

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2020

Online Meeting - 5:00 pm

Present via call-in (in alphabetic order): Daniel, Dianne; Derkay, Craig; Hosseini, Alireza; Lattanzio, Frank; Morris, Shannon; Rubino, Mary

Invited guest: Dr. Elza Mylona

1. The Faculty Senate was called to order at 5:00 by Dr. Hosseini.
2. The minutes of the November 2020 meeting had been unanimously approved via email as submitted.
3. Dr. Mylona described the development of the Path Forward Plan, which was an acutely formulated tactical plan that was designed to be refined via feedback from all members of EVMS. The plan had four task forces (Research, Education, Clinical, Legal/Administrative), each composed of members from the faculty, learners and staff. The task forces would examine their individual areas to delineate strengths and weaknesses, how to develop additional areas, then integrate all areas and create a roadmap for their development. The input from the task forces was time sensitive, with a January 25, 2021 submission deadline to Dr. Homan. The Faculty Senate was targeting Wednesday, December 30 to get their comments generated. Currently there are 10-12 representatives in each of the task forces, with a survey to be sent to the entire campus to submit additional comments. Several Faculty Senators were to be assigned to various task forces, based on the individual's expertise in a particular area. The list of task force members will be sent out, along with timelines and the task force templates.
4. A discussion was initiated between Dr. Mylona and members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee regarding the Path Forward Plan. Dr. Derkay asked if the Faculty Senate response should be on an individual basis or as a group or through those Faculty Senate members on task forces. Dr. Mylona suggested the use of bullet points from the Faculty Senate to be organized and sent to the four task forces. The voice of the Faculty

Senate could be incorporated into the task forces through the individual Senators within the task forces (Drs. Hosseini and Rubino) and those individuals could engage the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Senate could engage their departments. Dr. Mylona noted that the Faculty Senate direct input should go out by December 30, with additional stakeholder comments submitted until January 8, 2021. Dr. Hosseini asked if there was any new communication from Sentara. Dr. Mylona noted that there was no response from either Sentara or ODU regarding the Path Forward Plan. In parting, Dr. Mylona again requested that bullet points be submitted, then thanked the Faculty Senate for their Path Forward input and also for its input and support in regard to several recent updates to the Faculty Handbook.

5. After Dr. Mylona's departure, discussion continued regarding the Path Forward Plan. Dr. Derkay suggested having two Faculty Senators or possibly a representative and an alternate on each of the four task force groups. Dr. Hosseini asked if the Faculty Senate could request the list of task force members; he then sent an email to Dr. Mylona for that information. Dr. Hosseini also noted that Dr. Homan had mentioned a second plan under development and the Faculty Senate needed details of that plan. It was noted that students were represented on all four task force groups. In the Path Forward Plan, there was to be an EVMS Medical Group that would be a separate entity from Sentara (and ODU). Review of criteria for those Medical Group clinical members with teaching responsibilities would have to be evaluated based on different parameters for different tasks, with protected time to allow for research and teaching to be accomplished. Currently, Sentara does not have these types of specialized criteria for their clinicians. Dr. Daniel asked about the residency programs, which as Dr. Rubino explained, are administered by EVMS, with money passing through Sentara and then going to the residency departments (with Sentara removing some funds in passing). Dr. Hosseini noted that the plan was trying to keep EVMS as a standalone component under the umbrella of Sentara and ODU, but there would likely be complicated legal issues. Dr. Morris noted that if EVMS employees could become state employees, this merger might be possible, but Dr. Hosseini noted that it did

not appear that the state had sufficient funds to allow this change in employment to occur. This shortfall then opened up the question of potential loss of faculty and staff with the merger. Dr. Hosseini noted that currently the state budget does not have additional funds committed to EVMS and Dr. Derkay note that there could be a future commitment, but it is not in the upcoming budget. Dr. Derkay commented that Sentara's two year timeline appeared too rapid but the proposed 7 year timeline might be too long, as there would likely be changes in the Sentara, EVMS and ODU administration, as well as changes in the Virginia legislature over that time. Dr. Morris concurred that there would be turnover at ODU soon and Dr. Derkay spoke about the necessity of integrating EVMS and ODU policies for tenure, clinicians and many other areas. The Sentara statement in the Manatt report about increased EVMS money based on merging the ODU and EVMS research enterprises would occur not because of increased Sentara contributions, but because the merger would place the combined EVMS/ODU group in a higher research tier for federal support. The lack of ODU and Sentara input to the Path Forward Plan was noted, but there was a similar situation regarding EVMS input on the original proposal. The potential for EVMS and ODU to form a School of Public Health but also maintaining the EVMS SHP was mentioned as part of the Path Forward Plan. It was noted that there might be some sharing of EVMS and ODU research resources and the potential for some new projects.

6. Dr. Derkay said he would submit a collection of bullet point comments for the four task forces to the Faculty Senate for circulation. A draft of the minutes of the meeting would also be circulated.
7. Dr. Hosseini then asked for a vote to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at about 6:15PM.

Next Meeting: January 25, 2021