

PUBLIC ISSUES COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2023

Time: 4:00 – 5:00 pm Location: Webex

Voting Members Present: Drs. Anton Alerte, Linda Barry, Jenna Bartley, Jaclyn Olsen-Jaeger,

Adam Perrin, Cynthia Price, Linda Shapiro,

Voting Members Excused: Drs. David Gregorio, Michael Grey, Andrea Shields, Kristyn Zajac and

Ms. Sara LeMaster

Voting Members Absent: Dr. Juan Salazar and Mr. Mario Garcia

Others in Attendance: Dr. Enrique Ballesteros

Dr. Linda Barry called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes will be voted on via email as there were not enough members present for a quorum.

2. Update from Deans Council

Dr. Barry reported from the Deans Council updates regarding increasing faculty representation on the UConn SOM governance councils and the strong presence of the SOM at the national SMA conference held in Hartford earlier in the month with great interest in many of all programs.

3. Update from the Oversight Committee

Dr. Ballesteros updated the Oversight no updates from Oversight Committee.

4. Organize 2023 Issues to Discuss

Discussions ensued how the committee would like to prioritize new topics for the upcoming meetings this year. The committee agreed on the list below with the first three topics on the list below will be prioritized first:

- a. Politicization of Medicine and Science
- b. Medical Misinformation in general
- c. Race & Ethnicity, Racism/Bias in general
- d. Gender & Gender Identity Issues, Gender Affirming Care
- e. Parental Rights vs health of minors
- f. Health Disparities Issues related to COVID
- g. Persistent Health Disparities
- h. Cannabis use

Proposed New Ex-Officio Position for Office of Multicultural & Community Affairs

Dr. Barry presented a vision to create an ex officio committee member seat for the Office of Multicultural & Community Affairs (OMCA) office since there is not one currently. A discussion ensued by the members of the committee who weighed in and informed everyone a voting ex officio seat would require bylaws change. Further considerations followed regarding the positives and negatives of officio seat having voting privileges or not. The committee members present agreed unanimously to establish an ex officio voting member seat from the OMCA and will move forward to present to Dean's Council and Oversite Committee.

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6. PIC Leadership Succession

Dr. Barry will be stepping down as chair of PIC in July 2023. A call was made for nomination and self-nominations for chair for the next term. Dr. Jenna Bartley submitted her name for consideration. Although all present members voted for her to be chair, other nominations will be solicited from those members who were unable to attend. Final vote will take place at the next meeting. A representative for the Dean's council also needs to be selected at the next meeting. This position must be held by a faculty member of senior rank.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Dr. Linda Barry, seconded by Dr. Linda Shapiro, the meeting was adjourned, and concluded at 4:52 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Sullivan

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting May 22, 2023 June 26, 2023

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