



**Medical College of Georgia  
Academic Council Meeting Minutes  
October 16, 2008**

**Present**

**Officers:** Mr. Bill Andrews (Vice Chair), Dr. Philip Baker (Secretary-Treasurer), Dr. Pam Cook (Vice Chair Elect)

**Administration:** Dr. Kevin Frazier

**LIB:** Ms. Kathy Davies, Dr. David King

**SAHS:** Dr. Mariana D'Amico, Dr. Lynn Jaffe, Ms. Lori Prince

**SGS:** Dr. Wendy Bollag, Dr. Gretchen Caughman

**SOD:** Dr. Rick Callan, Dr. Sajitha Kalathingal

**SOM:** Dr. Karl Wenger

**SON:** Dr. Autumn Schumacher, Dr. Tami Thomas

**I. Meeting called to order by Mr. Bill Andrews at 5:00 PM**

**II. Approval of Minutes September 18, 2008:** Approved.

**III. Standing Committee Reports**

**Faculty Governance: Dr. Barry Hammond**

***Membership, Voting & Nomination Subcommittee***

~ Nominations for several AC subcommittee vacancies from the SOD were voted on and approved at the 10/02/08 SOD faculty meeting. Immediate plans are underway to elect Chairs for the three remaining subcommittees under Faculty Governance.

***Statutes Review Subcommittee***

~ The proposed wording to the AC Bylaws in regard to the request for a change in the name of Academic Council to "University Faculty Senate" as recommended by the Statutes Review Subcommittee was presented to the Executive Committee for a vote.

~ The Statutes Review Subcommittee, under the guidance of Dr. Barry Goldstein, was charged with reviewing MCG's Statutes to ensure consistency with the BOR policies in preparation for the upcoming SACS accreditation.

~ The subcommittee also worked on recommendations to develop a Mission Statement for the AC as directed by the EC at their planning retreat.

***Faculty Appointment, Promotion, Tenure & Post-Tenure***

~ There are no new activities to report at this time.

***Faculty Evaluation of Administrators***

~ There are no new activities to report at this time.

**Scholarship & Standards: Dr. Dave Hill**

***Faculty Development Subcommittee***

~ There are no new activities to report at this time.

***Faculty Recognition Task Force***

~ There are no new activities to report at this time.

***Library Resources Subcommittee***

~ There are no new activities to report at this time.

***Research Ethics Subcommittee***

~ There are no new activities to report at this time.

***University Assessment***

~ Efforts are being made, with Dr. Roman Cibirka's assistance, to fill vacancies on this subcommittee.

**Strategies & Responsibilities: Dr. Lynn Jaffe*****Faculty Grievance Subcommittee***

~ There are no new activities to report at this time.

***Faculty Salary and Benefits Task Force***

~ The Strategies and Responsibilities Committee is forming a task force on faculty retirement benefits.

***Strategic Initiative Activities***

~ There are no new activities to report at this time.

***Student Affairs Subcommittee***

~ There are no new activities to report at this time.

**IV. Comments from Administration:****Greenblatt Library: Dr. David King, Interim Director**

~ The Library has developed an online guide to Evidence-Based Medicine resources. It is presented in three sections:

1. Databases, which includes point-of-care tools, guidelines, pharmacological resources and search engines.
2. Topics & Tools, which links to critical appraisal resources, PDA resources, etc.
3. Instruction, which has instructional resources and tutorials for faculty and students.

~ This extensive resource for the MCG community follows upon the Responsible Literature Searching guide launched last year and won accolades nationally and has been adopted as a model by Mayo Clinic for its own similar guide.

~ Kevin Bradford, who is the Library's Clinical Medical Librarian, developed the Evidence-Based Medicine guide and will be offering classes on evidence-based practice resources. Although it is currently limited to the field of medicine, we expect to expand its coverage of other disciplines as well.

~ The Library participated in Mini-Medical School for the first time, presenting a session on locating and evaluating health-related information on the Internet. Research on Internet use continues to reveal that health-related searches are the single most prevalent use of the Internet for adults, but that most are unsystematic about it and often end up relying upon questionable sources for their information. The Library emphasized use of a few reputable resources as starting points for searching.

~ Over the past year, the Library has been rebuilding its book collections. This has been a response to needs and criticisms expressed in recent years about weaknesses of the collections. A new reading space with comfortable seating around a collection of about 500 standard texts in the health sciences has been created. Some of the titles have been in such demand that they have had to be placed in reserve. For the entire collection, circulation is limited to a one-week loan period. The Library is also building its collection of e-books and currently have about 200 titles in a variety of subjects.

~ State of the Library: Times are tight and there are always uncertainties when there is a transition of leadership. Tamera Lee guided the course of the Library through a remarkable decade in which the Internet blossomed and much of the literature of the health sciences evolved into electronic formats. Managing these resources that support the research, teaching and clinical programs of the institution remains a formidable task, and educating students and young faculty in use of the rich array of electronic resources remains for us, not only a priority, but a privilege.

The Library is fortunate, at this point, to have a knowledgeable and experienced faculty of librarians and a core of experienced staff. Whatever the exigencies, we have no intention of standing still. The programs of your schools are expanding around the state. Our responsibility and our priority are to assure equivalency of access to resources, services and training that is available on our home campus.

We have avoided the onerous task of cutting subscriptions to journals and databases this year in spite of the budget cuts. However, our ability to respond to requests for new materials is limited.

~ In spite of limitations we now face, some things will not change. The Library's goals are to help achieve everyone else's goals, help prepare students for lifelong learning and professional practice, to support the research and scholarly activities of the faculty and to contribute to informed decision making in our clinical setting.

**School of Allied Health Sciences (SAHS): Dr. Shelley Mishoe, Dean**

~ Dr. Vericella, Dean Emeritus, is the proud grandfather of Rose Marie born in September.

~ Ann Arnette, Assistant Professor, is retiring from Biomedical and Radiological Technologies on 10/31/08.

~ PA students won the Georgia Association Physician Assistants' 2008 Challenge Bowl for the third consecutive year.

~ Dr. Bonnie Dadig and the PA program was awarded a three year grant for \$450,000 from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to offer additional training in palliative care.

~ Five dental hygiene students won scholarships.

~ Twenty-four Junior Achievement students from Laney Walker and Lincoln County High Schools participated in

- shadowing experiences in the Health Sciences Building.
- ~ The SAHS will be hosting the Noon Concert series on October 28, 2008 and is looking for talent; so please volunteer.
- ~ Dr. Kent Guion, Associate Dean for Student Faculty and Community Affairs, received the 2008 Georgia Rural Health Association's Distinguished Educator/Researcher award.
- ~ November 2 – 8, 2008 is the 2008 National Allied Health Profession Week.

**School of Dentistry (SOD): Dr. Rick Callan for Dr. Connie Drisko, Dean**

- ~ Plans for the new SOD are continuing as planned with regular scheduled meetings with the architects. Everything is going nicely. The university has acquired the Gilbert Manor property which will be beneficial in times to come.

**School of Graduate Studies (SGS): Dr. Gretchen Caughman, Dean**

- ~ Brief update on students/graduates: in the last academic year there were 114 graduates (21 PhD, including 5 MD/PhD, 27 DNP, 66 masters degrees).
- ~ Two hundred sixty-one (261) research articles, abstracts or other displays of their work to external audiences; student publication index of 1.66 (number of publications divided by number of students in research programs); indicates that graduate students make a significant contribution to the intellectual capital produced by MCG.
- ~ This semester there are 431 students in SGS. There are 53% in graduate nursing programs and 138 PhD students (including 5 MD/PhD students in PhD phase, 14 nursing, 2 biostats and the remainder biomed).
- ~ Issues of importance to graduate faculty are:
  1. Appropriate credit for graduate teaching/educational activities in primary school.
  2. Funding, both internal and extramural – research funding; graduate student stipend support.
  3. Faculty governance – Graduate Faculty Assembly Bylaws are under review for possible revision.

**School of Nursing (SON): Dr. Pam Cook for Dr. Lucy Marion, Dean**

- ~ Incorporation of technology: The BOR budget cuts have added additional incentive to a SON initiative already underway – the incorporation of new instructional technology and simulation into the curriculum for each program. The SON goal is for 10-25% of clinical instruction hours across programs to be in simulation. SON senior administration hosted an all day faculty development workshop for nursing faculty in which distance technology, programs like WIMBA, were highlighted.
- ~ Research development – The SON has made great strides in establishing a research mission. Dr. Sunita Dodani was recently awarded both an R15 and R18 grant. Dr. Gerald Bennett was awarded an R21. We have four junior research faculty committed to our Nurse Scientist Incubator. These faculty members have been working tirelessly to apply for and obtain funding to start their own independent research missions. Dr. Beth Nesmith just received word yesterday of a competitive score for her grant. Ideally, the SON would like to recruit one additional senior researcher to serve as a mentor for their novice research faculty.
- ~ Seeking additional funding streams – The SON is charged by Dr. Rahn to increase pre-licensure enrollment by 50% by 2010, as part of the University System of Georgia strategy to address the growing nursing shortage. With budget cuts and future constraints, we will be calling on our faculty to produce more with fewer resources. As such, we are actively engaged in diversifying our funding streams. Dean Marion returned from a trip to the United Arab Emirates this past Monday where she, along with several SOM faculty, went to explore program opportunities in Abu Dhabi.

**Other Business**

- ~ A resolution to endorse the proposed name change for the Academic Council was circulated to all Academic Council members prior to the meeting. The resolution was read, a motion was made, the motion was seconded and the floor opened for discussion. The resolution was approved by all voting members present and the resolution will be presented to the faculty corp of instruction at the Fall General Assembly.
- ~ A resolution to adopt a mission statement was circulated to all Academic Council members prior to the meeting. The resolution was read, a motion was made, the motion was seconded and the floor opened for discussion. A question was asked if this was a mission or a charge. It was agreed that until clarification could be made as to whether it is a mission or charge, the motion will be suspended.
- ~ Mr. Andrews and Dr. Cook met with Mr. Bill Bowes, VP for Finance, regarding the budget for the Academic Council. He was understanding and sympathetic with our situation and said he will do everything he can to help find funding in the interim for upcoming projects (immediate concerns are upcoming Forums for the Future in October and November and the Fall Faculty Assembly in November).
- ~ Ms. Susan Norton provided an update to the Academic Council regarding the Faculty Engagement Survey that was drafted by Morehead Associates after an on-site visit and phone conferences. A letter from President Rahn will sent to all faculty on Monday, October 20 and the survey will be administered from Monday, October 27 through

Monday, November 24. Morehead will evaluate the responses between November 25 and December 31, 2008. Results will be presented in early January, 2009.

~ Dr. Baker announced that progress is being made regarding filling vacancies. The only vacancies remaining for Academic Council membership are from the SOM and there are still a few subcommittee vacancies to fill as well. Several subcommittees still need to meet and elect their chair. Dr. Baker and Mr. Andrews extended a thank you to everyone who assisted in filling the vacancies and to the Deans for their assistance in filling elected positions.

**V. Announcements**

~ The next Forum for the Future is scheduled for Thursday, October 30, 2008, at 12 Noon in Room EC 1222 of the Health Sciences Building. The forum will feature Dr. Barry Adams as guest speaker. Dr. Adams is an Education Technology Consultant of US Education for Apple, Inc. The title of his presentation will be "21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning: New Communities, New Content, New Conversations."

~ The Fall General Assembly will be held on Thursday, November 20, at 4:00 pm in the Large Auditorium.

~ The next Academic Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 11, 2008.

**VI. Meeting adjourned by Mr. Bill Andrews at 5:35 PM**

**Submitted by,**

Nancy Waks  
Academic Council Recording Secretary

and

Philip Baker, DDS  
Secretary-Treasurer, Academic Council  
Associate Professor, School of Dentistry