

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE Board of Directors

Draft Minutes
October 23, 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Attendees: Fran Archambault, Sanford Cloud, Joel Freedman, Marc Hansen, Marja Hurley, Mina Mina, Wayne Rawlins, Tannin Schmidt, Amy Gorin, Jeff Geoghegan, Marilyn Katz, Steven Lepowsky, Bruce Liang, KiKi Nissen, Steven Angus, Tom Regan, Scott Simpson, George Kuchel, Lesley Salafia, Nathan Fuerst, Patricia Baker, Chad Bianchi, Paige Dunion, Jeffrey Hines, Janel Simpson, Hongjie Wang, Andrea Keilty

1. Public Comment - None

2. Chair's Remarks

- a. Welcome and updates
 - i. The meeting came to order with the Chair welcoming everyone to the meeting and taking roll call of attendees.
- b. Approval of minutes from August 7, 2023 Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes was made. Seconded. Approved 9-0-0

3. Consent Items

- a. Approval of School of Medicine Recommendations for Appointments at Senior Rank, Awards of Academic Tenure, Emeritus Appointment, and Sabbatical Modification (Dr. Bruce Liang)
 - i. The names and details can be found on pages 8-19
- b. Approval of School of Dental Medicine Recommendations for Emeritus Appointment (Dr. Steven Lepowsky)
 - i. The names and details can be found on page 20-21
- c. Approval of 2024 AASBoD proposed meeting dates (Dr. Bruce Liang)
 - i. The dates proposed are: January 24, 2024, April 22, 2024, August 12, 2024, and October 21, 2024

A motion to approve all consent items was made. Seconded. Approved 8-0-1

4. Business Items - None

5. Informational Items

- a. Informational Items School of Medicine (Dr. Bruce Liang)
 - i. Two approved sabbaticals have not been taken, in part or in whole:Dr. Golda Ginsburg (Dr. Ginsburg reported that due to grant



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submission deadlines, her 12-month sabbatical was not taken) and Dr. Marja Hurley (Dr. Hurley reported that due to the pandemic, only the first of three, 2-month increments was taken.

- ii. Dr. McFadden's date for Emeritus appointment has been changed to December 29, 2023
- b. Center on Aging Update (Dr. George Kuchel)
 - i. The presentation can be found on pages 24-40
 - ii. Dr. Kuchel reported that one of the main goals of the Center on Aging is to increase independence in old age by using 4 key areas: Cognition & Behavior, Host Defense & Immunity, Voiding & Continence, and Mobility & Falls
 - iii. Dr. Kuchel discussed the UConn Pepper Center, whose objective is to maintain or restore function & independence in aging and has received a \$7.5 million 5-year award.
 - iv. Additionally, Dr. Kuchel mentioned the NIH Director's Common Fund Initiative, which is a \$13.5 million 5-year award. UConn is one of only 8 Tissue Mapping Center funded by this initiative.
 - v. Patricia Baker thanked Dr. Kuchel for his presentation and asked him to highlight some ways our Center has worked with other institutions or universities to further our work on this topic. Dr. Kuchel mentioned that he is particularly proud of how much they have been able to accomplish since the Center collaborates with so many other departments and affiliates such as JAX-GM, University of Minnesota, and UConn Storrs campus.
 - vi. Dr. Marja Hurley commented that she has been very impressed with what Dr. Kuchel has accomplished in the Center and she is very pleased to work with him, alongside Dr. Biree Andemariam, to increase clinical & basic science research on sickle cell disease.
 - vii. Wayne Rawlins asked if the Center has researched the impact of stress, racism, and discrimination, on cellular senescence. Dr. Kuchel reported that they have done some work in that area and have collaborated with other institutions on this topic, such as the University of Minnesota.
- c. "Guidance on SCOTUS decision on race in admissions" (Nathan Fuerst, Scott Simpson, and Lesley Salafia)
 - i. The presentation can be found on pages 41-53
 - ii. Mr. Nathan Fuerst reported that the ruling from SCOTUS to eliminate Affirmative Action from the admissions process applies to all schools of the university.

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- iii. Lesley Salafia explained that the ruling does not impact individual consideration, knowing the applicant's race (it just shouldn't be a factor in a decision), and recruitment. What it means for admissions today is that no direct consideration of race can be made in evaluation and selection, but you can consider the applicant's lived experiences or hardships.
- iv. Mr. Fuerst stated that this decision does not change UConn's mission and we do plan to ensure diversity. Our first initial steps have been to revise & update the admissions evaluation and selection systems and process. The ongoing steps will be to design and implement recruitment, outreach, and marketing initiatives.
- v. Patricia Baker asked how can UConn reconcile and think of innovative ways to create a diverse medical workforce, without going against this ruling. Mr. Fuerst replied that there are initiatives in play already and they are continuing to work on methods to bring a diverse community to UConn.
- vi. Mr. Sandy Cloud asked what UConn is doing in terms of marketing strategies to continue to momentum of increasing our diversity. Chairman Cloud indicated that the SOM has been successful in diversifying and that it is important to continue that important effort. Mr. Fuerst mentioned the UConn Alliance Pathway program, which identifies schools that are underachieving, and UConn offers advanced help to the schools such as application assistance and tours. Mr. Fuerst also mentioned the UConn Summer Leads, which is an early-immersion program targeted toward schools with underrepresented students and promotes the idea of higher education.
- d. Annual GME Report (Dr. Kiki Nissen and Dr. Steven Angus)
 - i. The report can be found on pages 54-146
 - ii. Dr. Angus reported that the School of Medicine sponsors 77 programs and 705 residents & fellows. From 2018 to 2023, there has been an increase of 22% in the number of sponsored programs and 2.6% in the number of filled FTE's
 - iii. Dr. Angus stated that GMEC has approved 3 new programs and 9 new program directors. Additionally, the SoM has received institutional accreditation to sponsor non-standard training programs. In terms of Program Accreditation, there were 52 ACGME-Sponsored Programs without citations, 10 programs with ACGME citations, and 12 programs with ACGME areas for improvement.



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- iv. Regarding the ACGME Resident Survey, 50 programs were eligible to be surveyed and 98% of 679 residents responded. We are at or above the national mean in each content area.
- v. Regarding the ACGME Faculty Survey, 50 programs were eligible to be surveyed and 94% of 486 program directors and core faculty responded. We are above the national mean in each content area.
- vi. Dr. Angus provided statistics about Post-Graduate Plans for Residents, reporting that for the last academic year 13% of resident graduates are going into practice in CT; 23% are staying in CT for additional training.
- vii. Dr. Marja Hurley asked if we can track how many of our graduates are currently practicing in the state, to find out how many may have left the state and returned. Dr. Nissen replied that we do gather this information each year from DPH, but it can be difficult to obtain.
- e. 2023 School of Medicine Entering Class Profile Addendum (Dr. Thomas Regan)
 - i. Details can be found on pages 147-151
 - ii. Dr. Regan reported that the final numbers and data for the incoming class of 2027 have been collected. Some data includes: 57% are women, the average age is 23 years old, 76% are residents of Connecticut, 17% are under-represented minorities, 3.82 is the average GPA, and 88% are health or science undergraduate majors.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. via WebEx