

April 25, 2024

**Time:** 8:30 a.m.

**Location:** Health Center Administration Conference Room LM070

Webex information:

Phone Number: 1-415-655-0001

Meeting number (access code): 2304 754 3420

Meeting password: ttP9EPYud82

Attendance: Marc Hansen, Eric Mortensen, Jennifer Cavallari, Riqiang Yan, Kourosh Parham, Santhanan Lakshminarayanan, Bruce Mayer, Linda Sprague-Martinez

Not in Attendance: Enrique Ballesteros

#### Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes – 6-0-0

Two committee members joined the meeting after the vote

2. Old Business

a.

3. New Business

a. The idea of having a master clinician track is still out there and can be a potential by-laws change on the horizon. The committee discussed the implications of this becoming a track and how it may affect support staff and resources. Some committee members wondered what other Medical Schools do in this scenario – could be affected if the public/private partnership moves forward.

4. Informational Items

- a. Faculty Elections – no updates about the elections, but multiple people are interested in running for a seat on the Oversight Committee; there may be choices of candidates to elect.
- b. Oversight Operating Guidelines – since all of the councils and committees are going over a review of their guidelines, the chair wanted the committee to review the guidelines of the OC. This committee only reports to the Dean and the Board of Directors; it does not have to share the guidelines with the rest of the committees, but the chair just wanted to ensure that Oversight complies. This is the only council/committee not allowed to have ex-officio members. Historically, there have been a few instances where the committee has used the guidelines to bring things forward. Technically, the committee is supposed to have a faculty forum twice a year, but attendance has been poor in past years.

5. Standing Monthly Liaison Reports

- a. Clinical Council – met on Tuesday, April 23. The first example of a private/public partnership is an Imaging Collaboration at 5 Munson Road with a private company that kicks off this month. The goal is to provide cost-effective radiology services so that Uconn could retain lost revenue. It will be sharing the revenue with the private company. There are a lot of negotiations with Cigna, which is proposing cuts in reimbursements to Uconn. They have settled a contract that gives a 2% increase for two years. Financials \$14.6 million up in revenue this year over last year. There is a billing issue - the number of reimbursements for services to insurance companies is being

billed at less than the rate of the service provided – apparently, this has been going on for years. The hospital is going to be negotiating with insurance companies like Anthem for better reimbursement rates, but it feels like taking two steps forward but one step back. It is more of an issue of the health center billing and not necessarily the insurance companies.

- b. Dean's Council – LCME and 7-year reaccreditation for MPH program. A new endowment for graduate assistantships will be established – starting at 1 per year but growing yearly. Dr. Steve King is the permanent chair of MBBS. Election updates are on track. Additional discussion about operating guidelines and the consensus is that none of the by-laws changes rose to the level of the Oversight Committee to address.
- c. Education Council – met last week. Graduate Student Day – MD/PhD and Post-Doc. The Graduate Biomedical Science program now has 261 students, which is a steady increase. There has been a significant increase in applications post-COVID, but this is a national trend. Keeping better track of where students go after graduation, about 50% still go into post-grad training. The MD/PhD program is still trying to get an MSTP grant by building mentorship/leadership programs for faculty development; there are 61 students in the program now – 8 per year. If all goes well, they will apply for the grant next year. UriM numbers are still low, so they are concerned about that. Chris Heinen talked about Post-Docs. There are 80, which is lower than in the past; they are working on enrichment and career development to attract more candidates to the program.
- d. Public Issues Council – no update
- e. Research Council – The significant discussion was about separating the clinical and research from the IT network system.

Meeting adjourned: 9:16 am

**Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting**

Thursday, May 23, 2024,  
8:30 a.m.