May 15, 2023



Time: 3:30-4:30pm Location: Webex

Voting Members Present: Drs. Linda Barry (3:33pm), Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Emily

Germain-Lee, Pooja Luthra, Ellen Nestler, Anthony Vella, and Leo

Wolansky.

Voting Members Excused: Drs. Anton Alerte, Kwame Amankwah, Francis DiMario, Denis Lafreniere,

**Christine Thatcher** 

Others in Attendance: Dr. Marc Hansen, Chair of Oversight Committee, Liaison to Dean's Council

Dr. Bruce Liang, Dean, School of Medicine & Interim EVP for Health Affairs

Dr. Kiki Nissen, Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, and

Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education, ex officio

Ms. Donna McKenty, Senior Director of Finance and Administration for the

School of Medicine, ex officio

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee called the meeting to order at 3:32pm.

#### 1. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Dr. Leo Wolansky, seconded by Dr. Pooja Luthra, to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2023 meeting.

Favor to approve: Drs. Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Emily Germain-Lee, Pooja

Luthra, Ellen Nestler, Anthony Vella, Leo Wolansky

Against: 0
Motion Passed: 7:0

## 2. Dean's Update

Dr. Bruce Liang provided an update regarding the budget, including the restoration of half of the shortfall amount between UConn Health's proposed budget and Governor Lamont's proposed budget, and indicated conversations were ongoing. The state legislature is due to vote on the final budget the first week of June, and on June 12 UConn Health is due to present their proposed budget to the Board of Directors for approval, before moving on to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

Dr. Liang also gave an update on the conclusion of the Health Disparities Institute (HDI) Director search. Dr. Linda Sprague Martinez was selected as the next Director and is set to begin at UConn Health in September, 2023. Dr. Liang thanked Dr. Linda Barry for her time as interim director, as well as Dr. Doug Brugge for his help in identifying Dr. Sprague Martinez as a candidate.

#### 3. Governance Council and Committee Elections

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee provided final election updates, noting voter turnout was about 30%, which is consistent with past years, except for 2020, which saw higher turnout during the initial COVID shutdowns. Dr. Germain-Lee noted that voting was lower for councils in which affiliated faculty are eligible to vote and discussed working to address that in the future.

### Council and Committee Reports

### A. Public Issues Council

Dr. Linda Barry stated the committee plans to provide an executive summary to Dean's Council prior to the end of the current term on June 30. Main topics will include the pending Supreme Court decision on affirmative action, as well as reproductive justice.

Dr. Barry also indicated the group is looking into creating a new voting ex officio seat on the council, which will require a bylaws change – potentially to start, the seat will be non-voting.

#### B. Clinical Council

Dr. Pooja Luthra stated the council discussed financial updates, which were positive. The group also discussed an on-call system and clinical template, which are both being introduced to assist with efficiency. Finally, Dr. Luthra indicated that several new spaces had opened for seeing patients in Simsbury, as well as Orthopaedic Surgery and Dermatology sites.

# D. Research Council

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee stated the council discussed data sharing and management plans that are now federally mandated for grants. Dr. Khamis Abu-Hasaballah, Assistant Vice President for Academic IT, demonstrated an online tool to assist

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with the plans, and he also provided an update on software licensing for the institution rather than individuals. Dr. Anthony Vella indicated that anyone with questions regarding grants could reach out for assistance and mentioned how helpful Dr. Ernesto Canalis had been with the data sharing and management plan thus far.

E. Education Council

No update.

Ms. Donna McKenty provided a brief budget update, indicating the School of Medicine was ahead of projections by nearly \$5 million, half of which was from personnel. Ms. McKenty indicated next year's budget is fairly even at this point.

Adjournment:

By unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 4:04pm

Respectfully submitted, Christina Buccheri

**Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting** 

June 26, 2023 / 3:30 p.m. Webex

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