



University of Connecticut
Health Center

Health Affairs Committee

July 10, 2001
Minutes

Ms. Leonardi called the meeting to order at 8:26 a.m.

- I. Public Comment - None.
- II. Introductory Business Items
 - A. Approval of Minutes – March 13, 2001
 - The minutes of March 20, 2001 were approved unanimously.
 - B. Recognition(s) – None.
- III. Consents
 - A. Institutional
 - Contracts > \$500,000 – None.
 - B. Specific to the Clinical Programs and UCHC Finance Corporation
 - The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees – **That the Board of Trustees authorize the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance corporation, on behalf of the UConn Medical Group, to exercise the first of two options to extend the existing lease of 1,512 square feet for additional one year periods.**
 - The following resolution was added to the agenda and the HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees – **That the Board of Trustees authorize a lease for a term of fifteen (15) years commencing when the landlord evidences to tenant with reasonable satisfaction that the Kaiser lease is terminated (option to terminate at the seventh year, option to purchase at the sixth year) with Blackthorn Holdings, LLC, a Connecticut limited liability company, in order to secure the use of facilities at 65 Kane St., West Hartford, CT, for the operation of UConn Health Partners.**
 - C. Specific to Schools
 - The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees – **That the Board of Trustees approves the School of Medicine recommendations for tenure, promotion, appointment and reappointments.**
 - The following resolution was added to the agenda and the HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees – **That the Board of Trustees approves the School of Medicine recommendations for sabbatics.**

IV. Informational Items

- Policy for In Residence Faculty Appointments, Reappointments and Notification of Non-Reappointments was noted.

V. Education –

- Best Practices in Dental Education (P. Robinson)
 - The American Dental Education Association requested all US and Canadian dental schools submit three nominees that they considered “Best Practices”. Fifty Best Practices were selected and published as “Best Practices in Dental Education”. All three submissions from UConn Dental School were selected: Dental Service for Children and Underserved under the category of Community Outreach; Developing Dental Scholars under the category of Faculty Recruitment, Development and Retention; and Integration through Research, Curriculum and Clinical Programs under the category of Relations with the Academic Health Center and Parent University.
- A discussion took place concerning the Dental school's role in providing for the pediatric Medicaid population. While the School is the chief provider of such services in the state, a substantial number of children are not served. This is primarily due to under funding of the Medicaid program by the State and has resulted in a class action lawsuit against the State. The payment rate is sufficiently low that most private dentists won't accept these children. Until such as the class action suit reaches settlement, it is unlikely substantially more funds will be allocated. DSS is working with the Dental School in developing pilot programs for the delivery of this unmet need.
- Chairman Gelfenbien suggested educating Connecticut regarding the Dental School's successes and tying this to Capital Campaign or through donors.

VI. Main Business Items

A. Chair's Remarks and Reports – None.

B. Deans' Remarks and Reports

- School of Medicine
 - Diversity – of 76 incoming medical students, 17 are under-represented minorities; Francine Dew and Diversity Committee were applauded for their efforts regarding public forums and collecting comments on our strengths and weaknesses. They are developing a UCHC diversity plan that will be presented to the BoT later this year.
 - Signature Programs – Musculoskeletal Program – 2 final candidates, Hem/Onc – 1 candidate, Cardiology – 2 candidates.
 - Research efforts are expanding in all Signature Programs but mainly in Cancer, i.e. molecular profiling of cancers, NIH SPORE Grant, collecting and analyzing tumor tissue bank;
 - The Committee raised the question on whether there were enough computer resources at UCHC to support the needs of the strategic programs. Dr. Berlin believes we have sufficient computer power at this stage in part due to the efforts of Dr. Leslie Loew in building his Virtual Cell facility funded by grants. Collaborations

with Storrs are also possible. A bigger need may be for computational biologists (people, not computers) which were requested in the second five-year research strategic plan. These type of faculty are rare and in high demand. In addition to collaboration with Storrs, access to commercial company computers was suggested by Mr. Gelfenbien. Such collaborations will require refinement of our technology transfer and conflict of interest policies. Public/private sector “incubators” and intellectual property ownership are also a current issue at Storrs as well. Dr. Berlin will continue to work with Dr. Hart to facilitate Storrs-Health Center collaboration and Mr. Carlson will review the technology transfer policies and report back to the Board of Trustees.

- Guidelines for the Operation of the School of Medicine (R. Tennen)
 - Revisions to the 1990 Guidelines were proposed to address ongoing problems:
 - Non-clinical essential teaching faculty have no professional category or evaluation criteria
 - Clinical faculty serving an essential service function have no professional category or evaluation criteria
 - The “nine-year rule”, i.e. promotion or termination within nine years of appointment has become increasingly burdensome in the context of the ever-changing health care delivery system and threatens the stability of in-residence positions deemed critical to the Health Center and SoM missions.
 - Certain criteria have proven difficult to apply to faculty candidates up for promotion
 - Most in-residence faculty only receive annual appointments after promotion to senior rank
 - The lengthy documentation process jeopardizes recruitment of highly qualified nominees
 - SAPC’s role should be to evaluate the appropriateness of promotion to senior rank and not that of assignment to a department as occurs with secondary appointments and promotions
 - A correction was made to the matrix on page 23 under the Issue of “Duration of senior appointments for n-residence faculty”: In the 3rd column the initial appoints should be changed from “2-3 years for associate professor; 3-5 years for professor” to “3 years for associate professor; 5 years for professor”

The HAC unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Trustees – **That the Board of Trustees add or delete language or otherwise amend the following sections of the Guidelines for the Operation of the School of Medicine as indicated in the attached pages - Article I-Guidelines.**

VI. Clinical Operations Report (J. Lattanzio and E. Grab)

- JDH – the operations report was discussed
 - Performance improvement plans are under development
 - More aggressive recruiting is needed to offset workforce shortages.
 - Renovations are planned for OR9 and Med4
 - Year to date admissions are 7,513; budgeted admissions were 7,510.

- General OB services are being re-introduced at UCHC with 3 UHP OB/GYN physicians, a new OB being hired for 7/27 and a 5th being recruited.
- Several new faculty are starting next month including in primary care, neurosurgery, Mose surgery, neurology, uro-gynecology and clinical radiology.
- Integration of UConn Health Partners billing systems is making progress
- The Committee requested that management report on the UHP performance separately from UMG and indicate variances from the original budget plan for UHP.

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

- Monthly Report May 31, 2001
 - May closed with an unfavorable variance of \$403,622 (87.8%). Excess of revenues over expenses for the month is \$55,875 compared to a budgeted excess of \$459,497. This was primarily due to certain April expenses that were moved into the May reporting period.
 - The results for the YTD period ending May 31, 2001 for FY01 are favorable to the budget allocation by ~\$1.6 million and based upon those outcomes and current trends, management anticipates that the fiscal year will meet the budgeted forecast of an excess of \$170,000 after factoring in all state appropriations. This will be ~ \$7.3 million favorable to last fiscal year.
 - Mr. Gelfenbien requested a tighter matching of budget plan to the actual expenses in order to better evaluate the variances.

VII. Other Business

- PriceWaterhouseCoopers report – the final report will be prepared in the end of July (for the quarter ending in March) and will be forward to the Committee. The UCHC responses to the initial PwC recommendations checklist will also be sent to the Committee later in the month.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Deckers, M.D.

Attendees

N. Adams, P. Austin, R. Berlin, B. Blechner, B. Carlson, G. Cote, P. Davern, P. Deckers, R. Garibaldi, R. Gelfenbien, E. Grab, L. Jacobs, W. Kleinman, J. Lattanzio, C. Leonardi, J. Mazzone, P. McManus, P. Robinson, R. Simon, H. Tennen, D. Turling, D. Upton, J. Walter, S. Wetstone and S. Whetstone

Documents Distributed During the Meeting

Resolution for lease agreement for 65 Kane St

Actions for Approval – Sabbatics

Actions for Information – Personnel List

Tentative Health Affairs Committee meeting dates for September 2001-June 2002

Education – Best Practices - Dental