

**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2016
10:00 – 11:30 AM
ACADEMIC OFFICE ONE, 7TH FLOOR BOARDROOM**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

PRESENT:

John J. Reilly, Jr., MD, Dean, School of Medicine and Chair

VOTING MEMBERS: Gerald Dodd, MD; Stephen Daniels, MD, PhD; Herman Jenkins, MD; Kevin Lillehei, MD; Naresh Mandava, MD; Angie Ribera, PhD; Jennifer Richer, PhD; Nanette Santoro, MD; Richard Schulick, MD; David Schwartz, MD; Andrew Thorburn, PhD; Vesna Todorovic, MD; Ken Tyler, MD

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: Lisa Lee, PhD; Steven Lowenstein, MD, MPH; Cheryl Welch

GUESTS: Eva Aagaard, MD; Robert J. Anderson, MD; David Bentley, PhD; Tom Blumenthal, MD; Peter Buttrick, MD; Timothy Crombleholme, MD; Will Cook; Mark Couch; Anne Fuhlbrigge, MD; Ben Honigman, MD; Sallie Houser-Hanfelder; Allison Kempe, MD, MPH; Ellen Mangione, MD; Sarah Miller; Suzann Ruedeman; Connie Savor Price, MD; Jane Schumaker; Judy Sherman; Christopher Smith; Kristina Tocce, MD; Richard Traystman, MD; Nichole Zehnder, MD; Shanta Zimmer, MD

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Rebecca Braverman, MD; John Cambier, PhD; Robert D'Ambrosia, MD; Frank DeGruy, MD; Jeffrey Druck, MD; Robert Freedman, MD; Mark Johnston, PhD; Brian Kavanagh, MD, MPH; Wendy Macklin, PhD; Dennis Matthews, MD; David Norris, MD; Ann Thor, MD; Glenn Gravlee, PhD; Richard Zane, MD

I. GREETINGS – Dean Reilly

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The June 21, 2016 meeting minutes had one correction, as follows: Item B, Affiliate Updates from the VA: Sallie Houser-Hanfelder noted that the 30-bed spinal cord injury unit will not be in the research building.

The minutes were adopted unanimously as corrected.

III. DEAN'S UPDATES

(Dean Reilly referred attendees to written report.)

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Faculty Climate Survey – Dean Reilly

The survey was sent out to 3,660 full time faculty. There were 1,478 respondents (40.3%); not every respondent answered every question.

Summary and Key Findings:

A majority—61 percent—agreed or strongly agreed that the work environment was stressful. The range of respondents within departments who agreed or strongly agreed varied from as low as 27 percent to as high as 80 percent.

The highest level of agreement was 84 percent agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, “I am proud to be a member of my department.”

For four large departments with divisions or sections, data was provided to those department chairs for departments and divisions.

Survey themes:

Aggregate data does not capture department-specific issues. Department-level responses show faculty satisfaction is high in some departments, while there are opportunities for improvement in other departments.

Communication about promotion, tenure, and job performance can be improved.

The larger the department, the more faculty tend to identify with their specific division rather than their departments and feel disconnected with their department chairs.

Comments/Questions:

Will consider rewording questions for next faculty survey, e.g., “Is your job more stressful than it should be?” rather than “Is your job stressful?”

Lack of external benchmark data from other institutions. The AAMC survey instrument does include the benchmark data, but it was decided that the survey was too lengthy.

Department chairs can decide how to distribute/discuss the survey results with their faculty.

Another faculty survey should be conducted in the future in order to measure progress on issues identified by this survey after department chairs have adequate time to address those issues and implement plans.

- B. Transformational Research Presentation: The RNA Bioscience Initiative** – David Bentley, PhD, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics
(See attached document for full presentation.)

Research mission:

Make AMC a place where many important discoveries in RNA biology are made and applied to clinical practice.

Faculty and Research:

Regulatory RNAs: Jeffrey Keift, PhD

RNA and Disease: Linda van Dyk, PhD, and Eric Poeschla, MD

RNA Technology and Informatics: Jay Hesselberth, PhD

RNA Clinical Discovery: Craig Jordan, PhD

Advisory Board:

Tom Cech PhD

Tom Blumenthal, PhD

Roy Parker, PhD

David Engelke, PhD

David Rodman, MD

Directors:

David Bentley, PhD and Richard E. Davis, PhD

Participants:

Faculty, postdocs, students, PRAs.

Anyone interested in participating may contact rna.bioscience@ucdenver.edu.

Building an RNA Community:

2 faculty hire searches - 2 faculty candidates starting September 26 and October 31

Speaker program - 15 distinguished speakers scheduled for the next academic year in

Biochemistry, Pharmacology, CSD (Cell Biology, Stem Cells and Development), others.

RNA Collaboration Club is held the second Tuesday of every month.

Training and Education:

Support for post-doctoral fellows, graduate students and summer graduate interns

Workshops and symposia on RNA technologies/informatics

Travel awards for students and post-doctoral fellows

RNA Technology and Informatics:

Bioinformaticists will support investigators awarded RNA Bioscience Grants.

Developing and importing new technologies to AMC, such as single-cell RNA sequencing

The new space for the informatics team on the 9th floor of RC1 South is estimated to be completed by August 2016

RNA Bioscience Grants:

Two types of grants:

- RNA Fellows
- Informatics Fellows

Focus:

- Development and implementation of new RNA diagnostics
- Characterization of the role of RNAs in disease
- Advancement of clinical RNA diagnostics and therapeutics

Goals:

Stronger RNA community and research

Recruit faculty in RNA bioscience research

Enhanced international reputation in RNA bioscience

Provide grants

Strengthen ties between basic and clinical research

Develop RNA-based diagnostics, therapeutics in collaboration with partners in industry

C. Education Updates - Bob Anderson, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Education

I. Introduction of new Assistant Deans for Student Affairs:

Jeffrey Druck, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine (not present)

Kristina Tocce, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

II. Introduction of new Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion:

Shanta Zimmer, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases

Dr. Zimmer announced two events, the first on Thursday, July 28 on solidarity in response to recent violent events in the U.S. and around the world (Boettcher Commons) and the other is the Toast of Diversity - Call to Action event on August 26 (Hyatt Hotel on Colfax Avenue across from campus). Dr. Zimmer also announced that she, in addition to Drs. Tocce and Druck, would be involved in career advising.

III. LCME Preparations

See attached for Dr. Anderson's complete presentation.

IV. Admissions Update - Nichole Zehnder, MD, Assistant Dean for Admissions

See attached for Dr. Zehnder's complete presentation.

A record number of applications were received even with the introduction of the new MCAT and earlier application deadline; hundreds of applicants were interviewed thanks to a tremendous effort by faculty as well as retired physicians and members of the community.

Seeing significant number in terms of diversity among accepted students.

Accepted students represent outstanding local and national undergraduate institutions including institutions across Colorado.

Additional efforts related to accessing prospective students include exploring different media, outreach programs with K-12 students in the community as well as regional outreach, partnerships with Office of Alumni (feature alumni speakers) and Basic Science and Clinical departments (to feature lab space) during Second Look Day.

Dr. Zehnder announced a \$2.5 million pledge from President Benson for Presidential Scholarships, which is \$1 million more than what was received last year.

D. Affiliate Updates from VA and Denver Health -

Sallie A. Houser-Hanfelder, FACHE, Director, and Ellen Mangione, MD, Chief of Staff, VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System

Connie Savor Price, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Denver Health

VA Update:

Construction of the new VA hospital is 73 percent complete, with January 2018 as a final completion date for the major part of construction.

The VA received funding for PTSD program; the design is 35 percent complete and anticipate finishing the design by December.

New Deputy Chief of Staff is Dr. Harold Dillon, an Air Force veteran and ophthalmologist, has 8 years of experience at the VA.

Three critical vacancies at the VA:

Chief of Imaging - Dr. Gerald Dodd is assisting in that recruitment. Dr. Elliott Sandberg is retiring in December 2016, therefore the VA is moving quickly to fill that position.

Chief of the Spinal Cord Injury Unit – Dr. Kevin Lillehei and other faculty are assisting in that recruitment.

Deputy Chief of Staff for the Southern Colorado clinics – Dr. Todorovic is assisting in that recruitment.

In addition to the above mentioned vacancies, Dr. Thomas Meyer is anticipating a December 2016 retirement date.

Denver Health Update:

Search for a new CEO has commenced with a goal to have finalists by the end of the year.

Extended an offer to the new Director of Medicine. Drs. Peter Buttrick and David Schwartz served on the search committee.

The search for a new Director of Emergency Medicine has also kicked off with a search firm.

Denver Health is in the final stages of the search for a new Chief Research Officer. The search committee has interviewed all applicants and will be forwarding two to three names for final interviews in the coming week.

There is also a newly formed Department of Neurosurgery. The previous operation fell under the Department of Surgery. Dr. Kevin Lillehei will be assisting in the search committee to name a new Director of Neurosurgery. The search is anticipated to take six months to a year.

Chief Education Officer Dr. Abraham Nussbaum was introduced.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. APPROVAL ITEMS

- A. Sr. Clinical Appointments and Promotions Committee Actions (not presented)
- B. Faculty Promotions Committee Actions were approved unanimously

VI. FYI ITEMS

- A. Personnel Action FYI Reports
- B. New Faculty Bio-Sketches

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Minutes submitted by School of Medicine Dean's Office