunch, rather than after lunch, and thought that might be a good use of time.

Isetts informed members that he has the Forum budget outline. He said that this year's Forum budget exceeds last year's budget by approximately \$2,000. He stated that the main reason for the increase in costs is due to the expense for the speakers and for an increase in the fees charged to produce the program.

Isetts introduced Dr. David Ingbar from the Medical School as another guest to the meeting and chair of the Medical School Faculty Advisory Committee. Dr. Berry updated him on the discussions about clinical scholar statements, and the on-going review of those statements. Isetts added that the AHC-FCC is working towards an understanding of the contributions and value of clinical scholars and that there will be a forum in October on that topic. Isetts said they wish to discover the evolution of the clinical scholar within the University. Berry said there are documents on the institutional history of clinical track faculty and promotion. Ingbar said he will see if he can find any of the history located at the Medical School. Isetts told Ingbar that collecting a complete account of clinical scholar history might be a difficult task to accomplish, as it is different within each school and not readily available.

Isetts told members that the *Save the Date* notice for the forum would be going out to the AHC Community next week. Professor Weckwerth asked about the current program and panel discussion titles, and what attraction it would hold for possible attendees. Members discussed a modified Forum title that would be enticing to faculty, and agreed upon *Valuing Clinical Scholars*. Members acknowledged the fact that clinical scholars are known by various titles throughout the University and that there needs to be an effort to inform prospective attendees that faculty engaged in clinical scholarship are the focus of the Forum this year, and they are strongly encouraged to attend. Stoltenberg said that most clinical scholars in her school will be working during that time and those who are not, are not likely to attend due to other obligations. Ingbar asked if Vice President Cerra would offer a release of time for clinical scholars with the expectation that they would attend the forum. Some members thought it may be too close to the date of the program to reschedule appointments for clinical scholars to attend this program.

Other Business

Chair Isetts mentioned that Mr. Dick Bland, Carole Bland's husband would be attending the Academy Awards ceremony and reception in honor of Carole Bland on September 23rd.

It was decided that the "*dialogue for the day*" with Dr. Cerra for the September 23rd AHC-FCC meeting will be *Valuing Clinical Scholars*.

Isetts told Stoltenberg and Ingbar that they will receive a personal invitation from Isetts to attend one of the AHC-FCC meetings with Dr. Cerra during 2009-10.

Having heard no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Lisa Towry
University Senate Office