

School of Medicine Faculty Assembly
Minutes
June 3rd, 2021

Attendance: Alahari, Suresh; Augustus-Wallace, Allison ; Cameron, Jennifer; Crabtree, Judy; Creel, Amy; Felipe, Dania; Gardner, Jason; Gidday, Jeffrey; Gomez, Ricardo; Guidry, Jessie; Hart, Jennifer; Holman, Stacy; Houser, Marcella; Kamboj, Sanjay; LeBlanc, Colleen; LeBlanc, Dana; Levitzky, Michael; Nair, Navya; Olistter, Staci; Prasad, Pinki; Primeaux, Stefany; Sarkar, Shubho; Stuke, Lance; Surcouf, Jeffrey; Taylor, Christopher; Wisner, Elizabeth; Wu, Chunlai; Yue, Xinping

Proxy: None

Absent: Ali, Zee; Gupta, Raegan; Happel, Kyle; Hunt, John; James, Ernest; Reilly, Leslie; Tanner, LaNasha; Zambrano, Regina

Called to order: (motion Kamboj, second Levitzky) 4:01PM

1. Approval of the April meeting minutes (motion Kamboj, second Levitzky)
2. Recognition of Dr. Levitzky's long tenure and contributions to LSUHSC and the SOM.
3. Guest Speaker – Carmen Canavier and Scott Delacroix, Leave Bank
 - a. Sick Leave is now available for care of immediate family in addition to the employee's own needs.
 - b. Baton Rouge already has a Leave Bank in place, and LSUHSC's is paralyzed by turnover in HR.
 - c. Suggestion was made to pass a resolution at the Assembly level, and then approach the Senate regarding pressuring administration to flesh out a policy.
 - d. Could serve as a vital recruitment tool.
 - e. Navya will move forward to author a Resolution from the Assembly.
4. Reports:
 - a. **Executive Committee**
 - i. No Budget as of yet, but state funding for clinical departments is expected to be limited. Central Admin should be expected to pay for basic infrastructure that SOM pays for, and Departments are being asked to justify their budgets through creating value from research, teaching and administration.
 - ii. 2% COLA University-wide effective in July.
 - iii. Classes will be fully live in Fall.
 - iv. COVID vaccination is above 85% SOM-wide; cannot be required at this time.
 - v. Both a Clinical Trials Office creation and a post-tenure review are progressing pending evolving details.
 - vi. VCAA search committee has been formed and 9 candidates have been identified with one internal.
 - vii. No renovations started on MEB laboratory space

viii. CSRB front door entry was evaluated for employees, and students. Officially opened for all LSUHSC employees and students on Friday, May 28th.

b. SOM Administrative Council (courtesy Judy Crabtree)

i. Dr. Dicarlo 's updates included:

1. Advanced rank appointments

a. **Sergio Bartakian, MD** is proposed for hire at the rank of Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics. Dr. Bartakian has had faculty appointments as Assistant Professor on the clinical track at both UT San Antonio (3 years) and Texas A&M (2 years) and now holds an appointment at Children's Hospital of Michigan. He was the Director of Pediatric Cardiac Catheterization at UT San Antonio. He has fellowship training in pediatric cardiology and pediatric interventional cardiology, and he has specialized interest in pulmonary hypertension. He has authored or co-authored 10 peer review publications and one book chapter. We have only one current pediatric interventional cardiologist, and we have been working with Children's to recruit an experienced interventional cardiologist as part of the overall strategy for growth of our pediatric heart program.

b. **John H Stewart IV MD, MBA** is proposed for hire at the rank of Professor of Surgery (Tenure Track). Dr. Stewart has been recruited jointly by LSU and LCMC to oversee cancer clinical care for LCMC, to expand care access, to improve cancer care outcomes and to reduce health disparities. He has been Professor of Surgery at University of Illinois College of Medicine since 2018. Prior to that he was on the faculty at Wake Forest and at Duke. He is a board certified surgeon and he has completed NIH Fellowships in Surgical Oncology and Tumor Immunotherapy. He is an accomplished researcher and administrator. Dr. Stewart has authored or co-authored 82 peer review publications, 13 book chapters and 13 scientific reviews. He is currently a Presidential Scholar at University of Illinois. His administrative experience includes service as program director for surgery, Vice Chair for the Department of Surgery, and Associate Dean for Research at Wake Forest. He was Surgeon in Chief at the Durham VA while on the faculty at Duke. He is currently Deputy Director of the Cancer Center and Physician Executive of Oncology Services at University of Illinois.

ii. New department heads

- Dr. Pino anesthesiology
- Dr. Canavier
- Dr. Ron Bailey head of psychiatry

iii. Other searches

1. Family medicine – 2 internal, 1 external candidate, interviews in progress
2. Assistant Dean for Student Affairs – succession planning for Cathy Lazarus, internal search only, 50% time

- iv. New COVID guidelines on HSC website. Return to in person meetings and classes for Fall (and summer as relevant). Travel and visitors from off campus are fine as long as they are vaccinated. Sensitive issue regarding personal health issues, but we as supervisors can ask direct employees for vaccination status. Travel approved as long as vaccinated. In-person CME courses require proof of vaccination. Expecting Admin Council to move back to in-person with the next meeting.
- v. **Dr. Cathy Lazarus gave an update:**
 - 1. Congrats to the med students on a great Camp Tiger – wonderful virtual event. Camper parade, box of activities they were handed along parade. Lots of activities virtually. Very creative!
- vi. **Dr. Robin English's update regarding Med School Curriculum:**
 - 1. They have a complete L2 and almost-complete L1 schedule for fall. They have generated two schedules – one with all 200 students together in their classes like TBL and anatomy labs. The other has them split into smaller groups for distancing depending on which way we go in the fall for in person classes. L1 schedule should be finalized mid next week.
 - 2. Course directors, at least those who responded to the email, are all 100% on board with having students all together and in person in the Fall. Decision will be made in July.
 - 3. Thanks to Joy Sturtevant and Andrew Hollenbach for the help getting these schedules finalized.
 - 4. Clerkship start July 6, prep the week prior.
 - 5. Visiting students – are we allowing visiting students for 4th year? Per Dr. Cathy Lazarus: Yes, they have to be vaccinated, partnering hospitals have agreed to that. Only allowed one away rotation. And only one away rotation accepted for students coming in. Virtual rotations are not limited.
- vii. **Update on Medical School Applications:**
 - 1. 20% increase in applicants here and nationwide; Class size is full
 - 2. 115 female, 75 male, 1 declining to declare gender, working with PeopleSoft to find a way to handle this scenario
 - 3. 5-6 MD/PhD
 - 4. 12 MD/MPH
- viii. **Dr. Backes update on Basic Science Labs and Guidelines for intramural support**
 - 1. Sent out a request to basic science chairs to clean out the labs being used for storage and return them to move-in condition for recruitment. Aware of some issues because of CSRB construction but he is more concerned about the unauthorized expansion into existing spaces.
 - 2. Revamping the guidelines for intramural support for faculty research. Want to invest in the best research to support our faculty. Dividing faculty into three groups:
 - a. Faculty with current funding but who had to accept a budget cut from NIH at award
 - b. Faculty who had past funding and is working to get renewed and is therefore between funding. If within 2 years, can request

additional support with justification and plan for obtaining funding, and

- c. Faculty outside the 2-year window are not eligible for funding outside of the REP. Individuals in all of these categories are eligible for an REP grant for any new ideas. Trying to formalize the process and make the guidelines more consistent. Review the attached document.
 - ix. Chancellor's office – active search for Dr. Moerschbaecher's position, and Director of HR – finished video interviews, moving on to next phase.
 - x. 2% COLA in effect in July. As far as we know that is still happening.
 - xi. Dr. **Peter Winsauer** – thanks to Dr. Fern Tsien for all the hard work onboarding all the summer students.
- b. Faculty Senate
- i. COVID update for India
 - ii. HR has new directors and staff
 - iii. Mask policy continues into Fall
 - iv. Construction is progressing
 - v. Senate is holding elections at next meeting
 - vi. Dress Code conversation (please see New Business for discussion)
- b) Old Business:
- a. Historically excluded Faculty and DEI Taskforce
 - i. Resume meetings soon
 - b. FA Elections for July 2021-June 2024
 - i. Increase of 2 delegates; one from BR and Lafayette as per new bylaws
- c) Call for New Business:
- a. CM-69 Dress Code for LSUHSC
 - i. Jenn Cameron wanted to discuss the Dress Code based on urging from other faculty in her department, and that it is misogynistic and directed to some of the female faculty specifically.
 - ii. It was pointed out that CM-69 plagiarizes other policies on the internet.
 - iii. Senate was not counselled on this policy
 - iv. Jennifer Cameron will write a letter from The Assembly to The Senate to raise this issue and concerns with Administration
 - b. Faculty Assembly Spotlight on the website was proposed to highlight the FA Award winners and speak to their contributions; spearheaded by Cameron.
- d) Adjourn (motion Kamboj, second Levitzky) 5:05PM