

Dean's Council (DC)

July 20, 2009

Minutes

Present: Dr. Albertsen, Dr. Gould, Dr. Koeppen, Dr. Kuchel, Dr. Laurencin,
Dr. Nissen, Dr. Sanders

Excused: Mr. Gillon, Dr. Lalande, Dr. Simon, Dr. Wolfson

Guests: Dr. Babor, Dr. Hepworth, Dr. Jacob

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m. Dr. Koeppen welcomed Dr. Sanders, who was elected as the clinical department chair representative, replacing Dr. James Egan.

1. The minutes of the June 15, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. The proposed recommendations regarding the Center for Molecular Medicine and the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology reviews were unanimously approved and will now be sent to Dr. Laurencin.
3. Dr. Laurencin joined the meeting to report on his decisions regarding the Department of Traumatology and Emergency Medicine review. He noted that overall, the review was fairly positive. He reported that he had shared the critique areas with Dr. Jacobs, Chairman of the Department, as well as the recommendations of the Dean's Council, and that Dr. Jacobs was very receptive to some of the recommendations brought up in the review, namely that faculty members increase their level of academic activity and that Dr. Jacobs increase his interaction with the Health Center-based faculty. Dr. Laurencin has also recommended reappointment of Dr. Jacobs as Chair. Dr. Laurencin was asked how he plans to follow up on recommendations resulting from reviews. It was suggested, and Dr. Laurencin concurred, that these could be incorporated as part of his yearly reviews of department chairs.

Dr. Babor then joined the meeting, and he and Dr. Laurencin reported on actions they have taken relative to the Department of Community Medicine and Health Care (CMHC) review. Dr. Laurencin explained that he asked for plans from CMHC and the Center for Public Health and Health Policy (CPHHP) on how to move the public health initiative forward. He thought that Dr. Babor's plan, which folds the CPHHP into CMHC, seemed to be the most sound, particularly relating to the educational programs. In addition, it provided a financial advantage in that all of the degree programs would be aligned and working together. The plan also has the support of the President and Provost. Dr. Babor provided background information regarding the public health initiative and the MPH program, noting that although the MPH program

had been moved to the CPHHP, it always remained administratively within the Department of Community Medicine. He also noted that students in the new Ph.D. program recently evaluated their program and identified a number of issues, including the following -- lack of an academic home for the Ph.D. program; their desire for a closer connection to the MPH program and to professors with public health credentials; a desire for co-location of the Ph.D. and MPH programs; need to strengthen the admissions criteria and course requirements; lack of consistent funding for doctoral student graduate assistants. He further noted that the Dean's Council had recommended putting the MPH program back into the Department, but it was decided to combine the MPH and Ph.D. programs for economies of scale. He believes that all of these issues can be dealt with by transferring both the MPH and the doctoral public health program into the Department, and he delineated steps he would take to ensure the issues are addressed. He also reported that combining the programs within the Department has also resulted in accreditation of the Ph.D. program. Finally, Dr. Babor distributed a letter sent from Dr. Laurencin to the Council on Education for Public Health notifying them of changes in the administrative oversight of the Graduate Programs in Public Health, namely that the Program Director now reports on matters of administration and finance to the Vice President for Health Affairs through the Department, and on academic matters to the Dean of the University's Graduate School.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 17, from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Walker Academic Affairs Conference Room, AG-070.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Donatelli