



Academic Council Meeting Minutes September 20, 2007

Present: Dr. Martha Tingen (Vice Chair), Dr. Richard Callan (Past Vice Chair), Dr. Pam Cook (Secretary-Treasurer), Dr. Vincent Robinson (Medicine), Dr. Philip Baker (Dentistry), Dr. Gretchen Caughman (Dean, School of Graduate Studies), Dr. Shelley Mishoe (Dean, School of Allied Health Sciences), Dr. Dave Hill (Medicine), Dr. Judy Salzer (Nursing – for Dr. Marion), Ms. Darra Ballance (Library), Ms. Tamera Lee (Library), Dr. Lynn Jaffe (Allied Health), Dr. Karl Wenger (Medicine), Dr. Jack Yu (Medicine), Dr. Barry Goldstein (Provost), Ms. Lori Prince (School of Allied Health Sciences), Dr. Ronald Lewis (Medicine), Dr. Lara Stepleman (Medicine), Dr. Clarence Joe (Medicine), Ms. Mary Downey (School of Allied Health Sciences), Dr. Kevin Frazier (Dentistry), Dr. Barry Hammond (Dentistry)

I. Meeting called to order by Dr. Tingen at 5:00 PM

II. Approval of Minutes May 20, 2007

Correction to page 2 – delete the SOM faculty and benefits task force and change to task force for benefits. It is not a SOM task force but an academic council task force. Motion made by Dr. Callan and seconded by Dr. Goldstein to approve minutes with stated revisions.

III. Welcome

Dr. Tingen welcomed everyone to the Academic Council. A small gift was distributed to all members in appreciation for their service to Academic Council and MCG. Dr. Tingen noted there are several key initiatives that Academic Council may explore this year.

~ One is to explore the interest in developing an American Association of University Professors (AAUP) Chapter. The AAUP's purpose is to advance academic freedom and shared governance, to define fundamental professional values and standards for higher education, and to ensure higher education's contribution to the common good. If this chapter were developed, it would be independent of Academic Council.

~ Another opportunity is to increase retention of faculty through faculty development. To do this Academic Council would have to know the reasons that faculty are leaving. One option is to look at a different process for faculty exit interviews. Dr. Goldstein stated that the Deans and Chairs currently do this and are responsible for conducting exit interviews with their faculty and know the reason(s) for the departure. He also noted that this is within the administrative process versus faculty governance. Dr. Tingen noted that this is in the development phase – to discuss and explore and that it fits with faculty development as well.

~ A third opportunity is to move forward with our faculty development initiative. The proposal is currently within the Office of the Provost and University Advancement. We are waiting on action at this time. Dr. Dave Hill will be facilitating the process and communication.

IV. Bylaws

Dr. Pam Cook presented the proposed bylaw changes. Additional revisions made by members. The revised Bylaws were approved by the members and will be presented to the General Faculty in November.

V. Standing Committee Reports

Faculty Governance: Dr. Jack Yu

Membership, Voting & Nomination Subcommittee

~ A Chair will be elected at the next meeting on Wednesday, 10/03/07.

Grievance Subcommittee

~ There are currently open positions on this Subcommittee. The current Bylaws note that the positions can only be filled through the annual election process. The bylaws are being submitted this evening with a proposed change, to appoint a member to serve the remaining year up until the annual election to ensure the Subcommittee is adequately represented. After approval of the bylaws during the November General Faculty meeting, proposed members will be submitted to the Executive Committee and the Academic Council for review and appointment.

Statutes Review Subcommittee

~ Under the leadership of Dr. Barry Hammond, this subcommittee continues to review the Bylaws and Faculty Handbook for consistency.

Faculty Appointment, Promotion, Tenure & Post-Tenure

~ Working on guidelines and issues.

Faculty Evaluation of Administrators

~ There is a need to clarify the purpose of the evaluation and who will be responsible for the process. The Office of the Provost is currently working on this. Dr. Andrea Thomas is the Chair of this Subcommittee.

Scholarship & Standards: Dr. Dave Hill

Faculty Development Subcommittee

~ Chair is working on filling vacancies.

Strategies & Responsibilities: Dr. Lynn Jaffe

Faculty Grievance Subcommittee

~ Vacancies cannot be filled at this time unless the bylaws change.

Student Affairs Subcommittee

~ The Subcommittee has many ideas.

Domestic Partner Task Force

~ A request from faculty came forward to Academic Council in the spring to review an initiative underway at several Board of Regents institutions. A task force was developed to review. A proposal was submitted to Executive Council in May, but then put on hold by the requesting institution. We have received a request to look at the issue soon.

VI. Comments from Administration:

School of Allied Health Sciences: Dr. Shelley Mishoe

Initiatives:

1. Academic Programs

~ Letter of intent has been approved by the Board of Regents to offer the MHS degrees in Clinical Laboratory Sciences and Medical Dosimetry.

~ Collaborating with AASU and NGCSU on the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Consortium.

~ Formed Collaborations with Gainesville College to expand Biomedical and Radiological Technologies (BRT) program offerings.

~ Continuing Collaboration with Gwinnett Health System and Georgia Gwinnett College to offer BRT Programs.

2. Self Study

~ Preparing the Self Study for CAPTE Accreditation for the Doctorate of Physical Therapy Program.

3. 40th Anniversary of School

~ Working on plans to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the School. A school magazine is being developed to kick off a year of events, beginning in January.

Challenges:

1) Development Support Person

~ Keeping momentum on advancing the school without having a Director of Development or any dedicated person from University Advancement to assist. A position has been approved to hire a new person to serve in a new role as the SAHS Director of Advancement, which is greatly needed.

2) Diversify Revenue Streams

~ The need to diversify and grow revenue streams at one of the most competitive times for research grants, philanthropy and clinical practice.

3) Strategic Plan

~ Embarking on the School's Strategic Plan for the next 3-5 years and need a clearer sense of the State's vision for MCG, including not only the dental and medical schools expansions, but the need for additional allied health workforce.

School of Dentistry: Dr. Callan reporting for Dr. Drisko

Initiatives:

1. New School of Dentistry

~ Fund raising --\$30M goal!! Location is planned behind the wellness center facing 15th street. \$5M initial funding for planning is in place. Program manager RFA out for bid, hiring expected by end of October 2007. Architect and builder expected on board by end of year. Design initiated in January of 2008. Construction begins mid 2009 with completion mid 2011. There will be integration of instructional space with medicine and the planned medical commons building (classrooms, anatomy lab, meeting rooms, testing space).

2. Curriculum Revision

~ Led by group of faculty and ADEA CCI group. A curriculum expert is coming in January 2008 for faculty retreat. There are plans to investigate better integration with other schools on campus. For example: basic science, simulation, standardized patients

3. Faculty Development

~ Need for improved short and long-term development plans for all SOD faculty with limited resources. Seeking more collaborative research training across campus/sharing resources, especially in clinical research. Seeking collaborative efforts with other schools in providing faculty development in teaching and presentation skills.

Challenges:

1. Growing Endowment

~ Very small endowment for SOD. Very successful fund raising for new school last year but need much more to support scholarships and new initiatives.

2. Alumni Relations

~ Enhancing alumni relations is critical to growth of programs, new initiatives and general support of SOD. Significant growth of alumni membership last year, but still only have small percentage of total alumni.

3. Public Relations

~ Getting our message out about the importance of oral health is critical to fulfilling our mission. Community does not realize the impact of dental school on the economy and health of the region. Many people think the dental school is in Atlanta. Do not have a lot of recognition or interaction in Augusta from the community. We need to reach out more and become more visible. Faculty practice underutilized yet it has highly talented dentists and dental hygienists who are ready to serve the MCG family and local community

Initiatives: Programs, policies, and assessments

1. Launching of the Master in Clinical & Translational Science program – first students to be enrolled Summer 2008. Program is designed specifically to train our own clinical faculty as researchers. This academic initiative is being done in conjunction with the NIH CTSA (Clinical & Translational Science Award) research initiative spearheaded by Dr. Frank Treiber. Drs. Stephen Looney and Tony Mulloy are program directors for the program.
2. Gaining BOR approval and then subsequently launching the PhD in Biostatistics program.
3. This will be a year of “taking stock” for the School of Graduate Studies, in terms of reviewing and revising existing policies and procedures, and formalizing some assessment activities. Much, but not all, of this work will originate in, or funnel through, the Graduate Council. Some examples include: 1) Revision of the school's P&T policies for faculty with primary appointments; 2) Review and revision of the technical standards for student admission and progression; 3) Development of student satisfaction surveys to be administered periodically throughout the student's program. First under development: PhD student survey, goal is to administer it in late October.

Challenges: Time, money, and people

1. Student Release Time

~ A significant challenge to the success of the MCTS program will be the ability of the participants' primary schools to provide adequate release time for their pursuit of this degree. This issue will have to be addressed individually for each participant.

2. Student Recruitment

~ Although the School of Graduate Studies currently has a student body of more than 400 (of which nearly half are graduate nursing students), and an all-time high of over 140 PhD students - and we have very good students - recruitment and enrollment of the desired number of the best, brightest, and most diverse students continues to be a challenge for some graduate programs. We also continue to be concerned about right-sizing the biomedical sciences PhD class based on the constraints of the SGS stipend budget and the availability of funded mentors.

3. Faculty Recruitment

~ Despite aggressive recruitment activity by Dr. Varghese George and others, the Dept. of Biostatistics is still not at full-strength in terms of number of faculty; in particular they need at least one more senior level individual. Such faculty members are at a premium and are difficult to move. Vigorous recruitment efforts will continue.

Greenblatt Library: Ms. Tamera P. Lee

Initiatives:

1) Renewed Focus on Books

~ Collections renewed focus on books (e-books and print) and media, using faculty requests, campus bookstore, liaisons, professional standards and lists of classics in support of educational mission; strategic focus has been to increase online biomedical journals for the past several years. Recently completed a major multi-year weeding project of print book collection; learned from MCG students, faculty and administration that you miss having current books; rejuvenate a core classics and text collection

2) Health Information Competencies

~ Instructional Programs strategic focus on health information competencies (including Internet resources) for MCG students and faculty; in partnership with Schools and Mini Med School planning in support of educational mission and community outreach

3) Library as Place

~ Library as Place —mission of learning—destination place, new roof replacement, exterior face lift/paint to better integrate with new buildings, coolest coffee bar around; NNLM/invitation to open house on October 25 2-4 p.m.; in consultation with Facilities and Auxiliary Services.

Challenges:

1) Resource Budget

~ Dramatic research growth needs corresponding library support (basic and clinical); increasing costs of scholarly communications; \$500,000 shy of national mean for recurring collection expenditures; working closely with Associate Provost/Provost to maintain and develop; CTSA collaboration

2) Remote Clinical Sites

~ Achieving equivalency of Library resource access and services; stand-alone workstation for UtD; preliminary conversations with University Librarian and Associate Dean of Public Health @ UGA.

3) Web Library Development

~ High demands and expectations of 24/7 resources, services, and programs in Google like format; collaborating with USG for library systems advancement to enhance electronic resource management and increase user convenience and effectiveness in finding and using mission critical information; collaborating with IT Division to ensure academic infrastructure essential for a 21st century virtual library.

School of Nursing: Dr. Judy Salzer for Dr. Lucy Marion**Initiatives:**

1. Increasing Graduate / Doctoral Student Enrollment

~ The MCG School of Nursing will be revitalizing and revamping recruiting efforts to attract more qualified and diverse applicants for its graduate and doctoral programs. The long-term goal is that graduate and doctoral students will comprise 50% of the total nursing student body within the next few years. As part of this effort, the SON will continue the expansion of the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, and Clinical Nurse Leader Program. Currently, the DNP is available at seven satellite sites across Georgia. Planning is underway to offer the program in Puerto Rico and at Vanderbilt for the 2008-2009 academic year.

2. Costing of Programs

~ The SON Business Office is currently working to determine program costs per student. This data will be useful in budgeting and strategic planning for the School. Preliminary findings indicate that the RN-BSN is our most cost-effective program, so our administrators are reviewing this offering to identify components that can be duplicated across curricula.

3. Increasing Community Outreach

~ Two newly funded initiatives will enable the SON to make great strides in its outreach efforts. With a grant from the Healthcare Georgia Foundation, the SON has partnered with health services providers to form the Greater Augusta Healthcare Network (GAHN). GAHN will work to improve access to quality healthcare services for the underinsured and uninsured in our area.

Additionally, Drs. Deborah Smith and Shirley Quarles have received a HRSA grant to increase the diversity of the SON student body. Already, Drs. Quarles and Smith have launched a peer-mentoring program for students and diversity training for faculty. This initiative will support the MCG Goal of increasing diversity in the campus community while also enhancing the education environment.

Challenges:

1. Balancing Quality and Quantity

~ This fall, the School of Nursing implemented a new curriculum for its undergraduate program as the previous one had not been revised in the past ten years. While the change will better meet the educational needs of the students, the increases in instructional and clinical components are straining our faculty resources. These resources are further stretched by the rapid growth in the new graduate programs. As a result, the administration is working to efficiently align resources to meet instructional needs while maintaining program quality and increasing our graduate offerings.

2. Stabilization

~ The organizational structure of the SON is evolving. The School's administration, faculty and staff have grown considerably over the past few years. The professionalism of these groups has also advanced, in tandem with the growth of the School. However, this evolution must be carefully managed to ensure that staff and leadership resources are properly aligned to support this expansion. Ongoing assessment and communication will be key in this process.

3. Faculty Recruitment

~ A major goal for the School is to advance its research mission. As there is a shortage of practitioners in the nursing profession, this disparity is even greater among nurse scientists. The School continues to seek diverse, doctorally prepared faculty who can positively impact the research mission of the School. SON administrators are all engaged in identifying and recruiting potential applicants and the School has increased its vacancy postings with research organizations and job search sites.

VII. Other Business:

None

VIII. Announcements

Forum for the Future

~ The next Forum for the Future will be October 4th from 12 to 1pm in room EC 1222. Dr. Pat Sodomka, Director for MCG Patient and Family Centered Care and Senior VP for Patient and Family Centered Care, MCG Health Inc. will present on *Patient and Family Centered Care: Just an Irritation or a Substantive Change*.

~ Mr. Bill Andrews would like suggestions for future forums. Please email him with ideas or complete the form distributed and return tonight.

IX. Meeting adjourned by Dr. Tingen at 7:00 PM

Submitted by,

Nancy Waks, Academic Council Recording Secretary

and

Pam Cook, DNP, RN
Secretary-Treasurer, Academic Council
Assistant Dean, School of Nursing