

Dean's Council (DC)

May 19, 2008

**Minutes**

Present: Dr. Arnold, Dr. Egan, Dr. Fortinsky, Mr. Gillon, Dr. Gould, Dr. Jacob, Dr. Lalande, Dr. Loew, Dr. Nissen, Dr. Pappano

Excused: Dr. Albertsen, Dr. Deckers, Dr. Koeppen, Dr. Simon

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. In Dr. Koeppen's absence, Dr. Pappano chaired the meeting.

1. The minutes of the April 21, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. Department of Community Medicine and Health Care Review Recommendations

The Dean's Council reviewed their draft recommendations to Dr. Deckers in response to the Department of Community Medicine and Health Care review. At the last Dean's Council meeting, it was noted that some of the review team recommendations, and some of the additional requests made by Dr. Babor, may require clarification, specifically the review team's recommendation that deficiencies in administrative support be addressed, and Dr. Babor's request that the department develop a WHO Collaborating Center for research training in substance abuse, form academic partnerships with State agencies, and build a center for health policy and bioethics. Dr. Jacob was asked to obtain further information. She explained that the administrative support being requested is a part-time (70 percent) Administrative Program Assistant II with an internal title of Grants Administrator. The department currently has 3.5 FTEs. The Dean's Council discussed the possibility of reallocating resources within the institution to meet the needs of the department. Dr. Jacob also explained that, regarding the three initiatives listed above, Dr. Babor is asking the Dean's Council to endorse the development of the initiatives. It was also noted that although the review team did not address Dr. Babor's requests directly in their report, they were included in the department's self-study.

There was also discussion regarding the review team's recommendation that the Dean consider moving the Masters in Public Health Program back to Community Medicine. Some Dean's Council members felt the Dean should be encouraged to also discuss this issue with the Education Council.

The DC's recommendations to Dr. Deckers will be revised and distributed to the members for further review and comment.

3. Proposed Promotion/Tenure Criteria for Collaborative Investigators

Dr. Jacob provided background information on the proposed promotion and tenure criteria for collaborative investigators. She explained that the Oversight Committee (OC) appointed a subcommittee charged with developing promotional guidelines for faculty whose functions are primarily collaborative with multiple groups, whose contributions are essential to the research enterprise, and who have collaborative publications that are an integral part of the research of several different groups and teams, as well as corresponding publications in their own field. These collaborations should be primarily, but not exclusively, at the University of Connecticut. The subcommittee considered three options by which to accomplish this goal: (1) retain the current promotion/tenure criteria; (2) create a separate professional category; or (3) modify the current promotion/tenure criteria to recognize these individuals. Due to the number of professional categories that currently exist, the subcommittee chose option 3. The draft criteria have been shared with department chairs and will be presented at a Faculty Forum in June as a proposed Bylaws revision. In accordance with the Bylaws, all Councils must prepare position papers in advance of the Faculty Forum.

Following discussion, the Dean's Council unanimously agreed that the following position statement will be sent to the Oversight Committee: On May 19, 2008, the Dean's Council reviewed and discussed the proposed promotion and tenure guidelines for collaborative researchers. The Dean's Council does endorse the need for guidelines such as these. However, members of the DC were concerned about one area of the proposed guidelines. In several places, the phrase "several principal investigators on multiple projects" is used. Dean's Council members are concerned that the use of the word "principal" undermines the very effort being made, since in some cases a project may be led by a co-principal investigator or even be one investigator of several on a project grant. Therefore, the Dean's Council suggests that wording of the phrase be changed to "several investigators on multiple projects."

OC will review the statements submitted by each of the Councils. If the document is modified significantly, it will be brought back to DC for further review.

The DC also suggested that Dr. Jacob meet with the other Councils to provide the background information she shared with the DC, which they found extremely helpful in providing a better understanding of the proposal.

4. Appointment of School of Medicine Representative to the University Senate Unification Committee

Dr. Jacob explained that in attempting to unify the faculty governance structures of the Health Center and Storrs campuses, the University Senate has created a Unification Committee chaired by Dr. Anne Hiskes. In Dr. Koeppen's absence, Dr. Jacob was contacted by Dr. Hiskes, who requested representation from the Health Center on the Unification Committee. Dr. Jacob agreed to represent the School of Medicine at the first meeting on Friday, May 23, but she explained to Dr. Hiskes that School of Medicine Bylaws require that requests for School of Medicine representation by another body must be taken to the Dean's Council.

The Dean's Council unanimously agreed that Dr. Jacob should represent the School of Medicine at the first meeting of the Senate Unification Committee to learn about the tasks to be addressed. Dean's Council will then decide at their next meeting what kind of ongoing representation is warranted and how it will be chosen.

5. Space Appeals Committee

It was noted by Dr. Jacob that the School of Medicine Space Policy does not stipulate how long members may serve on the Space Appeals Committee and whether they may serve more than one term. A motion was made and unanimously approved that members of the Space Appeals Committee should have three year terms and that members can serve no more than two consecutive terms. This rule will be added to the Space Policy. Any change in the rule will require review and approval by the DC.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 16, from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Walker Academic Affairs Conference Room, AG-070.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Donatelli