

Reports from Governance Councils

School of Medicine Faculty Forum

October 17, 2006

Clinical Council

The Clinical Council oversees the success of UConn Medical Group (UMG). Formerly, the Clinical Operations Group (COG) had this responsibility. The revised Clinical Council has adopted and conformed to the new Medical School Bylaws. The Clinical Council has monthly meetings covering a range of topics. Key areas under review include:

- Addressing new clinical faculty growth and facility needs, both on and off campus
- The role and accountability of clinical chairs
- Clinical incentive plan and incentive distributions
- New faculty hires, start-up, and marketing
- Improving patient access and communication: launch of a BEST team; improving telephone access, back-up in place for all MD line calls
- UMG financial stability; faculty productivity expectations & UMG cross funding; improving coding and collections
- Renegotiating all our commercial managed care contracts in light of continuing financial pressures
- Enhancing information systems in the ambulatory environment

Minutes of monthly meetings are posted on the web and can be viewed at http://www.uhc.edu/bod/sub_minutes.html.

Clinical Council*

* Dr. Peter Albertsen, Dr. Bruce Browner, Mr. Bruce Carlson, Dr. Patrick Coll, Mr. Chris Dugger, Dr. Richard Garibaldi, Dr. Jane Grant-Kels, Dr. Denis Lafreniere, Dr. Carolyn Runowicz, Dr. Richard Simon, Dr. Steven Strongwater, Mr. James Thibeault, Mr. Dan Upton

Dean's Council

Major Actions Taken:

- Determination of procedures for the appointment and/or election of faculty to a number of standing committees within the School.
- Reviewed the School's FY-06 and FY-07 budgets.
- Reviewed the status of the Public Health Initiative.
- Charged the Research Council with developing a proposal to revise the current research incentive plan.

Bruce M. Koeppen, M.D., Ph.D.
Chair, Dean's Council*

* Dr. Andrew Arnold, Dr. Peter Deckers, Dr. Julian Ford, Dr. Richard Garibaldi, Mr. David Gillon, Dr. Bruce Gould, Dr. Mary Casey Jacob, Dr. Anne Kenny, Dr. Marc Lalande, Dr. Achilles Pappano, Dr. Richard Simon, Dr. Steven Strongwater, Dr. Catherine Weber

Education Council

Major Actions Taken:

- Reviewed and rejected a proposal to offer a University-sponsored certificate program in Ayurvedic Medicine.
- Approved a recommendation of CUME to modify the fourth year academic calendar such that rotations are scheduled every four weeks rather than the current monthly schedule. This change is effective for the 2007 AY.
- Approved recommendation of both CUME and GMEC for the establishment of a “Teacher-Learner Compact” that codifies the expectations around professional behavior between faculty and those they teach (i.e. students, residents and fellows, graduate students).
- Approved recommendations of the CCME to modify a number of institutional policies related to CME activities sponsored by the School. These modifications were done to bring the School in compliance with ACCME requirements.
- Referred to the Dean’s Council a recommendation to develop a School-wide policy on appropriate and ethical interactions and relationships with representatives of the pharmaceutical industry (and medical device manufacturers).
- Established an *ad hoc* faculty committee to develop policy and procedures for a mechanism to evaluate the quality of faculty teaching.

Bruce M. Koeppen, M.D., Ph.D.
Chair, Education Council*

* Dr. Steven Angus, Dr. Yvonne Grimm-Jorgensen, Dr. Mary Guerrero, Dr. Dan Henry, Mr. Charles Huntington, Dr. Gerald Maxwell, Dr. Bruce Mayer, Dr. William Mohler, Dr. Jacqueline Nissen, Dr. Eugene Orientale, Dr. Achilles Pappano, Dr. Matthew Rasband, Dr. Richard Soucier, Dr. Catherine Weber, Dr. Richard Zeff

Oversight Committee

The Oversight Committee (OC) is a unique elected group of faculty charged to monitor the implementation of the governance structure and mechanisms, particularly to insure communication between faculty and the governance committees. In addition, the Oversight Committee is responsible for Bylaws changes, periodic faculty forums, and to initiate and monitor planned reviews of departments and centers.

The OC has met bi-weekly for the past six months, and all minutes are posted on the faculty governance web site. Activities during this time have included:

- Creation and approval of Operating Rules for the Oversight Committee
- Identification of OC members who serve as liaisons to each of the governance committees to ensure timely and effective implementation of committee functions and communication
- Nomination of faculty members for Faculty Review Board election
- Election of OC members as faculty representatives for the Compensation Executive Committee and the Academic Affairs Subcommittee of the Board of Directors
- Initiation of the reviews of the Departments of Pharmacology (completed), Cell Biology, and Family Medicine
- Communication with governance committees about specific initiatives, and encouragement of communication among the Dean’s Council and other governance committees

- Significant discussion of proposed Bylaws changes, with expectation that a faculty forum to consider these proposed changes will occur in Spring 2007

Jeri Hepworth, Ph.D.
Chair, Oversight Committee*

- * Dr. Robert Bona, Dr. Robert Cushman, Dr. Betty Eipper, Dr. Larry Klobutcher, Dr. John Shanley, Dr. Howard Tennen, Dr. Steven Walsh, Dr. Sandra Weller

Public Issues Council

The Public Issues Council has met regularly and has deliberately explored the useful parameters within which it should establish its relatively new role. In a word, this process has encouraged us to focus on a three phase model: 1) regular surveillance of relevant public issues in the community and State to which we should respond, 2) the analysis and understanding of particular issues, and 3) recommendations that might be made to the faculty or the Health Center administration regarding action, support, or attention that should be given a given issue. We have devoted time to the review of a wide range of current public issues in the greater metropolitan Hartford area as well as in central Connecticut. The PIC has also sought to identify issues that are of concern to the faculty and to discover channels through which issues can reach us. At the end of this summer, in which 18 children were shot in Hartford, we were approached by the Interdenominational Ministry Alliance (IMA) for assistance in understanding the causes of youth violence and its prevention. We determined that this was an opportunity to which our faculty could make a constructive contribution. We have formed a faculty panel, together with key associates from the community, and provided the IMA with an annotated literature review and a plan of action whereby they could support the Mayor and City government in mobilizing the City and its neighboring communities into a major violence prevention campaign. The approach is similar to that of Boston Cease Fire, initiated in the mid-1990s with remarkable success. Our hope is that the IMA will take on this agenda and, if they do, the SOM faculty will be in a position to support and enhance this effort.

Robert Cole, Ph.D.
Chair, Public Issues Council*

- * Dr. Bernard Clark, Dr. Paul Dworkin, Dr. Julian Ford, Dr. Richard Fortinsky, Dr. Bruce Gould, Dr. David Gregorio, Dr. David Henderson, Ms. Meg Hooper, Dr. Nancy Petry, Dr. Adam Silverman, Dr. Eileen Storey, Dr. Edwin Zalneraitis

Research Council

The Research Council has been meeting two to three times a month and has formulated a Research Incentive Plan. Their next project is the Strategic Plan for Research. Please see posted minutes for details.

Leslie Wolfson, M.D.
Chair, Research Council*

- * Dr. Peter Albertsen, Dr. John Carson, Dr. Judith Fifield, Dr. Sandra Hewett, Dr. Anne Kenny, Dr. Bruce Koeppen, Dr. Henry Kranzler, Dr. Marc Lalande, Dr. Leslie Loew, Dr. Richard Mains, Dr. William White