**School of Medicine Faculty Assembly**

**Minutes**

**November 4, 2021**

Attendance: P. Prasad. E. Wisner, S. Primeaux, A. Augustus-Wallace, S. Alahari, D. Worthylake, Z. Ali, K Gajewski, L. Simon, R. Gomez, M. Maness, J. Cameron, J. Crabtree, J. Simkin, H. Scott, J. Gardner, C. Taylor, S. Kamboj, J. Hart, C. LeBlanc, E. Mathews, D. Felipe, N. Nair, J. Gidday, M. Houser, K. Happel, S. Sarkar, A. Martin

Proxies: None

Absent: J. Hunt, S. Holman, L. Stuke, R. Zambrano, A. Creel, L. Reilly, A. Farge, M. Reinoso, L. Tanner

Called to Order: 1600

**Guest Speaker: Dr. DiCarlo**

* Interim Chancellor Nelson aims to restore faith and trust in university. Need to redo searches which weren’t done properly etc. Leadership searches currently underway for 8 positions with diverse applicants. Working on Surgery Dept. Head search now; have had 20 applicants and 12 candidates will be interviewed. Hopefully early in 2022, 3-4 will be brought on campus which will be public knowledge at that point (currently applicants are confidential). Only 2 applicants are women but there is good ethnic diversity in the pool.
* Clinical trials: Looking to internally fill a part-time position in the Dean’s office under Dr. Alam to help to faculty. Some departments provide good support for their faculty but some departments have no support. This is an area we have been criticized and need to have central resources in place.
* Faculty Development: Committee now headed by Michelle Moore and Jay Mussell. Revision of promotion guidelines are under their care now (previously handled by Dr. DiCarlo). Want to have tracks for educators: basic science, clinical, etc. to update current promotion requirements.
* Question asked about leadership development: In the past, support for 3 women per year from Women’s Affairs Committee attend the AAMC Leadership Workshop. For underrepresented faculty, had told Maupin 2 faculty/year would also be supported for this workshop. Leadership Fellowship Program was started by Dr. DiCarlo with 2-3 selected per year. Leadership Development Lecture Series will be created that the Dean’s office will support. This will entail either bringing people in to lead these sessions and/or to get a faculty member to get trained to be able to do this. The latter would be easier so that the same person would lead it annually. Would likely be able to train 30 people/year this way which would allow the university to be able to support more than just the few who attend the AAMC Leadership Workshops.

1. **Approval of September Minutes**: (Motion Kamboj, second Crabtree)
2. **Reports**:
   1. **Executive Committee**: Did not meet. Forward questions to faculty senators for Dr. Nelson to answer at their meeting on 11/10.
   2. **SOM Administrative Council** (courtesy of Judy Crabtree).
      1. John Stewart – plans for LCMC/LSU in developing our cancer care and clinical trials. Presented his vision and strategic goals:
3. Organize LCMC oncology services into a value-based service line. Increase value by increasing quality and decreasing costs.
4. Evolve LSU and LCMC organizational capabilities and research infrastructure
5. Drive cancer care innovations that meet the needs of the patient community and state
6. Foster excellence in cancer care through leadership and pipeline development
   * 1. DiCarlo update –
        1. Searches
           1. Family medicine chair is Emelio Russo, MD, effective 11/15/21
           2. Surgery chair is underway, 20 applicants, search committee met last week, starting prelim video interviews next week on 12 or 13 candidates, then will invite finalists on campus early in new year.
           3. Taniya Desilva is new Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
           4. Clinical trials support for faculty with respect to billing, contracts, IRB - now have open, part time position in Deans Office for internal candidates only.
        2. Promotions: APT committee meets next Thursday, we have 45 faculty up for promotion, tenure or both. Dept chairs should hear by next Thurs or Fri if faculty not recommended by the APT for advancement. Appeals, if any, will be handled such that the appeal process is completed by Dec 1 to finish the process by end of year. President Tate’s office in Baton Rouge will review all packets.
        3. Covid update went up yesterday with these changes:
           1. Off campus social and fundraising events paid with foundation funds are allowed
           2. National travel policy: unvaccinated individuals returning from travel are recommend to be tested but no quarantine is required. International travel still not approved.
     2. Weiss update – Need everyone to self-report their COVID vaccination status.
     3. Maupin update – Virtual race around the table discussion – want some of the REI alumni to facilitate a meeting later this month. Conversation discussion will be founded on the NEJM one page letter to the editor on the history of segregated care found here: <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMpv2113508>
     4. Tsien update –
7. Research Café – for faculty residents and fellow, in person and zoom. CME credit for MDs
8. Last month was intramural funding opportunities
9. This month is Responsible conduct in research (RCR) and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Research. To be held November 11, Lion’s 6th floor noon – 1pm.
10. Recordings available on website. <https://www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/research/research_cafe.aspx>
11. Medical student research – just had Medical student research symposium. Many students were presenting basic science, clinical research projects. Some program directors/center directors are presenting to MD students with research opportunities.
12. Fellowship funding available via CCTS for medical research in translational science.
    * 1. Backes update –
13. Facilities – power/ac outages each weekend
    1. Sat 11/6 – regular power shutdown in CSRB emergency power will work. MEB shutdown of all power – will affect emergency power. Facilities to contact those investigators affected.
    2. Sat 11/13 – regular power shut down in CSRB on Perdido side, emergency power will work
    3. Sat 11/20 – regular power shut down on north side of CSRB, emergency power will work.
14. New Internal Health Disparities grant program – meant to support efforts to reduce health disparities Deadlines are Mar, July and Dec 15. Funding amount varies based on rank: Faculty $10000, residents $7500, students $5000. Requires 50% match from Dept or center. Looking for grants on topics such as social determinants of health, gentrification, social networks culture, etc.
15. Reminder that grant pre-review process is available through his office. Submit draft grant 4 weeks in advance. Trying to get people to engage early on to get good feedback. Can also submit just an aims page early to get feedback.
16. CCTS with UAB also has another service for translational and clinical research – offers review panels 1) nascent review panel to review and brainstorm on your grant idea 2) PDQ panels that review your draft grant 3) innovation panels for products SBIR STTR. They also have a process to identify (SHARE) collaborators on clinical trials in the region. On the SOM website as well as here:

<https://www.uab.edu/ccts/research-commons/panels?utm_source=home&utm_medium=banner&utm_campaign=sixpack&utm_content>=

* + 1. McLean update – admissions: 10% decline in applicants nationally, we’ve seen 7% decline but this is consistent with our normal numbers. Application is open for one more month.
    2. Advanced rank appointment: Dr. Jay Goldsmith is a board certified pediatrician and neonatologist who chaired Ochsner’s Department of Pediatrics for 20 years. He subsequently chaired the Tulane Section of Neonatology for 3 years.  He has co-authored 120 papers and 37 book chapters.  He continues to practice at Lakeside Hospital and has held the title of Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at Tulane since 2012.  He will occasionally supervise LSU pediatric residents, as LSU and Tulane faculty partner to cover neonatology services at multiple hospitals in the region.  He is proposed for a gratis appointment as Clinical Professor of Pediatrics.
    3. Spirit of Charity is Friday. Alumni gala is the week after 13th.
  1. **Faculty Senate:** Reviewed draft of letter to be submitted to Board of Supervisors and President Tate. Letter was approved by Senate. Dr. Tate sent a swift response. Interim Chancellor will be present on 11/9 at 4 pm so any questions can be sent to either Dr. Prasad or senators to be submitted for Dr. Nelson.

1. **Old Business:** 
   1. Historically excluded Faculty and DEI taskforce (courtesy of Allison Augustus-Wallace):
      1. Next Meeting 11/10 at 10AM. Will be continuing discussions with Dr. Molina and Dr. Brown. Will also continue discussion about Diversity Awards. Criteria for the awards and nomination process will be discussed.
   2. LSU Internal Audit:
      1. Interim Chancellor Nelson in place for 12-18 months. His goal is to meet with the FA in 2022 (Feb or March).
      2. Several new articles on nola.com regarding LSU. Have been told to “hold tight” because more articles are to be published.
2. **Call for New Business:** 
   1. FA Awards: Will have 5 awards as opposed to 4 with the addition of the new Diversity Award. Descriptions of other awards are on the FA website. Email is sent in early- to mid-January asking for nominations. Usually given 2-3 weeks to submit nominations. Small committee of judges from the FA will be formed to evaluate and score the nominations; winners are given a plaque and educational grant. FA members and administrators are not eligible for awards.
   2. COVID vaccination: Need to upload status; link on FA website. Make sure learners are aware as well. If had uploaded it early (August, for example), you may not have received a confirmation email so may need to resubmit. Can call Lori Farrow (compliance officer) or Monique Smith to see if the card has been received.
3. **Adjourn at 1653:** Motion: Kamboj