

May 12, 2004, the Medical School at the University of Minnesota

Minutes University of Minnesota Medical School Faculty Assembly May 12, 2004

A meeting of the University of Minnesota Medical School Faculty Assembly was held on Wednesday, May 12, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. in 2-650 Moos Tower. Dr. Anne Taylor, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, presided.

Ratification of New Committee Members

Dr. Susan Berry, Chair of the Medical School Faculty Advisory Council (FAC), presented a list of new members for the Committee on Student Scholastic Standing, Education Council, Research Council, and Admissions Committee to the Assembly for approval. The FAC serves as the Committee on Committees for the Medical School. The motion passed unanimously. The new committee members are: Education Council – Glenn Giesler; Research Council – James McCarthy; Admissions Committee: Abhi Humar, David Levitt, Charles Peters, Michelle Biros, Lynn Hassan, Claus Pierach, David Current, Kalpna Gupta, David Hamlar, William Payne, Leon Satran; Committee on Student Scholastic Standing: Michael Mauer, Sheila Specker, Ryoko Kuriyama, Colin Campbell, William Robiner, and alternate member Catherine Niewoehner.

Renaming of Family Practice and Community Health

Dr. Nancy Baker, Associate Professor of Family Practice and Community Health, presented the Department's proposal to be re-named the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. Family practice groups around the country have met to discuss the need to define the role and identity of family practitioners. The American Association of Family Physicians and the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians has passed a resolution supporting such a change to promote clarity and consistency for the public.

The motion passed unanimously.

Liason Committee on Medical Education (LCME) Site Visit Update

Dr. Greg Vercellotti, Senior Associate Dean for Education, updated the Assembly on the March LCME Site Visit. The first draft of their report is favorable. The list of the School's strengths include the faculty and departments, the integration of clinical and basic science faculty in the curriculum, the Dean's leadership, Duluth's commitment to educating Native American physicians and providing family practitioners to rural Minnesota, the Education Council and their curriculum work, return of tuition dollars, and the turnaround of the financial situation.

Weaknesses cited included objectives for the clinical education programs, preparation for residents to become teachers, resources for evaluation and management of curriculum, and facilities for small group and study space. They also cited the lack of diversity among students and staff as an area in transition and expressed concern that the School had one of the highest tuitions of any medical school in the country.

Dr. Vercellotti thanked the faculty for their work which led to the successful visit.

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

Dr. Robert Howe, Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education (GME), thanked the faculty and staff for their work preparing for the site visit. The final report will be issued in October. There were nine citations from the last site visit and the site visitors focused on two – internal reviews and the GME committee. Procedures have been improved since the last site visit and comments from the site visitors indicate that the final report will be favorable.

Medical School Tuition

Dr. Deborah Powell, Dean of the Medical School, announced that a new tuition model had been developed. The Medical School's tuition is currently the fourth highest among public medical schools and has the second highest out of state tuition. Currently, students pay the more in tuition during their first year and lesser amounts in the remaining years. This method creates problems when reporting tuition data to the Association of American Medical Colleges. The new method will use a cost of degree model. Each student will pay eleven equal payments and the School will guarantee the tuition rate when they enter medical school. Students currently enrolled will continue to use the old model. Out of state tuition has been decreased.

While Medical School tuition was not raised last year, University tuition was and will be again. The University taxes each school based on the level they expect their tuition to be increased so there is an additional cost to the school. This year the University will raise tuition by three percent.

A Dean's Scholar Award has been established, which will provide one student with a \$25,000 a year for four years to cover the cost of tuition. Additional scholarships have been formed to help female medical students and minority students. Lack of scholarships was a concern during the LCME site visit.

Diversity Initiative

Dr. Anne Taylor, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, announced a Diversity Task Force has been formed to address the diversity issues brought up in the LCME site visit. The Task Force is made up of members of the faculty, students, affiliated faculty, members of various medical associations, and from the Minnesota State Department of Health. They have been reviewing state and school demographics, the recent Supreme Court ruling relating to minority admissions practices, and information from the Institute of Medicine related to the need for a diverse healthcare workforce. A school wide retreat will also be held.

Admissions Committee Report

Dr. Leon Satran, Co-Chair of the Medical School Admissions Committee, announced the fall 2003 class consisted to 165 students. Approximately 1,987 students applied, a nine percent increase from the previous year. Grade point averages and MCAT scores also increased.

The Committee's goal is to select the best qualified students who will excel academically and become successful physicians. Candidate's personal attributes, background, and previous exposure to medicine are also considered.

Unitary accreditation with Duluth will change the structure of the committee. Both campuses will continue to have their own admissions committees however an executive committee will oversee the process.

Education Council

Dr. Wesley Miller, member of the Education Council, updated the faculty on the Council's work during the past year. The mission of the Education Council is to train physicians who will excel in clinical medicine, research, education, and health care leadership. Students trained here should provide the highest level of care, professionalism, and humanism.

The Council has developed thirteen overall educational program objectives, educational content and process task forces, and participated in the LCME Self Study. In the future, they will continue to focus on the undergraduate-graduate-continuing medical education continuum, integration of basic and clinical science learning, self-directed learning, improved consistency of instruction and evaluation across teaching sites, and increased use of educational technology.

Committee on Student Scholastic Standing (COSSS)

Dr. Michael Mauer, Co-Chair of the COSSS, reported that the Committee consists of basic and clinical science faculty, as well as faculty from the community and one 3rd and 4th year medical student. They meet once a month for two hours to review cases in which students are having academic or behavioral problems. Problems for students often stem from undiagnosed learning disabilities or mental health problems. Drug abuse and personal problems are also issues.

Dr. Mauer stressed the importance of identifying academic problems early before those issues cause dismissal from school. The Committee often reviews students who were having difficulty in clinical rotations but were passed and are now having problems that are more difficult to resolve.

Regents Award Presentation

Dean Powell presented Dr. John Kersey, Director of the Cancer Center, with the Regents University of Minnesota Outstanding Merit Award.

Dr. Kersey was selected based on his commitment to community service through outstanding research and clinical practice. As Director of the University of Minnesota Cancer Center, Dr. Kersey has furthered the mission of the Medical School by improving the health of the population through research and clinical practice. He also promotes the University's goal of providing excellent community service.

In addition to leading the Cancer Center, he was the Director of the Blood and Marrow Transplant Program from 1974-1995. The program continues to train scientists from around the world and successfully competes for millions of dollars in research grants. Dr. Kersey contributions to the program's success are substantial.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristine Olson

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