

October 16, 2006, the Medical School at the University of Minnesota

Minutes University of Minnesota Medical School Faculty Assembly October 16, 2006

A meeting of the University of Minnesota Medical School Faculty Assembly was held on Monday, October 16, 2006 at 4:30 p.m. in 1-450G Moos Tower, via ITV to 165 School of Medicine, Duluth. Dr. Anne Taylor, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, presided.

Welcome and Updates

Dean Powell welcome faculty to the Assembly and informed them of current events in the Medical School, including updates on the following Medical School searches:

- **Integrative Biology and Physiology Department Head:** The Dean informed the faculty that this would be an expedited search, with a search committee charged in June 2006.
- **Genetics, Cell Biology and Development Department Head:** A search committee will be charged in 2007.
- **Urologic Surgery Department Head:** A search committee will be charged in 2007.
- **Orthopaedic Surgery Department Head:** A search committee will be charged in November 2006.
- **Otolaryngology Department Head:** A search committee was charged in August 2006.
- **Lillehei Heart Institute/Division of Cardiology Director:** A finalist has been identified and terms are being negotiated.
- **Duluth Campus Senior Associate Dean:** The search committee was charged during the summer 2006.

Teaching Professor Track

Dr. Taylor presented faculty with the background for the proposed teaching professor track. She explained that an exhaustive review and restructuring of the academic tracks began by asking the following questions:

- What are our vision and mission?
- What faculty work force do we need to accomplish each of the elements of our mission with excellence in each benchmark?
- How well do our academic tracks align with our workforce so that there are clear guidelines for faculty advancement?
- How could we revise academic tracks to provide opportunities for advancement and recognition for all of our faculty?

After consultation with a variety of faculty at all locations, as well as a review of academic tracks at other institutions (both public and private) with similar missions, it was determined that there was no clear path to advancement and no recognition for faculty whose contribution was primarily educational, without much written scholarship. This pertained to faculty in the Medical School, based on both the Twin Cities and Duluth campuses, as well as affiliate hospitals. Additionally, it was determined that there were no clear standards of educational excellence other than student evaluations.

The proposed solution is the Teaching Professor track, which is a track used within other colleges of the University, as well as used in other highly ranked medical schools. This has been developed in collaboration with the Office of Education in the Medical School, at a time when the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) has designed and developed standards for teaching excellence. The goal of this track is to promote excellence in teaching, define peer-reviewed measures of excellence in teaching that are congruent with national standards, and to honor and recognize teachers with career advancement.

Dr. Linda Perkowski, Associate Dean for Curriculum and Evaluation, introduced the metrics for the Teaching Professor track, stating the definition of *Teaching Scholarship* is as follows:

A scholarship of teaching is a way of capturing teaching in a manner that makes it possible for others both to review it critically and to build on it themselves. That is all that scholarship is. [Shulman]

The categories of educational scholarship are defined as teaching, advising/mentoring, learner assessment, and educational administration/leadership. As a result of the AAMC work on educational scholarship, a medical education portal will be available to faculty to submit their scholarship and teaching, which will more easily track this work and keep an updated record that can be submitted in their promotional dossiers.

Carl Patow, Associate Dean for Affiliated Faculty at Regions, commented that this track would be important for faculty at Regions. It will encourage these faculty to demonstrate and track their educational scholarship, and will also contribute to efforts

to make “one-faculty” in the Medical School. Faculty from the Duluth campus commented that this may not be applicable to some of their educators, as some lecturers are contract faculty and there may not be continuity. Dr. Taylor explained that this track is especially important for clinical faculty who have full-time clinical responsibilities.

A motion was made that the Teaching Track be presented to the faculty for vote, and the motion was seconded. Voting will take place within the month.

Revised Constitution and Bylaws

Dr. Taylor presented faculty with proposed changes to the Medical School Constitution and Bylaws, and explained that these documents will be applicable to both campuses of the Medical School, introduces the title of Senior Associate Dean for the Duluth Campus, and includes composition of both Admissions and Student Scholastic Standing Committees on the Duluth campus. These revised changes were made by a committee consisting of faculty and administration from both campuses. The faculty assembly made the following comments/suggestions:

- Allied Health, specifically Physical Therapy, should not be omitted and granted a home in the Medical School.
- The Department Heads Council should include Department Heads from both campuses.
- Should the Duluth mission statement be included?
- Should the Duluth Admissions Committee description be modified to reflect the emphases of the Duluth Campus?

Dr. Taylor thanked the faculty for their suggestions, and mentioned that they will be discussed and incorporated.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

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