

Dean's Council (DC)

April 18, 2006

Minutes

Present: Dr. Deckers, Dr. Fortinsky (representing Dr. Ford), Dr. Garibaldi, Mr. Gillon, Dr. Gould, Dr. Jacob, Dr. Kenny, Dr. Koeppen, Dr. Lalande, Dr. Pappano, Dr. Simon, Dr. Weber

Excused: Dr. Arnold, Dr. Strongwater

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 a.m.

1. The minutes of the April 10, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. Dr. Jacob explained that the Academic Affairs Subcommittee of the Board of Directors has made available four of its at-large seats to be filled by faculty members. Two seats were filled by the Chairs of the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine Councils, and two were filled by an elected faculty member from each School. Dr. Peter Setlow, who served as the Chair of Council, has asked to be replaced, and the Dean's Council was asked to develop a mechanism to fill his seat. The following motion was presented:

The Dean's Council of the SOM asks the Academic Affairs Subcommittee of the Board of Directors if the seat held ex officio by Dr. Peter Setlow as Chair of the School of Medicine Council (no longer in existence) can be filled by a member of the Oversight Committee, elected by the members of the Oversight Committee.

Dr. Jacob explained that the reason for recommending that a member of the Oversight Committee (OC) fill this position is because the OC is a faculty elected body and most closely parallels the former School of Medicine Council. The motion was unanimously approved.

The following motion to fill Dr. Shanley's seat was then presented:

The Dean's Council of the SOM asks the Academic Affairs Subcommittee of the Board of Directors if, when the seat held by an at-large SOM faculty member becomes vacant, a school-wide call for nominations and school-wide election could be held to fill the seat.

The motion was unanimously approved.

3. A copy of the University of Connecticut Space Management Policy was distributed to the DC. The Space Management Committee is advisory to the Executive Vice President and allocates space to the various Health Center units, including the School of Medicine. Dr. Setlow sits on the committee as the former Chair of SOM Council and has asked to be replaced. It was recommended that his position be filled by a paid SOM faculty member. The following motion was presented:

Dean's Council delegates to the Oversight Committee the responsibility for deciding how this seat should be filled, except that it must be filled by a paid SOM faculty member.

A question was raised as to whether the DC is the appropriate body to develop a method for electing members to these seats. After reviewing the Bylaws, it was decided that the DC is the appropriate committee, and discussion ensued about whether the DC should make the appointment or recommend an election. A question was raised as to whether someone from the OC could be selected to fill this seat. It was explained that while this is allowed, the OC's primary responsibilities are to monitor and audit the process, and that more faculty could be involved in the business of the institution if this was not done.

The following motion was then made:

That the Dean's Council select individuals to serve on the Space Management Committee. The process for identifying those individuals will be nominations from the DC members and a school-wide call for nominations.

The motion was unanimously approved. The nominees will be presented to the DC for review, and a final slate of nominees will be developed. Dr. Koeppen will then contact the nominees to determine their willingness to serve.

4. Dr. Jacob explained that in the past, appointments to the Faculty Standing Committee on Research Misconduct were made by the Executive Vice President in consultation with the School of Medicine and School of Dental Medicine Deans from a list of nominees developed by the Council of either School, dependent upon the vacant seat. Dr. Deckers stressed the importance of this committee and the need for members to possess good judgment, maturity, and equanimity. The original motion included in the agenda recommended that the OC be responsible for proposing nominations to the Faculty Standing Committee on Research Misconduct. In light of the discussion above, this was revised, and a motion was made that the DC recommend nominations to the Executive Vice President. The motion was unanimously approved. Dr. Jacob will circulate to the DC the terms of service for the current members.

5. Dr. Koeppen announced that he received a memorandum from Dr. Jeri Hepworth, Chair of the OC, raising some concerns they have with the Public Health Initiative (PHI). These concerns include the following: (1) how the initiative will operate within the School of Medicine; (2) whether the process used to create the PHI was consistent with the SOM Bylaws; (3) the proposed organizational structure of the PHI, which is not consistent with the most recent organizational chart of the SOM; (4) hiring, reporting structure, and promotional paths for PHI personnel; (5) resource allocation. The OC asked the DC to consider how Councils can and should be involved in present and future decisions regarding the PHI.

Dr. Deckers explained that at a meeting he had with the OC to discuss their responsibilities and how they could most effectively work with him, he suggested that they become involved in the PHI because many people were concerned about how this initiative would impact their domains given our restricted resources. He also noted that some people felt the initiative was not well-defined and were concerned about the creation of a Type II center/signature program in public health and how it would participate in the governance structure of the SOM. He also cautioned that when discussing this initiative, the DC must keep in mind that the President, Provost, Board of Directors, and Board of Trustees all recommended that public health be a part of the University's mission. This led to the President constituting the Center for Public Health and Health Policy as a University-wide initiative. Some hoped this would generate enthusiasm for creation of a School of Public Health, but that has been put on hold and will be looked into again in 3-5 years. He also noted that the Health Center is funding 75 percent of this initiative, and that no new monies have been made available by the State to support it.

There was some discussion regarding the approval process for this initiative, and it was noted that although it is designated as a Type II center, it was never formally approved by the Dean's Advisory Committee, as required by the previous School of Medicine operating guidelines. It was decided to invite Drs. Storey and Ferris to meet with the DC to address some of these concerns.

6. Dr. Gould announced that the Public Issues Council has developed operational guidelines.
7. The next DC meeting will be devoted to discussion of budget issues. Ms. Donatelli will circulate possible dates. Dr. Koeppen also asked the members to forward to him agenda items for discussion at future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Donatelli