

facmin120203, the Medical School at the University of Minnesota

MINUTES

University of Minnesota Medical School Faculty Advisory Council

December 2, 2003

The meeting of the Medical School Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) was held on Tuesday, December 2, 2003 at 4:00 p.m. in Room B620 Mayo Memorial Building. Susan Berry, Chair of the FAC, presided.

Members Present: Peter Bitterman, Patricia Ferrieri, Walter Low, James McCarthy, Steven McLoon, Wesley Miller, James Pacala, Deborah Powell, Sarah Jane Schwarzenberg, Elizabeth Seaquist, Virginia Seybold, Anne Taylor, Theodore Thompson, James Van Vooren, Douglas Yee, Gregory Vercellotti

Guest: Allison Campbell

Faculty Representation on the FAC

The FAC was formed by Dean Alfred Michael and consists of faculty elected by their peers. Senators serve as an advisory board to the Dean on faculty issues and are also members of the University Senate. The FAC is the only peer elected committee in the Medical School and the only forum where the Dean can consistently receive feedback from the faculty.

Faculty in Duluth and some affiliated hospitals are not currently represented. Duluth will be under Medical School governance and should be part of this group. Affiliated faculty are not eligible to serve on the University Senate and are therefore not included in the lists sent to faculty for elections. Dr. Berry will contact affiliated hospitals regarding faculty serving on the FAC.

Effectively communicating with faculty is difficult. The FAC has tried several different forms of communication, including attending faculty meetings, emailing faculty, and assigning members to different departments, but each method had little success. Informal communication is somewhat effective however not all departments are represented on the FAC. Dean Powell is working on a communications task force for the School.

Council is also concerned about the agenda. Various updates are important but should not take up all of the time. Members need to bring forth issues. The FAC has a fundamental role as a sounding board on behalf of faculty and should hear about issues that will affect faculty. We are not probably going to be an effective, two way communication mechanism although there are some people and some times who could be used to communicate with faculty.

Research Council Update

Robert Hebbel, Chair of the Research Council, informed the FAC that the Council consists of faculty appointed by the Dean and the FAC. They meet twice a month with Charles Moldow, Medical School Senior Associate Dean for Research and Administration, and discuss a variety of items. In the past year, they have reviewed the space metric developed by the AHC Senior Vice Presidents Office. Indirect cost recovery has also been examined and how it is applied to Departments and Institutes.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Olson

Staff to the FAC

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