



Academic Council Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2006

Present: Narsavage, Kiernan, Baker, Cibirka, Drisko, Hill, Caughman, Tingen, Ballance, Bollag, Lee, Cobb, Lewis, Allred, Cook, Robinson, Joseph, Andrews, Prince, Salzer, Blalock, Cobb, Callan

I. Meeting called to order by Dr. Callan at 4:00 PM

II. Approval of Minutes August 17, 2006: The minutes were approved as submitted

III. Standing Committee Reports:

Faculty Governance: Mr. Bill Andrews

Nominations Subcommittee is working to complete the ballot for the Spring elections.

Scholarship & Standards, Dr. Barbara Kiernan

The Library Resources Subcommittee has met and reported that the Collections Committee has met and has made subscription recommendations. Off campus access for institutions is 700% over on-site costs. Publisher is trying to get clinicians to purchase individual subscriptions vs having broad institutional off campus access. It is not recommended to subscribe for institutional off campus access. Looked at Evidence Matters, MyiLibrabry and ProQuest products as possible replacements for Up-To-Date. Committee recommends watching product evolution at this time. Comparison of Scopus vs Web of Knowledge - Increasing WOK usage and greater coverage of journals by WOK. Will stay with WOK for now but watch Scopus. Will consider developing a user-centered proactive collection development process using "information resource needs analysis". Pilot study may involve Cancer Center and Graduate School.

The Faculty Development Subcommittee continues working with administration regarding the proposal provided by Janet Bickel.

The Research Ethics Subcommittee has a case under investigation. There are three vacancies on the committee, one each from nursing, allied health and dentistry. There is a request to fill these vacancies.

The University Assessment Subcommittee is in the process of reorganizing.

Strategies & Responsibilities, Dr. Deborah Lewis

Faculty Grievance subcommittee has met at and is considering making changes to the by-laws. The proposed changes will be brought before the Academic Council for approval.

III. Comments from Administration:

Dr. Kent Guion, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs School of Allied Health Sciences, for Dr. Mishoe

Dr. Guion reported enrollment for the School of Allied Health Sciences has increased for the seventh consecutive year average about four to six percent each year. He also reports that next year, for the first time in the history of the school, it is expected more than 50% of their students will be graduates versus undergraduate. This year there are about 48% graduate students.

The SAHS has successfully moved into the new Health Sciences Building and anticipate the official Ribbon cutting ceremonies to be held on January 18th or 19th of 2007.

Dr. Connie Drisko, School of Dentistry

Dr. Drisko announced that the SOD received a 6.2 million dollar grant from Nobel Biocare.

Dr. Gretchen Caughman, School of Graduate Studies

Enrollment

337 total enrollment

136 new students across all programs

27% increase in first year enrollment for AY07, after 39% increase in AY06

New Programs -

Clinical Nurse Leader MSN program – 14 students

MS in Biostatistics – 9 students

2nd year of iMPH program – 12 new students; 20 total

2nd year of DNP program – 12 new students in summer; 41 total

Some established programs increased enrollment

8 new Oral Biology MS students; 16 total

31 new biomedical sciences PhD students, 116 total plus 7 MD/PhD students in the active PhD phase

Faculty –

209 total; finally exceeds pre-early retirement numbers

Pending new programs –

PhD in Genomic Medicine

MCTS – Master in Clinical Translational Science – under development

Ms. Tamara Lee, Director of Libraries

Faculty Recruitment: Recruitment is underway in the Library for Associate Director, Virtual Services Librarian and Education Coordinator.

Elsevier's "Freedom Collection": In partnership with USG research libraries (UGA, Emory, Georgia Tech and Georgia State), we have negotiated enhanced access to Elsevier's online journals, including over 1800 titles from 1995 forward.

Library as Place: In partnership with ITSS, the computer lab in the Library has been refurbished and refurbished, ITSS help desk relocate, plasma board added. Collaborative synergy for computer commons includes advanced technologies attractive and comfortable learning space and face-to-face service. Other planned improvements included state of the art lighting and coffee bar. An open house reception will be held on October 4 from 11 AM to 2 PM especially for students to showcase the IT/Library learning commons as the coolest place to be for learning and fun.

Evidence-based research/responsible literature searching modules: Educational tools for standard principles related to biomedical literature review process, including drug safety and adverse affects marketed as 7 to 10 minute information resource strategy modules that can be completed anytime and anywhere; currently being tested by MCG research community.

Dr. Georgia Narsavage, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Nursing (for Dr. Lucy Marion)

The School of Nursing has moved to the new Health Sciences building (EC), fourth and fifth floors. Classrooms throughout the building are used as AGT connectivity becomes available.

Teaching: The SON welcomed 4 new full time clinical faculty (masters prepared) and 4 new part time clinical faculty. Dr. Janie Heath and Dr. Sunita Dodani joined the SON administration and 7 faculty completed the doctoral degree; total doctorally-prepared faculty members are 35.

Seven faculty members completed their doctorates since July: Dr. Gayle Bentley, Dr. Pamela Cook, Dr. Corliss Derrick, Dr. Marguerite Murphy, Dr. Jacqueline Miller, Dr. Sharon Bennett, and Dr. Cynthia Mundy. Eleven (11) faculty are currently enrolled in the DNP program, 4 in PhD programs, and 1 in an EdD program.

The SON simulation center, directed by Dr. Lori Schumacher is being integrated into all clinical educational programs in nursing and is supporting Allied Health programs.

Programs: The Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program had it first 7 graduates in August 2006 and expects to have one (faculty) student complete the degree by December 2006. The program will admit its fourth class, in January 2007. MCG SON now has partnerships with Albany State University, Clayton State University, and Valdosta State University in addition to our distance sites of SONAT, SONAC, and SONAB. An MOU has also been signed with Darton College to allow their faculty to "attend class" on their campus. Classes were held at Emory University for Summer 2006, supported with funds from the Woodruff Foundation, and Emory faculty have continued enrollment at the Clayton State campus. Clarification from the BOR that the DNP is also an Internet program allows individual students to enroll through use of Applied Global Technologies connection to the classroom.

The Critical Nurse Leader (CNL) program was approved by the Ga Board of Nursing (BON), and accepted its first class of 14 students for Fall 2006. The BON will do an interim review in Summer 2007 and the CNL program will be eligible for final approval after graduating its first class in December 2007. As an MSN program, CCNE review follows State approval.

A vote of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) for full accreditation of the BSN and MSN programs is scheduled for October 26-28. The BOR has confirmed that all MN programs have been approved to award the MSN degree. There have been no concerns identified by the CCNE visitors or Board, and the SON expects to receive full accreditation.

PHD program – six full-time students have been fully funded through SGS Graduate Assistantships or SON Teaching Assistantships.

The Council on Accreditation for Nursing Anesthesia has approved the nursing anesthesia program for full accreditation for 6 years, with an interim report due 2-2007.

The SON currently has 339 undergraduate (14.5% URM) and 136 graduate students (16.2%)

Research: An Assistant Dean for Research has been hired, Dr. Sunita Dodani. Administration and faculty continue to search for an Associate Dean for Research and have identified two well-qualified candidates to interview. The SON will continue to advertise for three additional nurse scientists to join current researchers.

Faculty Practice Status: All NFPG Members (full-time faculty employed at the 1.0 FTE level) have been enrolled in the faculty practice plan and contracts are being initiated. Dr. Janie Heath, Associate Dean for Faculty Practice has joined the SON with a concerted effort on growing the faculty practice opportunities.

Faculty Awards: Dr. Cynthia Chernecky and PhD student Valerie Hooper will be inducted as fellows into the American Academy of Nursing – bringing the total number of Fellows in the SON to seven faculty and one student.

IV. Other Business:

General Faculty Assembly: will be held on November 16, at 4:00 PM in the Large Auditorium

Forum for the Future: Plans are underway for the next date and time and will be announced to be made as soon as information is made available.

Academic Council Budget: Under review

Academic Council Meeting time and location: A motion was made to change the time and location of the meetings to BC 130 at 5:00 PM on the same dates in order to promote better attendance. The motion was voted on and was approved unanimously.

Additional notes from the AC meeting 9-21-06

A motion was made and passed to authorize the AC to pursue multiple lines of action related to the questions raised by changes in the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP). Dr. Jack Yu presented a time line of events and communications that led to questions including 1) the motivation to lower the employer contribution to the ORP (i.e. was this related to needing monies to fund the Teacher's Retirement Plan (TRP) in response to house bill HR400). 2) how the ORP contribution is calculated. 3) why the TRP board minutes did not indicate the reason for changing the ORP contribution or even that it authorized it to be changed. 4) what should we as a faculty do in response to the Chancellor of the USG's letter that indicated he was going to approach the legislature about modifying how the ORP contribution is defined.

SPECIFICALLY a motion was made to:

1. Contact the Dean's of all the MCG schools, the Provosts office and the President's office to ask what their response is to faculty's concerns about the underlying issues related to changes in the ORP. Because of the short time span prior to the November elections we would like a response with in a week's time.
2. Contact MCG's legal office for clarification of the interpretation of the statues, obtaining more information about the actions related to the changes in the ORP contribution and what our options might be, again we would like a response within a week.
3. Contact the Academic Councils (or their equivalents) at the other UGS schools (focus on the research schools first) to get their reaction to the ORP changes and to set up a meeting to discuss a coordinated response.
4. Distribute the materials collected by Dr. Yu and others related to the ORP issue to the faculty and administration.
5. Pursue this issue as individuals with our state representatives.

Motion carried (unanimously)

It was also moved that we set up a task force to coordinate our response. We will request that the Provost's office, legal office, and the office of external affairs be represented on the ORP task force. The AC task force members will consist of Drs. Richard Callan (VC AC), Tom Allred (AC rep), and Jack Yu.

Motion carried (unanimously)

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM

Recorded 9-21-06 by
William D. Hill, Ph.D.

