



University of Connecticut
Health Center

Health Affairs Committee

February 1, 2000
Minutes

Attendees: See attached list.

Ms. Leonardi called the meeting to order at 9:19 a.m.

I. Public Comment

- There were no requests for public comment.

II. Introductory Business Items

A. Approval of Minutes (11/9/99)

- The minutes of November 9, 1999 were approved.
- The minutes of January 26, 2000 were deferred to the next meeting.

B. Recognition(s)

- The HAC unanimously approved the following motion: ***“That the Health Affairs Committee formally recognize the efforts of the key personnel responsible for the successful Y2K program, thank them for this effort, have such recognition and thanks spread upon the minutes of the Health Affairs Committee and have such recognition and thanks be publicized within the Health Center community, with a copy sent to each of these employees.”*** The key personnel included: David Aivano, Robert Brandner, Elisa Chase, Thomas Fallon, Chuck Fink, Ashraf Fouad, Robert Murphy, Nick Noyes, Daniel Penney, Neil Sullivan, Nelson Tchakirides, Scott Wetstone, and Lauren Williams. Ms. Williams presented a final report on the status of the Y2K Program.

III. Consents

A. Institutional

- Contracts > \$500,000 – None.

B. Specific to the UCHS including JCC approved action items and UCHC Finance Corporation

- JDH PI Plan – The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees: ***“That the Board of Trustees approve the attached John Dempsey Hospital Performance Improvement Plan, Revisions 7/99.”***
- JDH Bylaws Changes - The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees: ***“That the Board of Trustees approve the attached John Dempsey Hospital Medical Staff Bylaws Revisions 11/99.”***

- Medical Staff Appointments – The HAC unanimously approved (Dr. Jacobs recused himself) the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees: ***“That the Board of Trustees approve the attached John Dempsey Hospital Medical Staff Roster (01/13/2000)”***
- Clinical Service Chief Appointment-Surgery – The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees: ***“That the Board of Trustees approve the nomination of Robert Kozol, M.D. as Clinical Service Chief for the Department of Surgery as per the JDH Medical Staff Bylaws.”***
- Transfer of Funds of the UCHC Finance Corporation to Purchase a Pharmacy Information System – HAC members raised several questions concerning this action and obtained the following responses: a) This item was in the planned 6/99 budget and does not represent a new or unanticipated expense; b) This is a clinical (rather than administrative) management system; c) Half of the \$630,000 expense will be paid for by the Correctional Managed Health Care Program. The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees: ***“That the Board of Trustees authorize the John Dempsey Hospital to contract with the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation to purchase a pharmacy information system (PharmNet Millennium which includes the hardware, software, and implementation fees) and further authorizes the John Dempsey Hospital to transfer up to \$630,000 to purchase said equipment.”***

C. Specific to Schools

- Personnel: Sabbaticals – The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees: ***“That the Board of Trustees approve the sabbatic leave at half pay for Tsipouras, Petros, Professor, Pediatrics for the period January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000.”***
- Student Professional Fee Increase – The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees: ***“That the Board of Trustees approve the following changes in fees starting July 1, 2000: a) an increase in the Professional Schools fee from \$3,900 in 2000/2001 to \$4050, b) an increase in the School of Medicine Application fee from \$60 in 2000/2001 to \$75, c) a new Continuous Registration fee of \$65 for reinstatement plus \$6/weekday that the registration is late, up to a maximum total fee of \$125, and d) an increase in the School of Medicine Post Baccalaureate Program Application fee from \$60 in 2000/2001 to \$75.”***
- SODM Council Bylaws Changes – The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees: ***“That the Board of Trustees approve the attached revisions to the ‘Organization of the School of Dental Medicine Council’ (to be renamed ‘Constitution and Bylaws of the School of Dental Medicine Council’) as revised and approved by the faculty on 10/18/99.”***

IV. Information Items

A. Regularly Recurring Items - (not discussed but described in the written materials distributed to the HAC)

- Contracts > \$5000
- Contracts \$3000-\$5000 (tri-annually)
- JCC Minutes (10/5/99 and 1/4/00)
- Personnel actions

B. Policy Changes

- OJE Research Supplementation – a presentation was made by Dr. Berlin regarding the history of OJE-based supplementation of salary and recent changes to this policy.
- Salary Support on Grants – a presentation was made by Dr. Berlin regarding the following recent policy changes: 1) All new RO1 proposals must show percent salary equal to percent effort. 2) Competitive renewals must adjust requested salary support toward the equalization of percent effort and salary as NIH restrictions will allow.
- Consulting Policy – (not discussed but described in the written materials distributed to the HAC)

C. Other Items - (not discussed but described in the written materials distributed to the HAC)

- Signatory authority –
- OHCA Report on Graduate Medical Education
- Report on Layoffs
- JDH-Chief of Staff appointment
- Indemnification of the World Health Organization
- Peak Experience Confidentiality Agreement
- Beacon articles
- Compass

V. Education

- Discovery Series – a presentation made by Mr. Daddario describing this free monthly (September – June), educational forum for the lay public. Average attendance for these two-hour presentations is 180-260. There have been ~2,500 different participants since the series began in 1996. As a result of great interest shown in the topic on Complementary Medicine, a new clinical service was initiated.
- Mini-medical School – a presentation was made by Dr. Koeppen describing this 18-hour educational series targeted to make the public better consumers of health care by providing both basic medical and clinical sciences perspective on current health issues. This series has been offered 9 times since 1992 with ~1,500 participants
- Continuing Medical Education – Ms. Leonardi and Mr. Gelfenbien requested more information concerning the scope of the educational programs offered to health professional in the community.

VI. Main Business Items

A. Chair's Remarks and Reports (C. Leonardi)

1. Finance Subcommittee/CGC Finance and Funds Flow Committee – Ms. Leonardi will be attending this subcommittee as observer and extended an invitation to other HAC members to attend as well. Those interested in attending should contact Dr. Wetstone.

B. Deans' Remarks and Reports

1. School of Medicine (P. Deckers)
 - Status of Grants and Awards – The year to date reports show that the number of awards (514) and funds awarded (\$36,993,707) are significantly higher than for the same period last year (an increase of 28 awards and \$10,097,763 respectively). This is thought to be a direct result of the Research Strategic Plan and the opening of the Academic Research Building last year.
 - ProHealth Agreement – The educational objectives of this agreement are being successfully addressed and with the maturation of this domain of the contract, funds are available to be shifted towards the research domain. We have gained significant insight in how the private, community-based network and the public academic Health Center can collaborate on research projects. As a direct result of the lessons learned, the research domain has been restructured (increased staffing and centralization of the management structures). The efficacy of this new research model will be monitored closely.
 - OHCA – OHCA has transmitted a set of interrogatories concerning whether changes in certain clinical services require approved Certificates of Need. An internal team will be convened to develop the responses to OCHA questions.
2. School of Dental Medicine (P. Robinson)
 - Match Day – 70-80% of SODM graduates matriculate in residency/fellowship position in contrast to a 20% national average. Twenty-five of 34 SODM graduates seeking such programs were matched with their first choice of program with all 34 being placed in a residency program.

C. Clinical Operations Report (S. Strongwater)

1. JDH –
 - February 1 is the 25th anniversary of the hospital. Activities will be held to mark this event.
 - The negative publicity concerning the short and long term viability of the hospital appears to have begun to impact our ability to recruit staff and patients and has also contributed to a higher than normal turn-over of staff. A campaign has begun, using both print media and radio ads, to assure patients and staff that JDH continues to maintain the highest quality care. Letters have been sent to all physicians that are currently credentialed with JDH or who have admitted a patient here. A UCHC team is meeting with the Hartford Courant to discuss whether their reporting on UCHC issues has been balanced.

- The census of the hospital has varied dramatically over the past 6 weeks making staffing difficult.
2. UConn Medical Group
- Implementation of The Huntington Group recommendations is underway. A series of indicators tracking progress was distributed. In particular, Medicare claims more than one year old have declined, outstanding Medicare accounts receivable days have declined as have late charges. On site insurance collections and co-payment collections have improved.
 - A series of additional operational improvements were presented including the implementation of a computerized appointments reminder system, direct booking from primary care to other modules, and staffing changes to reduce expenses.
 - Several new programs were announced including the initiation of an integrative/complementary medicine, a new laser hair removal system in dermatology, use of a neocontrol chair for female incontinence and somnoplasty (elimination of snoring).

D. CFO's Remarks and Reports (L. Aronson)

1. Introduction of Daniel Upton as Interim Chief Financial Officer
2. Year-to-date variance from the June balanced budget is ~\$11 million. This is consistent with the prediction of a \$21 million dollar variance for year end (interventions not included.)
3. JDH should not report charges to UMG as a 'subsidy' if value is being received in return. This actually represents a true 'expense' for services rendered. If such value is not being received, the transaction should not take place.
4. Standardized methods for reporting on financials and for describing both the interventions planned to address the deficit and the schedule and progress of these interventions is being finalized. When they are complete a special meeting will be held of the HAC to discuss them.

E. Other Business

The Health Affairs Committee voted to enter into Executive Session at 10:15 am. to discuss matters that would result in the disclosure of public records described in Sec. 1-210 (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Chairman noted that on the advice of counsel only staff members whose presence was necessary to provide their opinion would be permitted to attend Executive Session.

Trustees present were: Mr. Gelfenbien, Ms. Leonardi, Dr. Jacobs, Ms. Benedict, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Abromaitis. Staff present were: Ms. Aronson, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Callahan, Dr. Deckers, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Hart, Dr. Robinson, Mr. Rogoz, Ms. Van Stolk, Mr. Kleinman, Dr. Strongwater, Dr. Orpirhory, Dr. Wollman, Dr. Wetstone, Ms. Turling

HAC left Executive Session at 11:16 am.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Deckers, M.D.

Attendees

James Abromaitis, Lori Aronson, Phillip Austin, Alyssa Benedict, Dr. Richard Berlin, Thomas Callahan, Bruce Carlson, Thomas Cawley, Dr. Peter Deckers, Rick Daddario, Joseph Dubin, Robert Frahm, Dr. Richard Garibaldi, Roger Gelfeinbien, Gregory Hart, Dr. Lenworth Jacobs, William Kleinman, Dr. Bruce Koeppen, Claire Leonardi, Michael Martinez, Jean Morningstar, Dr. Gloria Opirhory, Howard Peterson, Dr. Peter Robinson, Brian Rogoz, Dr. Steven Strongwater, Daniel Upton, Emmy van Stolk, James Walter, Dr. Scott Wetstone, Lauren Williams, Dr. Harry Wollman and Deborah Turling

Documents Distributed During the Meeting

- a) Errata Sheet
- b) Special Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2000
- c) Student Professional Fee Increase, Pages 1 & 2
- d) Signatory Authority Page for Dr. Deckers
- e) Current Peak Experience Confidentiality Agreement
- f) January 2000 Grants and Awards Report
- g) OJE History and Policy
- h) CFO Report including:
 - Daniel L. Upton's CV
 - December 1999 Variances
 - UCHC Balance Sheet of 12/31/99
 - UCHC Schedule of Current Funds Revenues and Expenditures – Comparison of Budget to Actual-December 1999
- i) JDH Performance Measures
- j) JDH and UMG Financial Sheets
- k) Information Sheet entitled *List and Purposes of the Information Items*