

REVISED

Academic Affairs Subcommittee of the Board of Directors

November 4, 2002

Minutes

Attendees: N. Adams, R. Berlin, A. Cooper, D. Friend, J. Goldberg, B. Koeppen, C. Leonardi, M. MacNeil, G. Maxwell, M. Meacham, F. Nichols, P. Robinson, J. Rowe, J. Shanley, B. Carlson, J. Comerford, E. Grab, A. Hand, H. Hansen, W. Kleinman, C. Niekrash, K. Sanford, S. Strongwater, D. Upton, S. Wetstone, S. Whetstone, L. White

Mr. Cooper called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. Public Comment

None.

2. Business Items

a. Emeritus Faculty Appointments

The Academic Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Directors: **That the Board of Directors amend the process by which emeritus status is conferred, and allow conferral prior to retirement, to become effective on the date of retirement.**

Although unanimously approved, there was discussion concerning the rights and privileges of emeritus faculty. It was agreed that Dr. Koeppen will present a statement outlining these rights and privileges at the February 3, 2003 meeting of the Academic Affairs Subcommittee. It was suggested that an agreement signed by the faculty member and Dean, which explicitly states such rights and privileges, be drawn up prior to conferring emeritus status.

b. Ten Year History of Applicant and Matriculant Data

Applicant and matriculant data for the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine was presented. The School of Medicine continues to see a reduction in the number of applicants. However, this is expected to bottom out because the number of students applying for the MCAT is increasing. In fact, to date, applications to the School of Medicine for the 2003-2004 academic year total 1922, with 311 Connecticut residents applying. This number is expected to increase by the end of the current admission cycle. It was also noted that there continues to be a steady decline of men applying to medical schools.

c. Review of School of Medicine LCME Self-Study

The Institutional Self-Study Report prepared for the upcoming accreditation visit was presented and discussed. The Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME) is the accrediting body for schools of medicine. It is comprised of constituents from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the American Medical Association and is responsible for accrediting all medical schools in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. Examples of findings from various medical school site visits from the past five years were presented. During the site visit, the team will develop a list of institutional strengths, areas in which the school is not in compliance with accreditation standards, and areas they feel are in transition. The last survey was conducted in 1996. The findings from that site visit were briefly reviewed, and updates on each of the concerns were provided.

The Task Force to prepare for the upcoming site visit was formed in January 2002. Ten subcommittees were formed and submitted their reports in July. The final Task Force Report was approved in October and will be sent to the team members this week.

A prioritized listing of the self-study findings was distributed. One listed concern stated, "The governance of the School has diverged from what is articulated in the School's 'by-laws.' This has created confusion around decision-making and has resulted in a strong sense of disenfranchisement felt by many department chairs and faculty." There was extensive discussion concerning the meaning of the term "governance." While the Board of Directors/Board of Trustees is the governing body of the institution, it was explained that in this context, "governance" pertained to the day-to-day decision-making that is done below the level of the Board. The meaning of the term will be clarified before the report is distributed to the survey team members.

It was further noted that the operating guidelines of the School of Medicine are outdated and will be revised. It was suggested that the Board of Directors actively participate in that process. The guidelines should reflect the new governance structure and should clearly delineate issues that the Board has delegated to the faculty. It was also suggested to have current policies presented to and/or recertified by the Board.

Lack of educational space, which was noted as a concern in the 1996 site visit, appears again as a concern in the self-study. Although the primary teaching space has been renovated, it is still insufficient to meet all the needs of the educational programs. A question was raised regarding status of the bond funds and the 21st Century UConn funds. In response to a question regarding development of a prioritized list of needs, it was noted that this process is ongoing. A faculty committee is developing such a list on the educational side. A separate committee, working with Mr. Carlson, will be making a recommendation to the Subcommittee at its February meeting of the institutional priorities related to the 21st Century funds.

Finally, it was noted that the medical students conducted their own self-study as part of the review process. Overall, they feel they are receiving an excellent education, and there are no concerns that have a major negative impact on their educational experience. They also noted the close and warm interaction they have with faculty and administration.

Dr. Koeppen indicated that he does not see any major problems that could negatively impact the accreditation of the school and believes the School of Medicine will be reaccredited for eight years.

3. Consents

a. School of Medicine/School of Dental Medicine - Appointments, Promotions, Reappointments, Sabbatics, and Emeritus Appointments

The Academic Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Directors: **That the Board of Directors approve the School of Medicine/School of Dental Medicine recommendations for tenure, promotion, appointment, reappointment, sabbatic leave, and emeritus appointments.**

b. Endowed Chairs - Annual Reports

The Annual Reports for the Endowed Chairs in Infectious Diseases/AIDS Research, Transfusion Medicine, and Human Genetics were presented as informational items only. There was no discussion. They will be forwarded to the Board of Directors for information and the Board of Trustees for approval.

c. Endowed Chairs - Appointments

The Academic Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Directors: **That the Board of Directors approve the appointment of Richard H. Fortinsky, Ph.D. to the Physicians Health Services Chair in Geriatrics and Gerontology commencing December 10, 2002. Dr. Fortinsky was appointed Associate Professor of Medicine on August 7, 1998.**

Although the Academic Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved this recommendation, they asked that information regarding extramural funding be provided on any future chair holder appointments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce M. Koeppen, M.D., Ph.D.