

Meeting Minutes March 18, 2024



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

Voting Members Present: Drs. Anton Alerte (3:32pm), Kwame Amankwah (3:46pm), Douglas Brugge,

Ernesto Canalis, Dennis Lafreniere, Bruce Liang (3:32pm), Emily Germain-Lee,

Pooja Luthra, Helen Swede, Anthony Vella, Leo Wolansky

Voting Members Excused: Dr. Adam Perrin

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. Pooja Luthra, seconded by Dr. Helen Swede to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2024 meeting

Favor to approve: Drs. Anton Alerte, Douglas Brugge, Ernesto Canalis, Dennis Lafreniere,

Emily Germain-Lee, Pooja Luthra, Helen Swede, Anthony Vella, Leo

Wolansky

Against: 0
Motion Passed: 9:0

2. Dean's Update

Dr. Bruce Liang stated that Match Day 2024 was successful, with 100% of students matching. 86% matched to one of their top three choices, while 56% got their top choice.

Dr. Liang also indicated that budget preparations are underway, and UConn is working with the Legislature, which will release a budget later in the spring. There may also be a SEBAC wage increase forthcoming as well.

Finally, Dr. Liang shared that an outside firm has been hired by the Office of Policy & Management to provide market analysis on the clinical side of UConn Health, looking at opportunities to strengthen the health center, and will be meeting state leadership in the coming weeks to go over findings.

3. Council and Committee Reports

A. Clinical Council

Dr. Pooja Luthra stated that there's continued movement/reallocation of services at UConn Health amongst different buildings. Neurology has moved to Munson Road, in the Brain & Spine Institute, while the Radiology lab and Women's Health are scheduled to relocate to the Outpatient Pavilion in the future. Dr. Luthra also provided several clinical site updates for East Hartford and Southington as well. Lastly, Dr. Luthra shared that Cigna contract negotiations are still ongoing, and UConn is hoping to reach a new agreement by May 1, 2024.

B. Education Council

Dr. Helen Swede indicated she had been unable to attend the meeting due to teaching commitments so there was no update to provide.

C. Research Council

Dr. Emily Germain-Lee stated that Julie Schwager discussed a few different fringe benefit and contract issues. There was also a UConn Health strategic plan update, with key performance indicators being developed.

Dr. Anthony Vella provided details at the Research Council meeting and also at this meeting about the School of Medicine publication fund, a program started to help provide funding for faculty publishing costs, which is run through his office and approved by Dean Liang. Dr. Vella indicated that there has been a positive response from faculty, so far, and then there was discussion from the group as to the qualifications, funding support, and other details regarding the publication fund.

D. Public Issues Council

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There was no update provided, as Dr. Adam Perrin was unable to attend. However, work on

modifying the operating guidelines continues.

Dr. Germain-Lee next shared the proposed timeline regarding upcoming faculty elections, including key dates, and the

members of Dean's Council unanimously approved the schedule. Dr. Germain-Lee also appealed to the council to

reach out to faculty who would make good candidates for the various councils and committees and to encourage them

to get involved.

Dr. Kiki Nissen shared a grid she had compiled regarding the operating guidelines of each council and committee. She

indicated that Dean's Council could charge the groups with reviewing and updating their operating guidelines, and she

detailed some potential recommendations to help streamline and update all the different guidelines. Each member of

Dean's Council that belongs to a council or committee was provided the grid and told to share it with their respective

group to try to address and update guidelines issues.

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, April 15, 2024 / 3:30 p.m. Webex

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