

Academic Affairs Subcommittee
of the Board of Directors

May 2, 2005

Minutes

Attendees: G. Burrow, P. Deckers, J. Goldberg, L. Jacobs, B. Koeppen, C. Leonardi, M. MacNeil, G. Maxwell, M. Mina, P. Robinson, P. Setlow, L. Spangberg, B. Carlson, J. Comerford, S. Wetstone, J. Grasso, T. Manger, A. Pappano, L. White, B. White, R. Zeff

Dr. Burrow called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. Public Comment

None.

2. The minutes of the February 7, 2005 meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Update Report on the Center for Public Health and Health Policy

Drs. Storey and Ferris presented an update on the activities of the Center for Public Health and Health Policy. The Academic Program Development Task Force has developed a program in public health with three tracks. The first track, Social and Behavioral Health, will be presented to the Graduate Executive Committee in June 2005. Approximately 70 faculty have expressed an interest in participating in this track. The other two tracks will roll out in January and June of next year. Four deans from public health schools will visit the University on June 22 and 23 to advise whether it is feasible to create a school of public health. If such a school is created, where it would reside and reporting relationships would need to be decided. A suggestion was made to look at the possibility of integrating some Storrs initiatives, such as homeland security, with the public health initiative. It was also explained that the budget for this initiative is a shared relationship with Storrs.

4. School of Dental Medicine Attrition Rates

In response to a recommendation made by the Board of Directors last spring, Dr. Spangberg presented a plan to reduce the School of Dental Medicine's attrition rate for first year students while preserving the structure and integrity of the first year program. The plan, which was developed with input from the basic science faculty and was recently approved by the Dental Council, includes the following:

- (1) establishment of an orientation course to prepare students for the curriculum;
- (2) improvement in the BMS-I syllabus material;
- (3) implementation of a mentorship program;
- (4) increasing dental faculty participation in the BMS-I curriculum;
- (5) having BMS course directors provide annual reports to Dental Council; and
- (6) making changes in some preclinical course schedules to reduce demands on student time.

Dr. Spangberg explained that other issues had been discussed, including establishment of a pass/fail level. However, some felt that setting such a level would infringe on the prerogative of the faculty to set pass/fail levels in a particular course. Dr. Spangberg further noted that dental students perform very well in the National Board Examination given at the end of the second year, and that dental graduates have recommended that the curriculum in basic medical science not be changed. However, the introductory course will better prepare students for this curriculum.

5. Results of Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Graduation Questionnaire, Class of 2004

Dr. Koeppen presented the results of the AAMC Graduation Questionnaire, which is administered electronically and provides school specific information as well as national data. The questionnaire is completed by students in April of their final year. He highlighted some aspects of the questionnaire and summarized what actions will be taken to enhance the areas where students feel inadequately trained. He noted that overwhelmingly, UConn students are satisfied with their educational experience. Results under the mistreatment section were noted. Dr. Koeppen explained that these numbers have vastly improved from several years ago and that such incidents mostly occur in the third year by clinical faculty at our affiliated institutions. He further explained that the data from this questionnaire is shared every year with the second year students. They are informed about the School's policy on mistreatment and that such behavior is not tolerated, and are urged to report any incidents. The Subcommittee expressed an interest in having this information presented on an annual basis, but asked that the data and our actions be summarized. It was also suggested that the results, particularly the data on mistreatment, be shared with the faculty. The Subcommittee also requested similar data from dental graduates.

6. Discussion Regarding Need for/Date of Subcommittee Meeting in August/September 2005 and Schedule of Meetings for 2005/2006

There will be no Subcommittee meeting in August/September 2005. Consent items will be dealt with via conference call. The Subcommittee will meet on the following dates: November 7, 2005, February 6, 2006, May 1, 2006. All meetings will be held from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

7. School of Medicine/School of Dental Medicine - Appointments, Promotions, Tenure, Reappointments, Emeritus Appointments, Sabbatic Leaves

The recommendations for School of Medicine/School of Dental Medicine appointments, promotions, tenure, reappointments, emeritus appointments and sabbatic leaves were unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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