

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER
2500 North State Street
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FACULTY SENATE

Binford Nash, President
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FACULTY SENATE
2006-07 TERM MINUTES

DATE: October 20, 2006

TIME: 1:00 PM

PLACE: D502, School of Dentistry

PRESIDING: Dr. Ben Nash, President

PRESENT: Dentistry: James Fitchie and Pia Chatterjee Kirk
SHRP: Becca Pearson, Ken Heard and Sandra Horne
Medicine: Christina Barlow, Honey East, alternate Donna Sullivan for
Cheryl Hardy, Olga McDaniel, Parminder Vig, Arthur
Calimaran, Michelle Horn, Robert Forbes, and Ben Nash
Nursing: LaVerne Grant
UMC Div. John Kermode, March Ard, Jonathan Fratkin and Mary
Marquart

ABSENT: Dentistry: James Lott
Medicine: Myra Wheaton and Stan Chapman
Nursing: Laura Schenk and Renee Williams

I. Call to order – Dr. Ben Nash

Dr. Ben Nash called the meeting to order.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 22, 2006 were approved as written.

III. Old Business

A. Update on SACS visit.

Dr. Nash reported that the subcommittee, of which he is a member, is waiting for an update from SACS planning committee.

B. Update on Leadership Development Program

Dr. Rockhold informed Dr. Nash that there would be no change in the meeting dates of the Leadership Development Program and that the requirement of Leadership Program participants to attend three Faculty Senate meetings would be relinquished for this first year.

After discuss of the Senators, a consensus was reached to not change the meeting time for the Faculty Senate meetings. The meetings would remain on the third Friday of each month.

C. Review of topics for Dr. Dan Jones's visit with the Faculty Senate today.

Dr. Nash reviewed the list of topics sent to the Vice Chancellor, giving the Senators an opportunity to offer additional topics.

IV. New Business

A. Resignation of Senator

Dr. Myra Wheaton, Senator of the School of Medicine, is no longer a member of the Department of Anesthesia. After discussion of the replacement procedures, the Senators agreed the replacement should be drawn from the list of prior nominations of the past election year - 2006-2007.

B. Report and discussion: Dr. Dan Jones, Vice Chancellor of UMMC

Dr. Jones introduced his report to the Faculty Senate with a presentation given to IHL board members the previous day (Attachment A).

1. Strengths include:

- a. A fine, strong faculty and staff at UMMC
- b. Facilities are above average the national norms for teaching but below national norms in Research.
- c. UMMC receives more state funding than other Health Science Centers in the nation, but UMMC also has a higher cost for charity services than other Health Science Centers.
- d. Quality of education is excellent. UMMC is nationally competitive with its clinical graduates.
- e. UMMC has "pockets" of quality research efforts, especially in the areas of cardiovascular and health disparities research.

2. Weaknesses include:

- a. UMMC can perform better in several areas of health care, especially in mortality rates, CV disease and diabetes.
- b. UMMC receives/pays a disproportional share of Medicaid services.
- c. At present, UMMC health care schools are not producing the number of graduates to provide appropriate numbers of health care providers for the State of Mississippi. By 2025, the goal is provide a national mid-range numbers of qualified graduates to meet the state's needs. Resources are being sought to added sufficient numbers of faculty to meet the needs of increased enrollment of students.
- d. Research funding needs to be increased to reach a national mid-range of health science centers. Currently UMMC is 95th of 126 health science centers.

3. Threats include:

- a. UMMC's financial instability relates to the financial losses of UHC. Financial difficulties of the hospitals associated with health science centers have had to lay off faculty in the education areas. Administration is now focusing on broadening the base of paying patient clientele. One area of concentration is improving the image of UMMC - to be the hospital that all members of the community favor.
- b. In order to increase the number of qualified graduates from the various schools of health care, admission standards do not need to be compromised. Unqualified applicants should not be accepted to meet the demand.
- c. Qualified, competent faculty need to be retained. Salaries should not be reduced in order to meet the financial needs of the medical center. Efforts are in progress to meet national salary norms – as a retention and recruitment effort.

- d. There exists a current threat from allopathic and osteopathic schools of medicine to enter the state of Mississippi. This would greatly impact the applicant pool for the School of Medicine.
- e. The intent of increasing research interest and funding is not to decrease the emphasis of education. Education is still the first priority of UMMC. In the past fiscal, NIH funding increase 19 percent during the past fiscal year.
- f. Inadequate classroom size is being addressed in several ways. Consideration is being given to combining the 1st two years of the students from the SOD and SOM. This may allow for a combination of classes and create two sections of the classes. Financial funding (\$4 million) is being sought to finance additional faculty to facilitate the resources needed for this endeavor.

Dr. Kermode inquired about use of the amphitheater classrooms to accommodate the medical student enrollment. Dr. Jones said he would look into the reasons for this not being an option. In addition, Dr. Kermode asked about the need for additional small classrooms, exploring the possibility of converting current classrooms into smaller classrooms. Dr. Jones agreed to look into the option. Faculty privileges and financial responsibilities of an institution are a “trade-off”.
- g. Regarding the faculty needs for a wellness center, child-care facilities and faculty dining area, Dr. Jones responded that there were plans in place. Private vendors in fitness centers and child-care facilities were being asked to present bids for approval. Since the legislators approved a bill allowing private-public partnerships, Dr. Jones has sought bids from private vendors in these areas. Regarding the faculty dining area, there a plans to possibly use some areas on the 1st floor of the old hospital to be converted to this use.
- h. Dr. Grant asked for more clarification regarding the Faculty Satisfaction Survey. Dr. Jones was not aware of such a survey. After some discussion, Dr. Jones suggested this was a survey conducted by the Women’s Health Wellness panel. He would seek more information and get beck with the Faculty Senate.
- i. Dr. McDaniel sought additional information regarding the committee represented by Dr. Hall and Dr. Jones about research. Dr. Jones said this committee surveyed faculty for input into the strategic plan for research. The committee will integrate faculty suggestions into the strategic plan and eventually report the results to the faculty.
- j. Dr. Fratkin suggested that UMMC could get some national recognition related to current research efforts, especially those related to the Jackson Heart Study and asked if there were any efforts being made to seek such recognition. Dr. Jones admitted there were plans in place and he had every intention to follow-up on them.
- k. Dr. Fratkin asked about an update on the SACS accreditation visit. Dr. Jones suggested that the upcoming accreditation visit would be somewhat different than in the past. Of the schools at UMMC, the Graduate School is the only school that does not have a separate accrediting agency. As a result, all schools on the campus will be reviewed differently in the upcoming visit. Emphasis will be placed on constant evaluation efforts. This will require different documentation than in the past. Additional administration staff is being hired to aid in the endeavor to ensure full accreditation from SACS.
- l. Dr. Fratkin asked the status of the library. Ada Seltzer, Rowland Medical Library Director, is scheduled in November to present the current status of the library resources. Dr. Jones’s reply was that the Library cost increases to maintain one’s current status is a 20% increase per year. In an effort to contain costs to UMMC, library resources are cut annually to help balance the budget. Dr. Jones welcomed faculty input into this problem.

m. Dr. Kermode requested information on the possibility of research incentives for faculty. Dr. Jones replied that the Herring Foundation has committed \$3 million in support of research endeavors at UMMC. In addition, federal funding is being sought to create/boost the research infrastructure. Dr. Nash suggested there were efforts regarding collaborative efforts in progress for research. Dr. Jones confirmed these efforts were in place with the UM (Oxford Campus), Tougaloo College, and Jackson State University.

V. Announcements
None

VI. Adjournment
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m. The next Faculty Senate meeting will be November 17, 2006. Ada Seltzer, Rowland Medical Library Director will be the guest speaker at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

LaVerne Grant
Secretary