

**Time:** 3:30-4:30pm

**Location:** Webex

Voting Members Present: Drs. Anton Alerte (4:10pm), Kwame Amankwah (3:32pm), Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Emily Germain-Lee, Pooja Luthra, Adam Perrin (3:33pm), Helen Swede (3:32pm), Anthony Vella, Leo Wolansky (3:36pm)

Voting Members Excused: Drs. Denis Lafreniere, Bruce Liang

Others in Attendance: Dr. Marc Hansen, Chair of Oversight Committee, and Liaison to Dean's Council  
Dr. Kiki Nissen, Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, and  
Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education, *ex officio*

Non-Voting Members Excused: 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 3:31 pm.

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Dr. Anthony Vella, seconded by Dr. Ernesto Canalis to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2023 meeting.

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

Against: 0

Motion Passed: 5:0

2. Dean's Update

There was no update by the Dean, as Dr. Bruce Liang was unable to attend.

3. Council and Committee Reports

A. Clinical Council

Dr. Pooja Luthra stated that the Health Center's contract with Cigna is up for renewal, with the current contract ending in May, 2024. Cigna has dropped Trinity, and UConn Health is working

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on negotiations at the current time. Dr. Luthra also shared that more areas are moving around on campus, and the goal is to move women's health and radiology to the Outpatient Pavilion.

## B. Education Council

Dr. Helen Swede reported the discussion focused on the harmonization of the general exam and the Ph.D./biomed areas of concentration. Discrepancies have been resolved, and there is more consistency across programs. Dr. Swede additionally stated that in Public Health the group is going through the admissions process, and review of Ph.D. applications should be finished at the end of the week. There was an excellent crop of applicants to select from.

Dr. Kwame Amankwah added that GME had recent ACGME visits across their various programs, with more scheduled soon.

## C. Research Council

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee stated there was no meeting last month due to a holiday. The prior set of meetings discussed ads for human subjects research at UConn, and finalized a process to be put in place, led by Dr. Victor Hesselbrock.

## D. Public Issues Council

Dr. Adam Perrin stated that the group focused on the SCOTUS ruling and impact on admissions. They discussed outreach to increase opportunity and diversity early in the pipeline, including starting as early as middle school, high school, and community college, and they were compiling a list of programs to get students interested early in STEM, and potentially healthcare.

Dr. Germain-Lee next led the discussion on changes to Public Issues Council operating guidelines. Dean's Council members reviewed the working document and provided input. There was discussion on the addition of a new member requiring a bylaws change, as well as further defining "public health programs" to include a description of what that entails. The group members also noted the number of voting members needs to be corrected and discussed the steps needed to make a new member a permanent, voting member as opposed to ex-officio. The document will be discussed with Dr. Jenna Bartley, Chair of Public Issues Council, and brought back to Dean's Council.

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Dr. Marc Hansen provided an update on behalf of Oversight Committee, stating that the group is looking at possible council guidelines updates.

Adjournment:

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 4:13pm.

Favor to approve: Drs. Anton Alerte, Kwame Amankwah, Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Emily Germain-Lee, Pooja Luthra, Adam Perrin, Helen Swede, Anthony Vella, Leo Wolansky.

Against: 0

Motion Passed: 10:0

Respectfully submitted,  
Christina Buccheri

## **Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting**

Monday, March 18, 2024 / 3:30 p.m. Webex