

**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2020**  
**10:00 AM**  
**VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**

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Members and guests present indicated below. A total of 56 were in attendance today.

Members Present:

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

Venu Akuthota, MD; Leslie Berg, PhD; Evalina Burger, MD; Stephen Daniels, MD, PhD; Frank deGruy, MD; Mark Dell'Acqua, PhD; Gerald Dodd, MD; Neill Epperson, MD; Jena Hausmann; Herman Jenkins, MD; Alma Juels, MD; Brian Kavanagh, MD, MPH; Lillehei, MD; Wendy Macklin, PhD; Naresh Mandava, MD; David Norris, MD;; Angie Ribera, PhD; Nanette Santoro, MD; Richard Schulick, MD, MBA; David Schwartz, MD; Ron Sokol, MD; Vesna Todorovic, MD, PhD, MBA; Ken Tyler, MD; Erik Wallace, MD; Richard Zane, MD

Guests:

Thomas Beresford, MD; Gregory Bosci, DO; Suzanne Brandenburg, MD; Peter Buttrick, MD; Jessica Cordova; Mark Couch; Genet D'Arcy, MD; Amira Del Pino-Jones, MD; Shoaib Fakhri, MD; Anne Fuhlbrigge, MD, MS; Carolyn Goble; Michael Harris-Love, PT, MPT, DSc; Heather Hume; Allison Kempe, MD; Allison Krebs; Steven Lowenstein, MD, MBA; Sarah Miller; Lindsay Miner, MD; Chanthy Na; Michael Narkewicz, MD; C. Lee Parmley, MD; Allison Reeds; Judy Regensteiner, PhD; Marian Rewers, MD, PhD; Suzann Ruedeman; Carol Rumack, MD; Brian T. Smith; Christopher Smith; Cheryl Welch; Shanta Zimmer, MD

**I. GREETINGS**

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The June 16, 2020, meeting minutes were adopted unanimously as presented.

**III. DEAN'S UPDATES**

There has been a recent increase in COVID cases, particularly in the southern states in the U.S. While the cases in Colorado are not near the levels they were in late-March-early April, they are around 50% up from a few weeks ago, and hospitals are reporting an increase in cases as well.

UCHealth and the University of Colorado School of Medicine announced in July that the campus is participating in a Phase III trial of the Moderna mRNA-1273 vaccine. The campus plans to recruit 1,000 patients for a trial of the potential COVID-19 vaccine.

Oxford University announced results of a Phase I/II trial of a COVID vaccine being developed by Oxford's Jenner Institute, saying that it is safe and “produced strong immune results,” according to the research published on Monday, July 20, 2020 in The Lancet medical journal.

Children’s Hospital Colorado ranked No. 6 on U.S. News & World Report’s Honor Roll of best children’s hospitals, which was released in June. The annual ranking evaluates hospitals in 10 specialties and Children’s Hospital Colorado is highly ranked in all of them, including seven in the top 10.

The Lown Institute released its hospital index for ranking adult hospitals across the nation based on 42 different variables including patient outcomes, civic leadership, and value of care. The University of Colorado Hospital ranked 18<sup>th</sup> nationwide in the overall rankings, while Denver Health ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in Colorado for civic leadership.

*US News and World Report* will release rankings for adult hospitals next Tuesday, July 28.

The Academic Partnership Committee, a partnership between the School of Medicine and the VA, held its first meeting yesterday, Monday July 20, in over nearly a decade. The committee will meet on a quarterly basis to discuss faculty recruitment, research, and the educational environment at the VA, which is particularly important for medical students, residents, fellows, and other trainees.

Leslie Berg, PhD, chair of the Department of Immunology and Microbiology, will be chairing a working group commissioned by Roderick Nairn, PhD, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, to make recommendations about the organization of PhD programs within the School of Medicine. There have been consistent calls to increase the number of graduate students in PhD biomedical programs, in part because of the substantially increased number of basic science faculty and more labs equipped for hosting graduate students in the labs. The committee will make recommendations on the number of graduate programs, how graduate program slots should be allocated, what the reporting structures should be, and how those programs should be financed.

Colorado Governor Jared Polis signed Senate Bill 20-219, which provides the remaining \$22 million of the \$52 million of the capital commitment made to the Anschutz Medical Campus two years ago to support 20% of the construction for new Anschutz Health Sciences building.

Chancellor Don Elliman and Dean Reilly met with U.S. Sen. Michael Bennett and U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner. Each senator was responsive to priorities for the campus as the senate was scheduled to consider additional financial relief due to hardships caused by the COVID pandemic. The campus is seeking support for lost productivity in research and an extension in loan repayment holiday for students and junior faculty.

Congratulations to Regina Richards, PhD, MSW, assistant professor, Department of Family Medicine, who has been named associate vice chancellor of diversity, equity, inclusion and community engagement for the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Since Dr. Richards' appointment, Dr. Reilly has been contacted by a number of entities, most recently by the Black Student Coalition. Dr. Richards is putting together a working group to address issues identified by the coalition. Dr. Richards will also play an important role in community engagement.

Shanta Zimmer, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Education, provided educational updates. First-year medical students are preparing to return to campus for the anatomy block. A number of adjustments have been made to the delivery of curriculum in order to keep students safe, including larger-than-usual class sections and distribution of PPE. Smaller numbers of students will be assigned to pods for the ability for cohorts and contact tracing in the event of a COVID outbreak in the student body. Second-year students will be doing mostly virtual learning with the exception of some lab sessions. A town hall is scheduled for Friday, July 20, to discuss returning to campus safely. A special thanks to all clinical affiliates for bringing students back to the clinical environment. The school is also preparing for the likelihood of another surge in COVID cases that may impact the clinical environment in the next month and want to avoid what happened in March when students had to be moved out of clinical rotations. The school also has virtual learning tools to allow students to continue their education. Several pilot projects that took place during the first COVID surge have provided students with tools to make them more prepared for the next surge.

Carol Rumack, MD, associate dean for Graduate Medical Education, has been working with residency program directors to ensure that residents are allowed to continue their educational activities if a second surge occurs. Dr. Zimmer acknowledged hospital partners for accommodating residents and understanding they need to be engaged as much as possible to remain board-eligible.

Ron Sokol, MD, director, Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, asked for an update on chair searches. Dr. Reilly noted that both chair searches (chair of Department of Medicine and chair of Department of Family Medicine) are moving forward as much as possible given the travel restrictions and other limitations from COVID. Dr. Reilly will be putting

together a couple more search committees in the fall for department chairs who have indicated that they plan to step down next year.