

Academic Affairs Subcommittee of the
Board of Directors

August 3, 2009

Minutes

Attendees: Mr. Droney, Dr. Galvin, Dr. Goldberg, Dr. Jacobs, Dr. Klobutcher,
Dr. Koeppen, Dr. Kosowicz, Dr. Laurencin, Dr. MacNeil, Dr. McNally,
Dr. Mina, Dr. Nichols, Dr. Wolfson

Dr. Jacobs called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He welcomed the new members to the Subcommittee.

Dr. Jacobs announced that Dr. Laurencin has been cited by the President of the United States for his leadership in academic affairs by receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring. Dr. Laurencin said he was very humbled and honored to receive the award, and he expressed his gratitude for having the privilege to mentor many outstanding students over the years.

1. Public Comment

None.

2. Approval of February 2, 2009 Minutes

The minutes of the February 2, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Graduate Medical Education Annual Report

Dr. Nissen, Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education (GME), presented an overview of the accomplishments during the past academic year and future directions of the GME Office and graduate medical education programs sponsored by the institution. The Health Center sponsors 43 programs, 15 of which are core programs, and 28 fellowship programs, for a total of 570 residents and fellows. We received a four year institutional accreditation in December 2008. We received three citations this past cycle on the timing of internal reviews, institutional responsibility for resident call rooms, and membership of the GME Committee. All citations were resolved as of June 2009. Accomplishments of the GME office and programs during the past year include the following: enhanced communication with program directors; duty hour compliance (to date, none of our programs have received a duty hour citation, but the Institute of Medicine recently released stricter duty hour

recommendations); new membership on the GME Committee (every core program director must sit on the committee every other year and fellowship directors every 2-3 years); eight internal reviews were conducted, most of which had continued accreditation; ten RRC visits were hosted, and all of the programs did quite well; three new program applications were received, and three programs have applied for this upcoming year; seven new program directors were appointed; two programs were approved for an increase in complement; several policies were updated; the 15 percent Dean's tax on hospitals was approved; and resident salaries were increased. The GME Office also addressed several issues of concern related to resident performance and behavior. When questioned about these issues, Dr. Nissen explained that although the number of residents involved is higher than what we normally see at our institution, it is comparable to what is seen nationally. She further explained that unless the problem is egregious, the goal is to help the individual successfully complete the program. However, there is very little tolerance for egregious behavior. She then presented the future directions of the GME Office and programs, which include the following: patient safety and quality improvement; faculty development; institutional compliance with the ACGME Phase 3 Outcome Project; and hosting 18 RRC visits.

4. Update - Preparation for LCME Accreditation of the School of Medicine

In Dr. Casey Jacob's absence, Dr. Koeppen provided an update on the self-study process which is underway in preparation for the School of Medicine's site visit scheduled on January 24-27, 2010. The accrediting body for medical schools is the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, which has representation from the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges. A Task Force has been appointed to oversee the self-study process. This group also has responsibility for preparation of the final self-study report. He stressed the need to conduct a very open and honest self-study process which exposes the School's strengths and weaknesses and to implement plans to address our weaknesses prior to the site visit. A database was developed and stored on Blackboard. The Task Force was divided into several subcommittees with a diverse membership of about 130 faculty, students, and administrators. He explained that there are 119 standards we must meet in the following areas -- institutional setting, educational program leading to the MD degree, medical students, faculty, and educational resources. The subcommittees are doing a self-study in each of these areas. One additional subcommittee was appointed and charged with looking at the size of the medical school class and making recommendations for the future. This group strongly recommended against increasing the class size at this time. They do not believe it would result in an increased interest in primary care unless special programs are

developed. In addition, our auditoria and small classrooms would not accommodate a larger class. As part of the process, students are required to conduct their own survey managed entirely by them and addressing the educational program, such as resources, student services, and faculty/student relationships. The self-study process takes about 18 months, and the final self-study and databases will be submitted in October. The accreditation decision will be received in June or July 2010.

As in the past, the Medical School is in full compliance with the majority of the 119 standards. Our educational program is strong, students are largely satisfied, and faculty are engaged in our educational programs. He noted that the institutional strengths mentioned in the 2003 report continue to be our strengths, and a number of citations from the 2003 site visit have been corrected or significantly improved. There are a number of areas in transition, and depending on the outcome, we may or may not be in compliance with accreditation standards at the time of the review. He also noted areas of partial or full noncompliance mentioned in the 2003 report. We are beginning to address each of these and will hopefully have them largely, if not completely resolved by the time of the site visit. However, we are still not in full compliance with one citation, namely diversity of faculty and staff. In addition, the following areas are expected to be areas of partial or full noncompliance at the time of the site visit:

- we will soon have four interim department chairs, and no searches are underway, nor have resources for packages for new chairs been identified;
- recommendations from some department and Type II center reviews have not been adopted due to lack of resources;
- student lounge space continues to be inadequate.

Each of these will require significant monetary resources to rectify. Dr. Koeppen was asked how concerned we should be regarding the areas of noncompliance. He indicated that during the three years he has served on the LCME, he has never seen a medical school that has not had some noncompliance issues. The most common outcome is that the school is reaccredited for seven years but must submit progress reports in two years which outline steps taken to deal with the noncompliance issues. In some cases, schools are placed on probation, which can be appealed. Another possible outcome is a limited survey in two years. Where our School will fall will depend on our financial situation at the time of the survey, status of the partnership, and the progress we have made in the transition areas. Dr. Laurencin added that the financial issues appear to be paramount and will be focused on. His two additional concerns are faculty development and student recreational facilities. Dr. Koeppen added that our distance from the Storrs campus gives us a disadvantage in the latter. Dr. Jacobs asked that Drs. Koeppen and Casey Jacob keep the committee informed as the process progresses.

5. Formation of School of Dental Medicine Board of Advisors

Dr. MacNeil informed the Subcommittee that the School of Dental Medicine has formed an Advisory Board comprised of individuals from private industry, the lay public, and the dental community. The purpose of the Board is to advise on the School's strategic plan, community and government relations, brand awareness, and development and fund raising plans. The Board held their first meeting on April 8, 2009. The goal of that meeting was to gain a better understanding of the School and to define individual and collective roles. Dr. MacNeil believes the Board will be very helpful in moving the School forward.

6. Update on School of Dental Medicine 401 Clinical Education/Care Concept

Dr. MacNeil provided a brief update on the School of Dental Medicine's GP3 Clinical Education Program, formerly known as 401. The proposed model was first presented to the Subcommittee in 2007. He explained that a charge to the new Dean of the Dental School was to look at the clinical educational program to see how it could be modified to address some educational and fiscal issues. The 401 model emerged from faculty discussions, but the institution was faced with fiscal constraints at the time, and the resources needed to begin piloting the model were not available. The model has been presented nationally and has been very well received, and Dr. MacNeil believes that if implemented, the program will result in many educational and financial advantages. He did note that some new issues have arisen since the model was first presented to the committee, such as the proposed affiliation with Hartford Hospital (which would also involve the dental clinics) and proposed changes in dental Medicaid coverage in the State. As these issues are resolved or stabilized and the institution's financial situation improves, he would like to pursue implementation of the program.

7. 2009/2010 Schedule of Meetings

The schedule of meetings for 2009/2010 was reviewed. Dr. Jacobs noted that the new Chairman of the Board of Trustees will have his first meeting tomorrow, which will focus on the University's Academic Plan.

8. Consent Items

a. Endowed Chair Reports

The Academic Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the following recommendation: **That the Board of Trustees approve the Annual Reports for the following Endowed Chairs: (1) Transfusion Medicine and (2) Human Genetics.**

b. Endowed Chair Appointment

The Academic Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the following recommendation: **That the University of Connecticut Health Center Board of Directors appoint Kevin Dieckhaus, M.D. to the State of Connecticut Chair in Infectious Disease. The duration of this appointment is at the pleasure of the Dean.**

c. School of Medicine/School of Dental Medicine Appointments, Promotions, Tenure Awards, Emeritus Appointments

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

Before leaving the meeting, Provost Nicholls explained that the promotion and tenure recommendations from the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine now come through the Provost's Office, and he commended the Senior Appointments and Promotions Committees of both Schools, Dr. Casey Jacob, and the two Deans for their efforts in making this process work well. He also assured the committee that all of these recommendations go through a very rigorous scrutiny.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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