

Time: 3:30-4:30pm

Location: Webex

Voting Members Present: Drs. Anton Alerte (3:35pm), Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Denis Lafreniere, Emily Germain-Lee, Bruce Liang (4:02pm), Helen Swede (3:33pm)

Voting Members Excused: Drs. Kwame Amankwah, Pooja Luthra, Adam Perrin, Anthony Vella, Leo Wolansky

Others in Attendance: Dr. Marc Hansen, Chair of Oversight Committee, and Liaison to Dean's Council
Ms. Donna McKenty, Senior Director of Finance and Administration for the School of Medicine, *ex officio*

Non-Voting Members Excused: 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 3:32 pm.

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Dr. Douglas Brugge, seconded by Dr. Ernesto Canalis to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2023 meeting.

Favor to approve: Drs. Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Denis Lafreniere, Emily Germain-Lee, Helen Swede

Against: 0

Motion Passed: 5:0

2. Selection of Meeting Date to Replace MLK (January) and President's Day (February) Meeting Dates

By unanimous consent of council members present, February 5, 2024 was selected as the meeting date to replace the scheduled January and February meetings, both of which occur on a federal holiday.

3. Dean's Update

Dr. Bruce Liang stated that the next LCME survey was going to take place in February 2026. A self-study task force is being comprised, and element review has been ongoing since the last survey in 2018 with the CQI task force. Many faculty will be asked to participate as the institution self-study gets underway.

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Dr. Liang shared that the SCOTUS admissions decision will not have impact on the recruitment of resident doctors, since they are considered employees, and the decision only speaks to admission in colleges and professional schools. Regardless, the decision will have no impact on UConn's commitment to diversity in the medical school classes.

Dr. Liang also indicated UConn will be asking for part of the former St. Joseph's University parcel in Hartford to use in part for recruitment of human subjects research. It will be a shared space with other schools as well and be a positive addition for researchers.

4. Council and Committee Reports

A. Public Issues

Dr. Adam Perrin was unable to attend the meeting in person, though Dr. Emily Germain-Lee read the below email from Dr. Perrin, which provided a summary of the last Public Issues Council meeting:

Discussion of SCOTUS affirmative action ruling and implications at UConn and UConn Health: Dr. Jeffrey Hines provided a presentation on the SCOTUS affirmative action ruling and UConn Health's mission statement which aligns with University of Connecticut. He communicated essential information on what the ruling states and how it will affect UConn and UConn Health. Dr. Hines briefly identified the history timeline of where and how this decision was grounded. He expressed UConn's strong commitment to diversity and how we will be compliant and adapt to changes as they come going forward. He further explained the importance of having a diverse medical workforce which brings significant evidence based benefits to vulnerable populations, specifically in access to care, health outcomes, and the money that can be saved due to health inequities. Dr. Hines described some of the immediate and long-term tactics, explicitly for UConn and UConn Health as well as what could be at risk or may become at risk in the future. The committee ensued in conversation of the SCOTUS affirmative action ruling, implications, and risks.

B. Clinical Council

No update – Dr. Pooja Lutha was not in attendance to provide an update on the last meeting.

C. Education Council

Dr. Helen Swede stated that Christine Thatcher provided an update on student and trainee evaluations, indicating 2023 was the fourth M-delta class. Dr. Thatcher reported increased satisfaction and that the new curriculum was received well by students. Dr. Thatcher also noted the rating at UConn is still lower than the national average, so they are continuing to work on further improving. Clerkships and faculty within those clerkships were generally rated highly, with some faculty issues to address. Finally, Dr. Thatcher stated that students indicated they felt very prepared for residency, and they rated very strongly in clinical and communication skills.

D. Research Council

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee stated that the group continued to discuss what to do when researchers from outside institutions post ads at UConn for research approved by their own institution's IRB but not UConn's. The group discussed concerns and possible implications, and Dr. Victor Hesselbrock was working with legal, communications, and the Chief Administrative Officer and will follow up at a future meeting.

Ms. Donna McKenty provided a brief update, indicating the budget was continuing as expected and on course.

Dr. Mark Hansen provided an update from Oversight Committee, stating that they are reviewing operating guidelines and possible new Bylaws amendments that will be upcoming.

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee initiated the topic of each committee reviewing their operating guidelines, since there are some differences between the groups. Dr. Marc Hansen indicated that Oversight Committee would take input from all the councils, Dr. Kiki Nissen, and Dr. Bruce Liang, and take the lead on working with the individual councils in terms of guidelines review.

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee stated that she had received communication from Dr. Jenna Bartley, chair of Public Issues Council (PIC), seeking guidance regarding filling the affiliated hospital representative open seat on that council. The PIC recently received a recommendation of someone who fits the requirements and would bring a community perspective but who is not faculty. Dr. Bartley was looking for guidance from Dean's Council as to whether a non-faculty would be permitted. Dr. Germain-Lee shared that although the seat has historically been filled by a faculty member, it

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was not apparent from the operating guidelines and Bylaws that this was a requirement, and she brought this up for discussion. There was discussion by Dean's Council, and ultimately a consensus was reached by members present that the non-faculty person could fill the seat on Public Issues Council.

Adjournment:

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 4:21pm.

Favor to approve: Drs. Anton Alerte, Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Emily Germain-Lee,
Denis Lafreniere, Bruce Liang, and Helen Swede.

Against: 0

Motion Passed: 7:0

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Buccheri

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Monday, December 18, 2023 / 3:30 p.m. Webex