

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2020

Online Meeting - 5:00 pm

**Present via call-in (in alphabetic order):** Bak, Matthew(A); Chakan, Matthew.; Cipi, Anja; Collins, Jay; Daniel, Dianne; Flaherty, J.; Holt, Nicole (A); Hosseini, Alireza; Ikonne, Uzona (A); Lappinen, Eric; Lattanzio, Frank; Morris, Shannon; Musto, Alberto; Pant, Mohan; Patel, S.; Rubino, Mary; Smith, Robert; Strunc, Michael; Williams, Michael

1. The Faculty Senate was called to order at 5:04 by Dr. Hosseini.
2. The minutes of the October 2020 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.
3. Grievance Committee activities were presented by Shannon Morris. An open hearing grievance chaired by Shannon Morris in October had the committee's response sent to Dean Homan who will make a final decision in the next week. There are no additional grievances pending.
4. Dr. Hosseini reported that he did not have formal meeting with Dean Homan, but did speak to the Dean during a short telephone conversation. (1) The consulting report concerning a potential consortium agreement involving EVMS, Sentara, ODU and the state of Virginia has not yet been received. Dean Homan had previously stated in the last General Faculty meeting that the main goal of this agreement would be to support EVMS faculty and staff and the agreement would not be accepted if it was not deemed beneficial to EVMS. (2) The Dean congratulated the performance and longevity of faculty and staff during the virtual Faculty and Staff awards ceremony held last week. We note that Dr. Cipi, a Faculty Senator from Emergency Medicine, was honored with the Rising Star award. (3) Dr. Homan mentioned the development of a new Center under the auspices of Ob/Gyn and he supported the concept. This Center is concerned with a number of OB/Gyn issues, including Maternal and Infant Health. The Tidewater area has consistently reported significantly poorer maternity and infant health outcomes and this fact is one of the driving forces for the establishment of such a Center, to be supported by EVMS and

Ob/Gyn resources. Dr. Abuhamed created a draft proposal for the Center and it will be reviewed by the Faculty Senate today.

5. Originally, Dr. Mylona was to present the draft of the Center proposal, but unfortunately she could not attend this meeting. The draft of the proposal received by Faculty Senate members last Friday, November 13 and the Center was created to address the disparity in maternal and infant health care in the Tidewater area. As noted, the Center will be led by Ob/Gyn but will include other interested parties, including Sentara, HADSI CHKD and the Brock Institute. The Center's mission statement is "Reduce health disparity for mothers and their children by focusing on clinical practice quality and safety using epidemiological and effectiveness data to drive guidelines and policy." The proposal has an initial 5 year plan to establish and support the Center with a budget predominantly coming from Ob/Gyn and EVMS sources. The original timeline was to put this proposal before the BOV in December if the Faculty Senate gave its approval.
6. The proposal was discussed in depth by the Faculty Senate. It was suggested that there should be an outreach to the clinical community for input, as a number of clinicians were previously unaware of the proposal and were interested in clarifying the roles of the Pediatric department faculty and other clinical faculty listed as to be determined (TBD) in the proposal. How policy would be developed to insure a successful outcome and who would be recruited to develop and implement the policy was also discussed. In the proposal Dr. Abuhamed would be serve as interim director of the Center until Dr. Lindsay Speros Robbins was installed as director in September 2021. The Faculty Senate desired clarification of these outstanding points prior to voting on the proposal and a motion to delay the vote was proposed, seconded and approved. Given that the December Faculty Senate meeting was after the BOV meeting, the next BOV meeting would be in the spring of 2021. Dr. Hosseini will contact Drs. Mylona and Abuhamed tonight via email with the Faculty Senate's decision and the initial suggestions to address the issues raised.
7. Dr. Hosseini told the Faculty Senate that there was no additional update on Faculty Handbook revisions, although the revisions that had be made previously were to reduce

any LCME site visit concerns. Unlike previous versions of the Faculty Handbook, the current Handbook will include a series of links to more effectively guide users to information. This approach also allows updates to occur in piecemeal, rather than revising the entire Handbook.

8. Dr. Pant asked about the status of the funds given by Dr. Homan in FY2020 (e.g. starting July 2019) to improve faculty development, in part through supporting traveling to conferences and workshops, among other academic activities. There was concern voiced that because of travel restrictions due to the COVID19 pandemic, coupled the elimination of meetings (or reduction to virtual meetings), these funds could not be used as planned and might be lost. A question was raised as to whether the fund's budget timeline could be extended another year or more to permit the funds to be spent. This will not be the case, but Dean Homan has mentioned that he expects to re-initiate funds for the next three year cycle. Since there a number of rapidly increasing virtual events that could support faculty development, it was suggested that the funds be spent over the remaining time for some of these new virtual events.
9. A request will be made to Dean Homan to attend the December Faculty Senate meeting to discuss faculty development funds, in addition to questions about the new Centers, the upcoming SACS site visit and other issues.
10. The Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:52 PM.

Next Meeting: December 21, 2020