



**Medical College of Georgia
University Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2009**

Members Present

Officers:

Mr. Bill Andrews (Past Vice Chair), Dr. Philip Baker (Secretary-Treasurer), Dr. Pam Cook (Vice Chair),
Dr. Jack Yu (Vice Chair Elect)

Executive Committee Representatives:

Ms. Sandra Bandy (L), Dr. Gayle Bentley (N), Dr. Elizabeth K. Leibach (GS), Dr. Barbara Russell (AHS),
Dr. Robert Schade (M)

Committee Chairs & Parliamentarian:

Dr. Lynn Jaffe (Chair, Strategies & Responsibilities), Dr. Dave Hill (Scholarship & Standards)

Administration Representatives:

Dr. Michael Ash, Mr. Bill Bowes, Ms. Beth Brigdon, Dr. Kevin Frazier, Mr. Bryan Ginn, Dr. Barry Goldstein,
Mr. Andrew Newton, Dr. James Thompson

Deans/Library Director:

Dr. Gretchen Caughman (GS), Dr. Connie Drisko (D), Dr. Kent Guion (AHS, Acting Dean), Dr. David King
(L, Interim Director)

Library Representatives:

Ms. Sandra Bandy

School of Allied Health Sciences Representatives:

Dr. Mariana D'Amico, Ms. Mary Downey

School of Graduate Studies Representatives:

Dr. Stephen Hsu

School of Dentistry Representatives:

Dr. Jimmy Londono

School of Medicine Representatives:

Dr. Ahmed Chadli, Dr. Teresa Coleman, Dr. Ronald Lewis, Dr. Anup Manoharan, Dr. Kathleen McKie,
Dr. Lee Merchen, Dr. Todd Merchen, Dr. Alyce Oliver, Dr. David Pollock, Dr. Vincent Robinson,
Dr. Robert Sorrentino, Dr. Karl Wenger, Dr. Robert Zabenko

School of Nursing Representatives:

Dr. Janie Heath, Dr. Marguerite Murphy (via Wimba)

Guests:

Mr. Jimmy Murray (Public Safety), Ms. Susan Norton (Human Resources)

I. Meeting called to order by Dr. Pam Cook at 5:10 PM**II. Approval of Minutes March 19, 2009:** Approved.**III. Welcome/Overview:****Dr. Pam Cook, Vice Chair**

~ Dr. Cook gave a brief overview of the University Faculty Senate (UFS):

1. The General Faculty Assembly (GFA) is comprised of all full time members of the Corps of Instruction and designated Administrative Officers. This includes full-time professors, associate professors, assistant professors, instructors, lecturers, teaching personnel, research and extension personnel and duly certified librarians. Persons holding adjunct appointments or other honorary titles shall not be considered to be members of the faculty.
2. The University Faculty Senate (UFS) representatives are elected by and from each school and the Library to serve as members of the University Faculty Senate. Designated administrative officers also serve as *ex-officio* members of the University Faculty Senate.
3. The Executive Committee (EC) is composed of the officers of the University Faculty Senate (Chair, Chair-elect, Past Chair, Secretary Treasurer), six faculty members from the University Faculty Senate representing the Schools and Library, the Chairs of the Standing Committees and the President, Ex-officio.
4. The UFS has three standing committees:
 - a. Scholarship & Standards: review educational standards and support services; faculty orientation, faculty development, and recognition; and the integrity of research processes.
 - b. Strategies & Responsibilities: planning of strategic initiatives, accreditation, monitoring legislation, grievance, and student activities.
 - c. Faculty Governance: the election of faculty representatives; the regular review and (re)approval of the MCG Statutes; the activities of faculty appointment, development, promotion, tenure, and post tenure review; and the periodontic evaluation of faculty and administrators.
5. Dr. Cook also mentioned some of the primary events sponsored by UFS each year (i.e. New Faculty Reception, Fall General Faculty Assembly and Spring General Faculty Assembly held in conjunction with the MCGRI Research Awards). She finished by introducing the officers, EC representatives, standing committee chairs and UFS representatives.

Dr. Barry Goldstein, Sr. VP for Academic Affairs & Provost

~ Dr. Goldstein introduced Dr. James Thompson who will be joining MCG as Interim President. Dr. Thompson will transition in during the month of October, working with Dr. Rahn, and officially start as interim on 11/1/09. Dr. Thompson spoke briefly stating he is very excited to be coming back to academic health sciences and looks forward to working with the University Faculty Senate.

IV. Campus Updates**Mr. Bill Bowes, Sr. VP for Finance & Administration – Budget Update**

~ Mr. Bowes gave a brief budget update. He stated that in 2009 the budget is down 10.5% and \$18 million dollars was lost in state appropriations which is a really big hit for MCG. The good news is that some additional funds were received going into FY 2010. But, with the offset, it only provided a very, very slight rise in the budget. Mr. Bowes stated that other very good news is that we received \$27 million in general obligation bond funding to complete the dental school project, an additional \$6 million dollars to continue the planning for the new medical building and the Education Commons, \$5 million in funding to help support our graduate medical education which will help cover the gap that existed in our budget and our agreement with MCGHI and, finally, we received another \$7.7 million in funding for the SOM Expansion which brings the total support up to \$17.7 million. Mr. Bowes told the group that MCG and other state entities were asked to submit a budget reduction plan for 4%, 6% and 8%. These plans were submitted and approved by the Board of Regents statewide. The mandatory six-day furloughs were included in the 6% reduction plan. MCG is waiting to hear if the Governor will require additional cuts. The critical hire process is still in place at this time. Also included are changes in the healthcare plan. One change will be the elimination of the indemnity plan due to its high cost. Meetings will be scheduled to provide information on the changes during the open enrollment period.

~ Dr. Cook thanked Mr. Bowes, Susan Norton and Deb Barshafsky for the work they did in setting up the budget website along with the Employee Advisory Council and University Faculty Senate's assistance. Faculty are being encouraged to ask questions of their chairs and deans if they have concerns or they can submit their questions or concerns from the budget website. Responses are being received within a 24-hour time frame.

Dr. Barry Goldstein, Sr. VP for Academic Affairs & Provost – SACS Reaffirmation

~ Dr. Goldstein stated that if MCG is not reaffirmed regionally, students will not be able to receive financial aid, we would not receive federal funding and would not be able to obtain programmatic accreditation (i.e. LCME, Dental School accreditation or CAPTE, etc.). Institutions are regionally accredited every ten years (it will be eleven years for MCG) and we won't know until 2012 if MCG is reaffirmed. Dr. Goldstein also stated there is a huge need for students to be culturally enhanced. Dr. Andria Thomas is putting information together as to what MCG's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is going to be. A survey was sent out to all faculty, staff and students for ideas needed to make MCG a better place for students. In October, 2011, an off-site committee will look at our documents and materials to determine if MCG is in compliance. MCG will be given an opportunity to fix non-compliant issues and then submit the QEP for review. A committee will review the plan, give recommendations if not in compliance or approve if in compliance. Many faculty and students have been invited to work groups to move forward with implementation.

Mr. Jimmy Murray, Emergency Management Coordinator & Dr. Kevin Frazier, VP for Student Services & Development – Swine Flu Update & Miscellaneous Update

~ Mr. Murray addressed the group about swine flu. He stated we need to start calling it "flu" since there is no separation between seasonal flu and H1N1. The vaccines are different and don't do anything for each other and you can get both flu's. Right now we are dealing strictly with seasonal flu since we're not able to determine if any cases are H1N1 and the treatments are the same. All departments on campus are assessing their ability to operate during a pandemic using a planning tool that was distributed to them. The deadline for submission of their completed plans was Tuesday, September 15 but some departments were given an extension to submit their plans by Friday, September 18. Posters were attached to the tools and should be posted in all buildings on campus. Updated information can be obtained on the website that was created with the help of Susan Norton, Dr. Cibirka, Jack Evans and others. The website contains a lot of information for faculty, staff and students regarding procedures/steps to take to avoid the flu and what happens in the event a pandemic situation occurs. A reporting system is being implemented by Human Resources to determine how many faculty, staff and students are sick with the flu. If there is a 10% decrease in any group, the Department of Community Health for the state and the Board of Regents must be notified. Many steps are being implemented to decrease the chances of symptoms being spread by providing cleaning in common areas that have not been previously done. The President's Cabinet has recommended the seasonal flu vaccine for all faculty, staff and students.

~ Dr. Frazier stated that MCG's instances of flu for students have been very low (still under 20) which is less than 1% of our total on-campus student population. The seasonal vaccination program for students is going well. There is a cost of \$10 for the seasonal vaccine and there should be no cost to the students for the H1N1 vaccine when it becomes available. Dr. Frazier asked if each School or Unit could find the means to supply hand sanitizer in their areas to help cut down on the spread of germs. The biggest challenge will be to track the numbers of students that become ill with the flu.

~ Dr. Frazier stated MCG is seeking recommendations or suggestions for a speaker for the 2010 Graduation ceremony. Please send any recommendations to Dr. Frazier or Dr. Goldstein by October 1, 2009.

~ Dr. Frazier stated that his predecessor, Dr. Mike Miller, was charged with trying to establish a chapter of Phi Kappa Phi here on our campus. Phi Kappa Phi is essentially the Phi Beta Kappa for any academic discipline. MCG exceeds the requirements for the criteria that is required to start a chapter here. All that is needed is a minimum of 15 faculty (10 of which are Phi Kappa Phi members) and the other 5 could be Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Chi, etc. Would faculty across campus who are members of any of these honor societies be willing to consider becoming part of a petition to start a chapter of Phi Kappa Phi here at MCG?

Mr. Bryan Ginn, Vice President for External Affairs – Legislative Update

~ Mr. Ginn stated it is exceptional that at the last General Assembly session MCG received \$27 million in bonds for the School of Dentistry project in addition to the \$75 million that MCG received for that project in the two previous General Assembly sessions. This was a result of a lot of hard work and the commitment of the Governor and the Board of Regents to see the largest project ever to be funded and completed at MCG. The School of Dentistry groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. on the former Gilbert Manor property. The Governor will attend the ceremony.

~ As a follow up to the optional retirement plan, Mr. Ginn stated that House Bill 740 was introduced by Chairman Bob Smith, House Higher Education Appropriation Subcommittee. That bill did not receive the requisite nod to go forward during the next year. It will be 2011 before these bills can come back for consideration.

~ Over the next several months we will be bringing legislators and committee chairs to our campus to tell the good story of the good work of MCG.

~ MCG policy 6.0.06 has been approved by the President's Cabinet regarding political activities. Any of these type items will need to be processed through the External Affairs office.

~ Mr. Ginn also noted that on April 20 & 21, 2010, the Board of Regents will be visiting the Medical College of Georgia for a full two day session board meeting.

Dr. David King, Interim Director – Library Update

~ Last year the Library had to cut \$175,000 in journals and this year we will probably be cutting another \$35,000 in journals. This accounts for about 30% of our collection budget. This is in part due to inflation and publishers becoming difficult to work with. Due to the campus reduction programs, we have lost about 25% of our faculty and quite a number of staff support positions and there is currently discussion underway about reducing Library hours. This would have a significant impact on MCG students. The Library is collaborating with peer institutions to engage publishers more aggressively. To engage faculty in the process, each dean has also been asked to designate two people from each of the schools to serve in an advisory capacity for the Library.

New Business

~ Dr. Cook gave a brief overview of the Presidential Search Committee members. They are listed on the MCG President Transition website. The committee met for the first time on August 12, 2009. An outline was presented to the members as to what qualifications were being looked for in the next president. There are currently 10-12 strong applicants already listed on a secure website for the search committee members to review. Susan Herbst, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer, Regent James A. Bishop and Bill Funk of Dallas search firm R. William Funk and Associates will be on campus September 29 to hold forums with faculty, staff and community members on the presidential search.

~ Dr. Cook asked the group to think about what our goals should be and what we want to accomplish as the University Faculty Senate. We need to look at how to engage faculty and how we would like to address agenda items to add value to the meetings (i.e. two way dialogue versus campus updates). Next month when we hold the Fall General Faculty Assembly, what will encourage your colleagues to come to the assembly and new faculty assembly. One thing Dr. Cook mentioned is grouping and aligning the school faculty senates with the University Faculty Senate.

~ One big thing we will be working on this year is the Faculty Satisfaction Survey results. There are three task forces already formed to address three of the four primary items that came out of the Faculty Satisfaction Survey.

~ Dr. Jack Yu will be working on arranging a Forum for the Future. We will continue to look at the possibility of CEU's & CME's for participation in the forums.

V. Meeting adjourned by Dr. Pam Cook at 6:35 PM

Submitted by,

Nancy Waks
University Faculty Senate Recording Secretary

and

Philip Baker, DDS
Secretary-Treasurer, University Faculty Senate
Associate Professor, School of Dentistry