

Minutes for the Medical Faculty Executive Committee (MFEC)
Meeting
September 13, 2010
8:00-9:15 a.m.
Corporation Room, University Hall

Present: Tim Flanigan, Chair, Suzanne de la Monte, Andrew Arntstein, Michele Cyr, Glenn Tung, Cynthia Loncar, Joseph Diaz, Suzanne Magee, Dierdre Fearon, Cesario Bianchi, Colin Harrington, and Craig Ebersson.

The meeting opened at 8am with Chair Flanigan greeting the new members and inviting all to enjoy refreshments. The members introduced themselves referring to their discipline and hospital affiliation. Copies of the MFEC Charge and the meeting Agenda were circulated among the membership as everyone settled in.

The membership reviewed the MFEC charge and noted the need for representation on the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) and the Brown University Community Council (BUCC). Past Chair Suzanne de la Monte volunteered to participate on the BUCC and was provided with the meeting schedule and location. Susan Allen, former FEC liason is on leave this academic year and the FEC has yet to meet and select a representative.

The MFEC continued its review of the Charge and noted under section 1b: Changes in medical school policies and procedures relating to faculty appointments, reappointments, promotions, and other matters relevant to faculty in clinical departments will be provided to the MFEC for review and comment prior to action by the Biomedical Faculty Council and/or the FEC.

The FEC and campus based faculty are currently discussing Motions presented by the Provost for approval and the MFEC discussed the effects of these motions upon the medical faculty. Notice of impending faculty forums were announced and ex officio non-voting members Michele Cyr and Glenn Tung assured the MFEC of close communication between the Dean's Office and the MFEC regarding any changes in Tenure and Promotion, especially as these issues are addressed by the campus based faculty during the Fall semester. General discussion followed regarding the MFEC's general role.

Chair Flanigan presented to the MFEC priority items to address during the academic year:

- A: Facilitate communication, awareness, and coordination regarding the new medical school building.
- B: Facilitate information dissemination regarding promotions.
- C: Conflict of interest issues at the university and hospital level.
- D: Sabbaticals and Tenure.
- E: Follow up on IT issues initiated last year.

The new medical school building will be at 220 Richardson Street in the Jewelry District, Providence's new "Knowledge District" with groundbreaking in April and expected available for use in the Fall for the Class of 2011. A lecture hall with a capacity for 250 is in the plans. A welcome aspect of the new medical school building will not only include much needed classroom and laboratory spaces for teaching and research but also 250-300 parking spaces. Costs are estimated to be \$45million with half coming from the Warren Alpert Gift and the remainder from donations and University support. Much general discussion followed concerning the new building and its effects upon teaching.

Promotions and classification of academic "tracks" followed. Members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of tracks upon promotion and the meaning of tenure. The Dean's office mentioned the Promotions committee reviews tracks when considering appointments and also the effects of tracks upon recruiting new faculty. Also under consideration were voting rights defined by track to provide the greatest representation of faculty in the MFEC.

Conflict of interest is an evolving issue between physicians, the University and hospitals. The MFEC is considering inviting Lance Dworkin as an expert on conflict of interest policies. Areas such as industrial, pharmacological, and research require input from the Dean's office as well as host hospitals. Some members suggested a review of peer institution conflict of interest policy.

The MFEC was pressed for time but considered enduring IT issues, especially the Goggle migration across campus and the need to buy software as well as licensing agreements. The MFEC is in close communication with Clifford Hirschman regarding IT issues, ranging from emails to research efforts. There was much discussion regarding uneven IT applications and the MFEC expects further contact with IT representatives during the academic year.

The meeting closed at 9:15am.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Moorehead
Secretary to the MFEC