

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020
10:00 AM
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE

Members present indicated in **bold** and guests present noted, below; a few participants called in but could not be identified. A total of 60 were in attendance today.

MEMBERS:

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

Venu Akuthota, MD; Jamie Arruda, MD; Leslie Berg, PhD; Evalina Burger, MD; Julie Cooper, PhD; Stephen Daniels, MD, PhD; Frank deGruy, MD; Mark Dell'Acqua, PhD; Gerald Dodd, MD; Nicole Draper, MD; Donald Elliman, Chancellor; Neill Epperson, MD; Christopher Gessner; Jena Hausmann; Herman Jenkins, MD; Alma Juels, MD; Brian Kavanagh, MD, MPH; Michael Kilmer; Kevin Lillehei, MD; Wendy Macklin, PhD; Naresh Mandava, MD; David Norris, MD; Connie Savor Price, MD; David Raben, MD; Angie Ribera, PhD; Nanette Santoro, MD; Richard Schulick, MD, MBA; David Schwartz, MD; Ron Sokol, MD; Ann Thor, MD; Andrew Thorburn, DPhil; Vesna Todorovic, MD, PhD, MBA; Ken Tyler, MD; Erik Wallace, MD; Richard Zane, MD

GUESTS:

Phil Asamoah, MD, MBA; Thomas Beresford, MD; Suzanne Brandenburg, MD; Peter Buttrick, MD; Karen Chacko, MD; Jessica Cordova; Mark Couch; Genet D'Arcy, MD; Christina Finlayson, MD; Thomas Flaig, MD; Anne Fuhlbriggge, MD, MS; Carolyn Goble; Michael Harris-Love, PT, MPT, DSc; Heather Hume; Allison Kempe, MD; Allison Krebs; Steven Lowenstein, MD, MBA; Sarah Miller; Chanthy Na; Michael Narkewicz, MD; C. Lee Parmley, MD; Marian Rewers, MD, PhD; Suzann Ruedeman; Carol Rumack, MD; Brian T. Smith; Christopher Smith; Jeffrey Soohoo, MD; Rob Stiner; Duncan Wilcox, MD; Shanta Zimmer, MD

I. GREETINGS

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The April 21, 2020, meeting minutes were adopted unanimously as presented.

III. DEAN'S UPDATES

CU Anschutz face masks are available for those returning to work on campus. Those who are interested may contact Chris Smith, assistant dean of administration and finance for the School of Medicine, Christopher.2.smith@cuanschutz.edu.

The Colorado State Legislature will be back in session next week. The first order of business will be consideration of the revised budget which has changed since the March 16, 2020 draft

proposed by the Joint Budget Committee. State forecasts from last week showed a \$3.5 billion state deficit. The state budget cuts will also likely include a nearly 17% reduction in state appropriation to the Anschutz Medical Campus. The campus will also not be receiving the \$22 million of capital funding that was initially committed three years ago towards the new Anschutz Health Sciences building. The building is still under construction and slightly under budget with an anticipated opening for late summer 2021.

Starting the week of May 26, those who are working remotely and need to access files will need to go through the Duo authentication procedure. Those who do not already have the Duo app on their mobile devices or computers need to contact IT services.

Roderick Nairn, PhD, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, issued a policy that will extend the tenure and promotional clock for faculty by one year.

Research personnel or individuals who will be ordering PPE for their labs are asked to contact Chris Smith. The School is trying to consolidate orders on PPE and other equipment in order to establish priority for larger orders from suppliers.

The School is pleased to welcome Amira del Pino-Jones, MD, associate professor of medicine in the Division of Hospital Medicine, who has been named the new assistant dean of student affairs in the Office of Student Life. The School is in the final stage of interviewing candidates for the associate dean of admissions. A special thanks to Jeffrey Soohoo, MD, who has been serving as the interim associate dean of admissions.

On the Graduate Medical Education (GME) side, residents were in stage 3 when they were being redistributed to other services during the peak of the pandemic but have returned to stage 2.

The Coalition for Physician Accountability released guidance recommending against having medical students do any away rotations. A few exceptions will be granted for military students and community-based institutions that do not have certain specialties available for rotations for students. The University of Colorado School of Medicine adopted the policy and will not be accepting visiting students this year and will also not allow CU students to visit other institutions, with the exception of those involved in the military.

There is also a recommendation that residency interviews be conducted virtually this year, which may also impact Match Day in 2021. In the interest of fairness, if faculty interview candidates from other institutions virtually, they need to interview CU candidates virtually as well.

Step 1 exams for medical students are delayed until August 2020, which has caused a lot of stress for the students.

Medical students will return to clinical rotations by June 1. Shanta Zimmer, MD, senior associate dean for education, and her team have been working with hospitals across the front-range, each of which have their own PPE requirements and guidelines for students who are rotating in their clinical environments. It is imperative to get students back to clinical rotations otherwise they will not be allowed to graduate on time.

Program directors and basic science chairs put together a proposal regarding the future structure of graduate school programs on the Anschutz Medical Campus, which want to be distinguished from the programs on the downtown Denver campus.

Virtual commencement ceremonies for all of the schools on the campus are scheduled this week. The School of Medicine commencement is scheduled for this Friday, May 22.

The School of Medicine has established the George “Doc” Lopez, MD, Distinguished Scholars Fund with a \$1.7 million gift from alumnus George Lopez, MD ’73. This four-year scholarship will support students from backgrounds historically underrepresented in medicine.

Discussion Items:

1. 2020 medical student graduate candidates were unanimously approved.
2. **Research Updates-** *Peter Buttrick, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (see attached slides for additional information):*

Dr. Buttrick discussed the process of reopening the research activity on the campus. Everyone is required to complete the online Skillsoft training course before returning to campus. Screening processes have been established that include temperature checks, an online questionnaire, and wristbands for working on campus.

Around 20 core labs have reopened. Exceptions have been granted for those who are conducting COVID-related research. Floor plans and staffing proposals have also been approved for all 34 floors of lab space to make it possible to increase the number of people allowed to work on campus while maintaining physical distance requirements. Around 900 people have been approved to return to campus.

Environmental health and COVID officers will be monitoring ‘pressure points’ in buildings and on floors, which include elevators, small spaces, common equipment areas, and break rooms, to ensure that everyone is adhering to the policies and procedures.

After a couple of weeks, COVID officers will develop personal deployment strategies that will allow additional increase of personnel to work in labs, including shift work, to get to a work force on campus that totals more than 50% of the total work force.

The goal is to ramp up personnel under the supervision of COVID officers that will maintain the research mission of the institution while still abiding by physical distancing policies and procedures. If labs are not able to follow policies and procedures, they will be shut down and will be last in line to return to campus.

Andrew Thorburn, DPhil, chair of the Department of Pharmacology asked if one lab is not following procedures, if the entire floor would be required to shut down. Dr. Reilly said that if a particular lab and not the entire floor is not adhering to guidelines, then that lab will be shut down and will be last in line to reopen. Similarly, if people are found to bypass entry procedures to campus then they will lose access to campus buildings. Those who are working in labs should only be there because the work can only be done in labs. Data should be analyzed from a remote location and not in labs.

Is there a QR code for entering buildings? Dr. Reilly said that QR codes can be scanned at the door. IT is also developing an app that will allow people to complete questionnaires and get the QR code before coming to campus. There are also plans to open up more check points on campus.

3. Educational Updates- *Shanta Zimmer, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Education, and Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion:*

CU will not be accepting visiting medical students this year and will also not allow CU students to travel to other institutions.

Dr. Zimmer noted that this policy creates challenges for students, particularly students who are underrepresented minorities in medicine and rely on away rotations as recruitment strategies. A task force that includes faculty who are underrepresented in medicine is creating virtual mentorships, virtual rotations, virtual second-look days, and also assisting with virtual interviews and offering best practices and tips for interviewing.

Dr. Zimmer reminded the committee that virtual convocation ceremonies for the School of Medicine were scheduled for this Friday, May 22. She thanked the Office of Student Life, and faculty and program directors who are working to create a special virtual experience for the students and their families. The link to the commencement events can be found here: [School of Medicine's Graduation 2020 webpage](#).

Dr. Zimmer acknowledged the anxiety and stress from students and faculty/educational leadership as they work with hospital partners to reopen clinical rotations for the students. The school has provided guidance for students on what the return to the clinical environment will look like and students also understand they need to be flexible and that not all hospitals and clinical environments follow the same policies and procedures.

Dr. Zimmer acknowledged the concerns for students rotating in specialties and in procedures, such as in anesthesia, labor and delivery, or surgery, that require additional PPE. Program directors are working with these departments to design a meaningful clinical experience for the students. The school will have a better understanding in the next few days on what the PPE supplies will look like for those specialties. As of now, most hospitals require everyone in their operating rooms to wear N95 masks, which is challenging for students who are observing from a distance. Certain hospitals and clinical sites are making exceptions but requirements vary for hospitals across the front- range.

Dr. Zimmer reiterated that medical students must complete their clinical rotations so they can graduate on time.

As Dr. Reilly mentioned, the Step 1 exams for medical students are delayed until August 2020 and will be in a new format that the students have never seen. Program directors are working on changing the curriculum in order to accommodate the exam format so that students feel more prepared.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

*There was no executive session for today's executive committee meeting. Cheryl Welch, director of Faculty Affairs, circulated faculty promotional updates via email to department chairs prior to the meeting.