

Academic Affairs Subcommittee
of the Board of Directors

May 5, 2003

Minutes

Attendees: N. Adams, R. Berlin, A. Cooper, B. Koeppen, C. Leonardi, M. MacNeil, G. Maxwell, F. Nichols, P. Robinson, J. Rowe, C. Trummel, B. Carlson, J. Comerford, M. Jacob, J. Mazzone, R. Simon, S. Wetstone, S. Whetstone, L. White

Mr. Cooper called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Public Comment

None.

2. The minutes of the February 3, 2003 meeting were unanimously approved.

3. School of Dental Medicine Graduating Class

Dr. Robinson reported that the School of Dental Medicine Class of 2003 ranked number 1 on Part II of the National Board Dental Exam and number 2 on Part I, with no failures. In addition, the Class of 2004 ranked third in Part I of the Boards. He complimented the faculty and students on this accomplishment. He believes this success is due to the basic science curriculum which the students are required to take, which is three times the number of hours than the average dental school. He also noted that we recruit some of the very best students. Dr. Trummel expressed his pleasure in this achievement, but also noted concern about the students' performance in operative dentistry and prosthetics and believes the students are capable of doing better. He believes the faculty and administration must take a hard look at the disparity of performance according to discipline and take the necessary steps to bring up these two areas. A question was asked about the medical students' performance on the Medical Boards. It was noted that the National Board (USMLE) in medicine is much more rigorous and that our students are almost a standard deviation above the national mean. Also, the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) does not provide school rankings. Dr. Robinson also noted that the dental class recently took the Northeast Regional Clinical Board. The failure rate on this exam is an average of 40 percent nationally; the School of Dental Medicine has had a 20-25 percent failure rate historically. However, it appears that there were no failures on the clinical portion of the exam for the Class of 2003.

4. Report of the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)

The draft LCME report on the School of Medicine accreditation was received several weeks ago for correction of factual error. We should receive the final report in July.

5. Commencement 2003

Commencement will be held on May 19 at 3:00 p.m. Board members who wish to participate will receive an invitation to a pre-Commencement reception, at which time they will receive instructions. Biosketches of the Commencement speaker, Honorary Degree recipient, University Medal recipient, and Board of Director's Faculty Recognition Award recipient were provided. This is the first time the Board of Directors Faculty Recognition Award will be conferred.

6. AAMC Review of Clinical Skills Program

Dr. Koeppen provided background information on the Clinical Skills Assessment Program, which was started 16 years ago. The program is no longer limited to supporting only the curriculum at UConn, but is also provided to a number of external organizations, such as the Connecticut State Medical Society in retraining of physicians who have been sanctioned for various reasons, Yale Medical School, and Yale and Quinnipiac University PA programs. The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) is conducting a national survey on how medical schools teach and assess the clinical skills of students. Dr. Eugene Corbett spent a day here reviewing our program and was effusive in his assessment. Dr. Koeppen further noted that beginning in June 2004, a national clinical skills examination will be administered as a requirement for licensure.

7. Process Improvements

Ms. Leonardi asked each of the subcommittees to reflect on how they have functioned and whether there are things that could be done to improve the process. One suggestion was to provide the Subcommittee with an inventory of collaborative efforts with the Storrs campus (i.e. joint grants, joint educational programs, Health Center students doing research at Storrs and vice versa, number of papers published per year that have authors from both campuses, etc.). Some current collaborative efforts were briefly mentioned, but it was decided to discuss this in more detail at a future meeting.

8. 21st Century UConn

Mr. Carlson provided a brief update on the retreat being planned for Board members. Mr. David Blumenthal, who has studied where academic health centers are and where they are going, has been invited as the dinner guest and to conduct a round table discussion with the Board. A date has not yet been set, but the retreat will probably be held some time in late October. A suggestion was made to also consider inviting Mr. John Porter, who chairs an IOM Commission which is looking at academic health centers, and/or Mr. Larry Lewin of the Lewin Group, who has served on both groups. Faculty who are members of the Subcommittees will be invited to attend the retreat.

Mr. Carlson and Ms. Whetstone provided a brief update on 21st Century UConn. A full presentation of some of the projects, such as the Signature Programs, will be made at the September Board meeting. When asked what some of the projects are, it was noted that there has been a great deal of discussion regarding educational space and the immediate and long-term needs. Dr. Koeppen briefly noted that the plan is to recapture space on the main floor when the new research building is complete. This space will be used for educational programs. The two auditoria will be renovated. Another plan is to take the entire ground floor and convert it into a student center which would have 24 hour study space, a common admissions area, would allow enhancement of the bookstore and the student lounge space, and would hopefully provide fitness facilities. Offices for the Dean of Student Affairs and the Health Career Opportunity Program would also be located in this space. However, these changes will probably not occur until 2008. A floor plan detailing this information will be provided.

Mr. Carlson was asked to provide an update on discussions regarding the School of Public Health. The Task Force has reviewed the MPH program at the Health Center and is now looking at the possibility of establishing a public health institute at the Health Center in collaboration with Storrs. This could lead to discussions regarding the creation of a School of Public Health, but these discussions are in the very early phase. The work done by the Task Force on the issue of establishing an institute will be brought to the Academic Affairs Subcommittee.

9. Performance Measures

Each Subcommittee was asked to develop a list of performance measures which would be provided to the Board on a regular basis and would show whether or not we are meeting our goals in the various domains. A proposed list of statistics and data in the areas of education and research was presented for comments and suggestions. It was thought that having similar data available from other medical schools would be helpful. It was also suggested to add the following to the list: faculty diversity; amount of research dollars per faculty member; F&A per square foot by department; demographics on faculty broken out by rank, etc; NIH ranking; US News & World Report ranking.

10. Setting of 2004 Meeting Schedule

A proposed schedule of meetings for the Board of Directors and the Academic Affairs Subcommittee was provided. It has been proposed to continue holding meetings of the Academic Affairs Subcommittee on the first Monday of the month preceding the Board meeting. However, one member has indicated that Mondays are problematic. Ms. Leonardi will discuss this with him. It was also decided to poll members on their availability for the August 4 meeting. Depending upon the response, the meeting may be moved to another day or to September.

11. Delegated Authority

The Academic Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Directors: **That the Academic Affairs Subcommittee of the Board of Directors assume authority for final action on:**

1. **Faculty appointments**
2. **Awarding of academic tenure**
3. **Faculty promotions**
4. **Approval of sabbatical leaves**
5. **Conferring emeritus status to retiring faculty**

All other actions of the Subcommittee shall be forwarded as recommendations to the full Board for final action at that level.

12. Consents

a. School of Medicine - Appointments, Promotions, Tenure, Emeritus Appointments, and Sabbatics

The Academic Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the following recommendation to the Board of Directors: **That the Board of Directors approve the attached School of Medicine recommendations for appointments, promotions, tenure, emeritus appointments, and sabbatics.**

Dr. Koeppen distributed a memo from Dr. Robinson requesting an emeritus appointment for Dr. Joseph Grasso, which was unanimously approved.

Executive Session was entered into at 10:20 a.m.

Item 1 - Issues related to collective bargaining.

Attendees: N. Adams, R. Berlin, A. Cooper, B. Koeppen, C. Leonardi, M. MacNeil, G. Maxwell, F. Nichols, P. Robinson, J. Rowe, C. Trummel, J. Comerford, K. Duffy-Wallace, J. Mazzone, S. Wetstone

Executive Session concluded at 10:45 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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