

Time: 3:30-4:30pm

Location: Webex

Voting Members Present: Drs. Anton Alerte, Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Emily Germain-Lee, Pooja Luthra, Adam Perrin, Helen Swede, Leo Wolansky, and Anthony Vella

Voting Members Excused: Drs. Kwame Amankwah, Denis LaFreniere, and 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*

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Dr. Ernesto Canalis, seconded by Dr. Leo Wolansky to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2023 meeting.

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

Against: 0

Motion Passed: 9:0

2. Vote for Dean's Council Chair

As required per the School of Medicine Bylaws, council members held an in-person vote, and with a 9-0 tally voted in favor to approve the re-election of Dr. Emily Germain-Lee as chair. Dr. Germain-Lee is Research Council's representative to Dean's Council and will serve as chair through the end of her term, which concludes on June 30, 2024, at which time an interim chair will be appointed.

3. Committee and Council Reports

A. Clinical Council

Dr. Pooja Luthra stated the council received a financial update, with indicators showing the UMG group doing better, which can be attributed to an increase in providers and patients. The council

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also discussed the “No Surprises Act” legislation regarding protecting patients from receiving unexpected bills and also reviewed UConn Health’s steps to ensure compliance with the law. Finally, Dr. Luthra stated the council received an update on the new consumer website and intranet that is being built for staff and the public to replace the current sites.

B. Education Council

Dr. Helen Swede stated the group reviewed the demographics and characteristics of the incoming medical school class, class of 2027. The class size is 112, with 8 MD/PhD students, and with 3.78 as the mean GPA. The MCAT average was at the 84th percentile. Additionally, the acceptance rate for the School of Medicine applicants who received an offer to matriculate was approximately 50%, while it was 37% for the MD/PhD applicants.

C. Public Issues Council

Dr. Perrin stated there was no update, as the group did not meet. The next meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2023.

D. Research Council

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee stated that Julie Schwager provided information on the new fringe benefit rates. Surveys for faculty, staff, and students are being circulated regarding strategic planning, and everyone’s input is requested. Additionally, there have been two new committees formed: IDC Faculty Committee and Space Allocation Faculty Committee, focused on research labs and grants.

Following Council and Committee updates, Dr. Emily Germain-Lee stated that she is a member of the Connecticut Rare Disease Advisory Council for the state legislature. She asked Dean’s Council members if they had any patients or know of any issues involving rare diseases that she should be aware of since she would like to help in any way possible, utilizing her time and involvement on the Connecticut Rare Disease Advisory Council to advocate directly to the state government.

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Dr. Germain-Lee also asked for Dean's Council input regarding a question that came up at Research Council that was brought up by Michael Centola, Associate Vice President for Research Integrity. Mr. Centola noted that requests from non-UConn researchers are coming to the UConn Health IRB for approval in order for these outside studies to get posted on-site at UConn Health. There was a discussion for an appropriate way to vet these requests, as they are overloading the UConn Health IRB. However, without IRB approval from UConn and only outside IRB approval, there could be potential implications for UConn Health without appropriate vetting since the outside studies would be getting posted here even though the research is not UConn-based. Discussion ensued by the group on several perspectives on how to approach the issue, and Dr. Germain-Lee as Chair of Research Council will follow-up with Research Council at their next meeting in November.

Dr. Mark Hansen provided an update from Oversight Committee, indicating upcoming departmental center reviews for 2024, and he mentioned potential upcoming discussion on considering a bylaws change regarding designees for Center Directors to be involved on councils and committees, since the leadership numbers are limited. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding potential options and solutions for Oversight to consider. Related to this discussion, Dr. Germain-Lee brought up that it is difficult to fill the necessary seats for the governance councils and committees due to the limited number of Center Directors.

Dr. Nissen stated that it could be worthwhile for each committee and council to review their operating guidelines, as they differ slightly and have not been updated in some time, and discussion on the idea followed.

Adjournment:

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 4:03pm.

Favor to approve:	Drs. Anton Alerte, Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Emily Germain-Lee, Pooja Luthra, Adam Perrin, Helen Swede, Leo Wolansky, and Anthony Vella
Against:	0
Motion Passed:	9:0

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Buccheri

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Monday, November 20, 2023 / 3:30 p.m. Webex