



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine
Minutes of the June 18, 2012 meeting
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
MSB 2317

- Members Present:** K. Pritzker (Speaker), A. Gotlieb, M. Hanson, J. Rosenfield, I. Witterick, C. Woodland, A. Buchan, B. Scarth, F. Miller, C. Whiteside, L. Lemieux-Charles, L. de Nil, D. Glick, T. Bressmann, V. Kurdyak, C. Turenko, I. Brasg, S. Langlands, J. Blake, H. Carnahan, E. Fernando, J. Kancir, L. Girolametto
- Regrets:** N. Harnett, H. Shapiro, J. Bohnen, C. Boimer, G. Fantus, G. McSheffrey, A-M. Brousseau, S. Spadafora, K. Berg
- Guests:** P. Marsden, L. Alford, A. Meletopoulos, Meera Rai, T. Coomber (Recorder)
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Call to Order

The Speaker called the meeting to order and noted that there was a quorum.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting of Faculty Council – April 23, 2012

The minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2012 had been previously circulated. They were approved on a motion from C. Woodland and seconded by A. Gotlieb.

2. Remembrance of Professor Emeritus Dimitrios Oreopoulos

Dr. Philip Marsden noted that Dr. Oreopoulos had been the patriarch of Nephrology. Dr. Oreopoulos was born in 1936 in Greece and grew up in difficult financial times. He was recruited to the Toronto Western Hospital where he spent his career. It was here where he became known for a pioneering method to replace kidney function - peritoneal dialysis. This allowed dialysis to be done at home rather than at a hospital. Dr. Oreopoulos was an international scholar and prolific publisher. The Oreopoulos-Baxter Chair in Nephrology will serve as a legacy to Dr. Oreopoulos.

3. Report from the Speaker

Dr. Pritzker noted that the Faculty Council would be shifting its schedule to better align with Governing Council. He noted that this would mean the meetings would be scheduled earlier than in years past with a more dramatic difference being seen in the later meetings. Dr. Pritzker also noted that a second wave of proposed By-Law changes would be circulated to Faculty Council Standing Committees for feedback. He noted of particular concern is the number of individuals on Council and on Standing Committees and if these compliments are reflective of the population they serve.

4. Reports from the Dean's Office

4.1 Report from the Dean's Office

Dean Whiteside noted that the Faculty was very proud of the recent accreditation in UME. She thanked the faculty, staff and students and specifically noted the leadership of Dr. Martin Schreiber. The Dean reminded the Council of the upcoming launch of the Boundless campaign for the Faculty of Medicine. The Launch will take place on September 13th. She indicated that the first phase of the campaign has already been met and that a second phase with three goals will now be underway in the form of the Boundless campaign. The goals are in a priority order of students, faculty (endowed Chairs and professorships) and infrastructure. Dean Whiteside also noted that the implementation of the Strategic Plan is underway.

4.2 Vice-Dean, Research & International Relations

Dr. Alison Buchan noted that an environmental scan was completed last year but is being updated for this year. In the future, this scan will be online and all faculty members will be able to view themselves and confirm that they have been placed in the correct category of the 18 possible. She indicated that the priority areas are Human Development; Global Health; Neurosciences and Brain Health; and Complex Disorders and System Management (which will include cancer). Dr. Buchan hopes to have Key Performance Indicators defined by November of this year which will be used to gauge the success of the strategic plan.

4.3 Vice-Deans, Education

Dr. Jay Rosenfield thanked everyone for their assistance in the recent accreditation including all the preparation. He noted that there won't be an official notice of the Faculty's status until October. He indicated that focus will now be on the Strategic Plan. Dr. Rosenfield informed Council that he will be on administrative leave from September to February and that Dr. Patricia Houston will be Acting Vice-Dean during those six months.

Dr. Rosenfield noted, on behalf of Dr. Salvatore Spadafora, that PGME was about to publish its 2012-2017 Strategic Plan and thanks Council for its support. He indicated that PGME is now focusing on its accreditation which will run from April 7-12, 2013.

Dr. Rosenfield, on behalf of Dr. Dimitri Anastakis, presented the CEPD report. He indicated that Dr. Anastakis has been appointed to a five year term as the Vice-Dean of CEPD beginning on July 1, 2012. He had been acting Vice-Dean since the departure of Dr. Ivan Silver. CEPD will also have its accreditation in 2013 from March 20-22 and will have their site visit on October 12, 2012. The CEPD is developing new academic and business plans over the next three months in anticipation of accreditation.

Dr. Rosenfield indicated that 450 first year graduate students will be participating in the Fall 2012 Graduate Student Integrity in Research Workshop. In addition, phase three of the graduate expansion will be evaluated in 2012-2013. Also in 2012-2013 a new collaborative program in musculoskeletal sciences is planned to come for governance approval with a desired start of 2013. Dr. Avrum Gottlieb added that a great deal of work is currently being done with the Quality Assurance Council to develop new programs and reevaluate current programs. He indicated a more thorough report to Council would be made in the future.

Dr. Rosenfield noted that the Education Vice-Deans have been working on a number of Faculty wide concerns. He noted one such item is a new policy on infectious diseases currently in the works which he anticipates will be brought to Council in the Fall. He indicated that Dr. Norm Rosenblum has just completed a report from the Task Force on Physician Scientist Education which will be coming to Council in the Fall as well. He also noted that the Education Vice-Deans have developed an awards database to better inform faculty members about the awards that are available. This will help departments strategically target candidates for awards.

5. Standing Committee Annual Reports

5.1 Education Committee

Dr. Ian Witterick noted the function of the Education Committee is to safeguard the standards and quality of UME, PGME, MRS, BScPA with regard to Admissions, Awards, Financial Aid, Curriculum and Evaluation. He noted that there were 929 student enrolled in UME with 70.5% receiving financial aid. The average Faculty of Medicine grant is \$6288. He noted that the average entering debt is going up but the average exiting debt after four years is going down. New initiatives in UME include Financial Services appointments for all students entering in 2011, financial webinars and fourth year financial aid exit sessions incorporated into the TTR curriculum. He noted that of the initial 54 offers to the Mississauga Academy of Medicine, 22 were students that either preferred this site or had no preference and 32 were randomly assigned this site. He pointed out that UME Admissions communicates with potential students through a blog, Facebook page, and Twitter.

Dr. Witterick indicated that in PGME there are 75 new RCPSC entry positions with 26 to U of T over 5 years. There are 49 new Family Medicine positions being phased in from 2008-2009 to 2012-2013. PGME has received a great deal of infrastructure support from the Ministry of Health. Last year there was \$1 million for video conferencing equipment and this year there was \$2.8 for capital equipment purchases for the community teaching sites. Dr. Witterick noted the CaRMS performance of U of T is the best in the country and it has been for many years.

Dr. Witterick noted that the Medical Radiations Sciences programs were jointly developed and administered by Michener and the Department of Radiation Oncology and is comprised of Radiological Technology, Nuclear Medicine, and Radiation Therapy. He noted that application numbers are down for all areas. He noted that effective Fall 2012 MRS is suspending Nuclear Medicine student intake as the field has changed due to a number of factors including the global medical isotope shortage and competition from alternative types of imaging. This has resulted in reduced employment opportunities for program graduates.

Dr. Witterick reminded Council that the Physician Assistant Professional Degree Program is based in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and is a U of T degree delivered in collaboration with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and the Michener Institute. 2011-2012 represents the third year of operation for the program with the first cohort of students having completed the program in December 2011. He noted that 17% of the 82 candidates who wrote the national exam this year were U of T graduates and that the U of T pass rate was 100% compared to the national average of 90%.

5.2 Research Committee

Dr. Martha Brown was invited to give the Research Committee report on behalf of Dr. Paul Hamel. She read the following report from Dr. Hamel:

“The Research Committee engaged and deliberated a number of significant initiatives in the faculty of Medicine this year, a number of which will be outlined here.

A major initiative was the development of the Faculty of Medicine Strategic Plan as well as the FoM Strategic Plan for Research. The Research Committee worked closely with the Vice-Dean Research and International Relations, Dr. Alison Buchan, in developing a global view of the research activities in the Faculty. Some considerable progress was made in this area although the limitations of combining various data sets and the inherent limitations of some of those sets (e.g. multiple PIs on grants make assigning them to specific domains difficult).

“Among the significant initiatives discussed by the Research Committee was the Institute for Human Development. The Committee was told that the IHD was “unequivocally.... a priority in the upcoming campaign”, referring the recently launched Boundless fundraising campaign. It remains unclear as to how

this was determined to be a priority among the substantial number that exists at the University. The Research Committee also felt that the “Determinants of Health” were not well promoted in the document and that as a multidisciplinary initiative, a clearer articulation of the potential for faculty from other departments not listed in the proposal to join this initiative be added.

“Another significant Faculty initiative was the establishment of the Institute of Global Health Equity and Innovation. The Research Committee here had a number of concerns with the original proposal, particularly with respect to the what was perceived a diminution of the aspects that dealt with “equity”. For this initiative as well as for the Strategic Plan mentioned above, we also expressed some concern that over the interpretation of the work “innovation” to be aligned closely to “intellectual property” rather than in a broader sense. For these, the Committee generally hoped that a broad definition of “innovation” be included in these various plans.

“Another significant issue that was raised this year and that will need more attention by the Research Committee over the next year was the changes in the CIHR. There is evidently wide dissatisfaction with the proposed changes, particularly in the grant review process. The agenda for the upcoming year will include further discussion, although it remains generally doubtful that articulated dissatisfaction with the changes have had any major effect since it has become apparent that aspects of the changes are already being implemented at the CIHR.

“In this same regard, the Research Committee thought the VP Research office should consider the establishment of a baseline from which the effects of these changes on investigators in the Faculty of Medicine can be determined. These effects should take into account the effects on personnel (students, post docs, RAs, techs etc.) as well as the overall levels of granting. It is proposed further that the Research Committee also consider a role in coordinating the means to successfully compete under the new proposed system.”

5.3 Graduate Education Committee

Dr. Luigi Girolametto was not able to present his report in person so the Speaker read the following report on his behalf:

“The Graduate Education Committee met three times in the past academic year. The members of this committee are the graduate coordinators of seven departments and the Vice-Dean of Graduate Education.

“The committee reviewed and approved proposals for the Institute of Human Development and the Institute for Global Health Equity and Innovation.

“We also reviewed the Faculty of Medicine Strategic Plan, the Roadmap for Global Healthy, and the Faculty of Medicine Diversity Statement. Finally, we provided feedback to the Faculty Appointments Advisory Committee and suggested several revisions to the guidelines for appointment and renewal of adjunct faculty.”

5.4 PGME Board of Examiners

Dr. Pam Catton reminded Council that the PGME Board of Examiners, at the request of a Program Director or the Vice Dean, PGME reviews the cases of residents in academic difficulty to decide the appropriate course of action which may include remediation, remediation with probation, probation, suspension or dismissal. The number of new cases (19) indicates that the volume of reports for review have remained steady this academic year. The rate of successful completions of remediation also remained relatedly steady when considered as a percentage of the total resolved cases.

6. 2012-2013 Slate of Standing Committee Members

The Chair presented the slate of Standing Committee to the Council for information. He also noted that an online election would be conducted over the Summer as two faculty members had been nominated for a single vacancy on the Education Committee.

7. Faculty Council Forum

University Chief Librarian, Larry Alford, presented a Faculty Council Forum on the current publishing climate and specifically traditional publishing versus open access publishing.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm