

Time: 3:30 – 5:00pm

Location: Webex

Voting Members Present:	Drs. Anton Alerte (3:38pm), Ernesto Canalis, Paul Epstein (3:34pm), Alise Frallicciardi (3:34pm), Jaclyn Jaeger, Bruce Liang, Pedro Mendes, Ruchir Trivedi, Anthony Vella
Voting Members Excused:	Drs. Stephen King, Denis Lafreniere, Srimathi Manickaratnam
Others in Attendance:	Ms. Donna McKenty, Senior Director of Finance and Administration for the School of Medicine, <i>ex officio</i> Dr. Jenna Bartley, Chair, Public Issues Council Dr. Jennifer Cavallari, Oversight Committee Representative
Non-Voting Members Excused:	Dr. Kiki Nissen, Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, and Associate Dean for GME, <i>ex officio</i> Dr. Melissa Held, Associate Dean for Medical Student Affairs, <i>ex officio</i>

Dr. Ruchir Trivedi called the meeting to order at 3:32pm.

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Dr. Ernesto Canalis, seconded by Dr. Pedro Mendes, to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2026 meeting.

Favor to approve: Drs. Ernesto Canalis, Bruce Liang, Pedro Mendes, Ruchir Trivedi, Anthony Vella

Motion Passed: 5-0

2. Dean's Update

Dr. Liang provided several updates pertaining to the budget. He stated UConn Health was able to secure deferred maintenance funding, to assist facilities with some repairs that are required across buildings. There was also \$10 million made available from the state for new clinical equipment, to invest in the clinical enterprise. Dr. Liang indicated the state provided these funds to UConn and UConn Health to offset the reduction and cancellation of federal grants.

Regarding the budget, the School of Medicine is facing a budget deficit of about \$6 million, which is due in part to negotiated wage increases across UConn Health, for which there is no additional state funding support.

Lastly, Dr. Liang indicated ongoing philanthropic efforts, which were up nearly 30 percent compared to last year.

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3. Public Issues Council – Operating Guidelines Vote

Dr. Jenna Bartley, chair of Public Issues Council (PIC), joined the meeting to answer questions by Dean's Council members as they prepared to vote on revised operating guidelines for PIC, which had been previously discussed at previous meetings. Dr. Pedro Mendes and Dr. Anthony Vella discussed the issue of limited center directors available to fill required spots across committees, and the group discussed how that has been addressed in the past, with Dr. Jennifer Cavallari noting a bylaws language change was one option to address the issue, but it would take time and approval across the governance councils and faculty.

By unanimous consent, the group agreed to vote on updated PIC operating guidelines.

Favor to approve: Drs. Anton Alerte, Ernesto Canalis, Paul Epstein, Alise Frallicciardi, Pedro Mendes, Jaclyn Jaeger, Ruchir Trivedi, Anthony Vella

Motion Passed: 8-0

4. Council and Committee Reports

A. Clinical Council

Dr. Ruchir Trivedi stated that Cinga and UConn had come to a multi-year agreement, which is a positive for patients being able to access UConn Health clinicians. Additionally, he indicated several positions had been approved in dermatology and hematology, along with a replacement position in nephrology.

B. Education Council

Dr. Paul Epstein indicated the group's April meeting included a presentation from Dr. Ellen Eisenberg on PERT, which is focused on professional incident record triage for students. Additionally, Dr. Melissa Held shared a preliminary report from the LCME Accreditation Committee, and indicated UConn was slated for their full board agenda review in the fall.

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C. Public Issues Council

Dr. Jaclyn Jaeger stated the group discussed forming smaller volunteer subcommittees on particular public issues topics of interest, which would then be presented to the entire council. The thought is that way, all members would be able to serve as informed ambassadors for those issues, and further discussion on the idea will continue.

D. Research Council

Dr. Pedro Mendes indicated the group had not met, so there was no update.

Ms. Donna McKenty reminded members that any invoices for FY 2026 need to be submitted no later than June 18, and it's critical to adhere to that deadline so that accounting may be up to date.

Dr. Jennifer Cavallari provided an update on behalf of Oversight Council and shared that the department review cycle had been updated. Initially there were six reviews slated for 2028, and only three in 2027. Family Medicine agreed to move up to 2027, so there will now be a more equal distribution each year.

Adjournment:

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 3:59pm.

Favor to approve: Drs. Anton Alerte, Ernesto Canalis, Paul Epstein, Alise Frallicciardi, Jaclyn Jaeger, Pedro Mendes, Ruchir Trivedi, Anthony Vella

Against: 0

Motion Passed: 8:0

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Buccheri

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Monday, June 15, 2026 / 3:30 p.m. Webex
School of Medicine