

MINUTES
University of Minnesota Medical School
Faculty Advisory Council

June 2, 2009

The meeting of the Medical School Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) was held on Tuesday, June 6, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. in Room B646 Mayo Memorial Building and 146 School of Medicine Duluth (via ITV). Carol Lange, Chair of the FAC presided.

Members Present: Drs. Aviva Abosch, Robert Acton, Sharon Allen, Vivian Bardwell, Bradley Benson, Peter Bitterman, Paul Bohjanen, James Boulger, Joseph Brocato, Linda Burns, Colin Campbell, John Day, Esam El-Fakahany, Kalpna Gupta, Karla Hemesath, David Ingbar, Stephen Katz, Carol Lange, Tucker LeBien, Teresa Nick, James Nixon, James Pacala, Christopher Pennell, David Rothenberger, Yoji Shimizu, Brian Sick, Julie Switzer, and Jo-Anne Young.

Dean's Office Staff Present: Drs. Roberta Sonnino and Charles Moldow and Ms. Patricia Mulcahy.

Welcome

Dr. Lange called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Recognition of Departing FAC Members

Dr. Lange informed Council that many of the current members will be departing with the end of their three-year term limit. She passed out a small gift to these departing members, in recognition of their service, and encouraged them to stay involved with the activities of the FAC.

Update on Faculty Assembly

Drs. Lange and Ingbar mentioned that a discussion regarding Clinical Scholar voting rights occurred at the recent Medical School Faculty Assembly. While this issue may not be resolved before the next Promotion and Tenure Cycle begins, it is an issue of utmost importance. Dr. Ingbar suggested that members of the FAC, if not the entire group, meet over the summer to take action on this item. He also suggested that a cohort of the FAC meet over the summer to address leadership transition issues as they develop.

It was additionally mentioned at the Faculty Assembly that some faculty feel that their work on weekends and evenings (such as taking night or weekend call) should be acknowledged as work hours. If a faculty member has taken call over a weekend, they should not be charged for vacation time if they take a day off the following week. The catalyst for the discussion was more than likely the recent Central HR request to more closely track vacation use and work hours for faculty. This is a potential agenda item for the FAC to look into next year.

Role of the FAC During Transition

In addition to the Clinical Scholar Voting rights issue, it is also important to establish agenda items for next year. The following items were suggested for next year's agenda:

- With the closing of the Graduate School it may be important to identify an advocate for graduate education in the Medical School.
- MMCGME – is it possible for the FAC to interact with hospital leadership with regards to reimbursements, etc.? Dr. Moldow pointed out that the Clinical Sciences Council (CSC) is already looking into this issue, so it will be important for the FAC to work in an integrated way with the CSC on this issue.
- Does the FAC need formal representation to the leadership during the transition?

- Regular reports from other Medical School Committees/Programs (e.g., Education Council, M.D./Ph.D. Program, etc). While the agenda should not solely include reports from these groups, it would help for the FAC to better understand the roles of these other bodies. It was suggested that the new FAC should be polled in September, to determine if FAC members were also members of these other bodies. They could provide a brief quarterly report back to the FAC, so there are more opportunities for synergy amongst these groups.
- Meetings/Updates from the CTSA, to help promote clinical research across the affiliate sites.
- Accounting and EFS information

Dr. Susan Berry, current member of the AHC FCC pointed out that Dr. Cerra understands the importance of the Medical School FAC, and plans to include meeting with the FAC as one of his new responsibilities as Dean. She and others encouraged the FAC to understand the importance of their role, and develop a plan moving forward to establish agenda items. The FAC has operated differently each year, with different leadership. At some times, it has operated by allowing the Dean to set the agenda items entirely, and at other times, the FAC has established the agenda entirely. It will be important to establish a precedence that the FAC establish part if not all of the agenda, with things directly affecting the faculty.

Dr. Ingbar will also solicit agenda items by email over the summer. The first meeting of the 2009-2010 FAC will take place in September. He then thanked Dr. Lange for her leadership of the FAC by giving her a gift.

FAC Reception Discussion

Drs. Lange and Ingbar discussed the possibility of a year-end reception for the FAC and asked for feedback. The FAC overwhelmingly agreed that a reception should take place, and preferred an on-campus venue (Campus Club or McNamara). They also wanted an informal, end of day gathering (approximately 5:00-7:00 p.m.). Drs. Lange and Ingbar agreed that they would plan the event and let the FAC know – they strongly encouraged everyone to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeni Skar
Staff to the FAC