Faculty Senate Minutes

March 21, 2023

Dean's Update – Mark Couch provided an update for the Dean at this meeting. Match Day was held last week, and it was a great day. At least 44 students will be staying here in Colorado. The new chair for the Department of Dermatology, Maryam Asgari, will be starting May 1. Dr. Asgari is joining from Mass General, where she was also on the faculty of Harvard Medical School. Her work includes patient-oriented research in dermatology, including Mohs micrographic surgery. We are in negotiations with the finalist for Otolaryngology. As far as the Department of Radiology, we are still working on a start date for the new chair. The ACCORDS director search is moving on to the next stage, with finalists being brought to campus. The process will be starting in the next couple weeks.

There are two legislative bills currently under consideration that would greatly impact the School of Medicine. The first is HB23-1215, which relates to facility fees and the legal limit on billing that hospitals can do from on-site clinics. It is highly restrictive as it's written and would give government officials the ability to determine where certain medical services could be provided. There will be a hearing on Friday afternoon, and the Dean and the Chancellor plan to go and express concerns about the way the bill is currently written. There have been lots of drafts of amendments which would limit the scope of the bill at this point, but they haven't been adopted yet. It's hard to say what it will look like.

The other bill that is of enormous concern to us at the School of Medicine is HB23-1243, a bill to change the definition of community benefits for non-profit hospitals. If passed, it would restrict nonprofit hospitals from counting research, education and training as community benefit contributions. Currently, we get tens of millions of dollars from clinical partners on campus to help support our work here on campus. It would be a tremendous loss without replacement funding. We are emphasizing these concerns with lawmakers through a series of meetings with different folks on committees to explain the bill. The bill was introduced on behalf of leadership of the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, which has provisions that would set up requirements for hospitals to hold public hearings and keep track of who was there. Leadership of HCPF have said they want to make sure community benefits are acceptable to the community, disallowing the counting of uncompensated care as a community benefit. That bill is scheduled for an initial hearing in committee on March 29.

The third bill, SB23-188, provides protection for reproductive health care and gender-affirming care. The bill has provisions which would change requirements related to where a physician needs to be licensed to be providing care (e.g., must be licensed in the state where the patient lives). This would reverse that, so telehealth care would allow to provide care in other states. It is subject to litigation if the bill passes into law.

Question: Is there anything we can do, or do we just wait for more information?

Answer: The department chairs have written a letter related to the facility fee bill, expressing concern, which will be published in the Denver Post on Thursday. We are compiling all kinds of information, and sending many examples to help educate the lawmakers. The CU Government Relations team likes to talk directly to lawmakers, and they are actively involved. We would caution faculty with the usual

provisos that unless you are asked by the institution to speak for the institution, any comments you make, you are speaking as an individual.

Plains Curriculum - David Ecker. Medical students are halfway through their clerkship, and are now in the 2nd year, which is the Plains Curriculum. It is a 48-week curriculum which begins to develop their professional identities. It now occurs in the 2nd foundation year of the curriculum. The content has been designed to learn in various stages. The pre-clerkship curriculum, which is not bound by USMLE Step 1, was moved to the 3rd year. This barrier removal opened doors to better follow the science of learning. What they learn can be immediately applied, and they receive feedback on whether they are understanding the knowledge. The curriculum build team used iterative design and processes, drawing upon their own experiences. They also developed a robust handoff process to develop intentional movements throughout the curriculum. Within the 52 weeks, there are 48 contact weeks, which are organized around the body systems and divided into 10 courses. Throughout the 10 courses, students have an integrated curriculum. The content director shepherds content throughout the 4-year curriculum. The clinical skills curriculum has four domains, which begin in week 7 of the curriculum with matched physician preceptors and standardized patients.

Incredible work is being done by faculty and staff executing the legacy curriculum, then designing and delivering the hybrid curriculum, all of which was necessary in order to transition to the pre-clerkship curriculum. There was collaboration and crosstalk between all members, all of which occurred during an emerging global pandemic. It was impressive work by all. We also added a branch campus, CSU/CU, in Fort Collins, which has 12 students each year.

The pre-clerkship outcomes, from a student perspective, indicated that it was a significant success. We did have stumbles in 3 courses, but we have a continuous quality improvement process. It is improving from the student perspective, which is also now mirroring course quality at both campuses. There are 3 pillars within the curriculum, and we ask students to rate the quality of each pillar, which mirrors the overall quality of the courses. There were lessons learned, and improvements made during the second year. Also, the GQ data from the 4th years reflecting back didn't find sufficient illustrations of clinical relevance, which is now improved. Having step 1 move to third year was very liberating to faculty. They are enjoying the experience as designed, with the additional opportunities and room for improvement.
Faculty responded that the new curriculum is satisfying and on par with the legacy curriculum. The most cited dissatisfaction issue was around learning the curriculum management system. Next academic year, we will be returning to Canvas and Oasis, which should improve the experience. Faculty are under a tremendous amount of work, and we are working to improve roles and responsibilities and alignment with job sharing.

Benson Hotel – Neil Krauss and Peter Walterspiel. The Benson Hotel has been in the making for about 15 years, which is located across Montview. Faculty will be able to utilize the space to get together and talk amongst themselves when they have a break. Aimco came to us with the idea of a boutique hotel, and they are doing finishing touches now. Peter Walterspiel is the GM of the hotel, and it is a few weeks from opening. They can provide tours on request. The mission is to celebrate, empower, and connect medical professionals. There will be a members-only, second story private lounge, which creates a space that inspires the interchange of ideas and info on the Anschutz Medical Campus. We will be able to host exclusive social events, and members can share club experience with up to four guests. There

are 7 boardrooms, 2 will be exclusive use by members, and the other 5 are available for rent to the general public. There is a 4000 square foot ballroom, with direct access to an outdoor event area called the Rose Garden. We can host dinners, lectures, presentations. The Common Good restaurant will be located in the hotel, along with a private dining room with an open kitchen concept. The annual charge for faculty to join the club is $600, which will give access to the club lounge and club-specific pricing for food and beverages. They will also be eligible for a discount to Common Good, and rental of hotel rooms or meeting spaces. The hotel will open in April.

Due to lack of time, the Department of Surgery update will be postponed until the April meeting.

Minutes prepared by Cheryl Welch for the Faculty Senate Secretary.