

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

GENERAL MEDICAL FACULTY

FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND FACULTY SENATORS

QUARTERLY MEETING AGENDA



5:00 P.M., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 2024

Dean’s Conference Room 15th floor Murphy and via ZOOM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

CHAIR OF GENERAL MEDICAL FACULTYNAKEISHA PIERRE

Meeting called to order at 5:03pm.

UPDATES FROM THE DEAN

DEAN..... L. LEE HAMM

Transition to EJ overall gone well. A lot of things left to be done, including issues of branding, to maximize referrals and consults. Downtown clinics are quite isolated. Aligning vision. More marketing to come.

Updates:

- Planning for downtown building. ER still open. Some clinics to remain downtown indefinitely – unclear if staying in same position; some set to move in April. Renovation of Hutch 7th floor – delayed. Those with offices have moved to Murphy 8th floor.
- Dr. Andrew Schally who won Nobel Prize at Tulane/VA in 1977 donated his gold medal to Tulane. To be displayed soon.
- Recruitment for investigators
- GME off warning, now fully accredited. IM is also now off warning. Now only 1 program in warning status.
- GMF meeting tomorrow with President Fitts.
- Fire and flood in Tidewater Dec 2023 – Adult Psych, bills, etc.
- Coming up on budget season – going to be tight. Tightest it’s been in a long time.
- Nursing program going full steam ahead to start in Fall 2024. Based out of hospital building, but may start in Murphy in fall until building ready. 30-35 students this year, plan to have 70 after per year. Going to do clinicals throughout region. Not eligible for tuition waver.
 - Such a need for nursing that a lot of hospitals offer payback later - TBD

UPDATES FROM FACULTY AFFAIRS

SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN.....MARIE KROUSEL-WOOD

Generate interest for GMF attendance tomorrow physically. Ideal to have more people in house for President Fitts.

FACULTY FEEDBACK

Discussion of recent water leak and insurance deductible for damage..... SARAH LINDSEY

Including notification of investigators. Deductible is \$500k – shocking revelation (eg. If ultrasound ruined cost \$200k, you have to pay out of pocket). We need to tell people about our deductible. Buy water-proof coverings for all of our equipment. What is facilities doing? Is there a way to detect or prevent sooner? What steps are we taking to turn off water and pipes interrogation? Concerns given ongoing construction.

Dr. Hamm – the lower the deductible, the higher the cost put in. The chair/department needs to let the dean know if you have parts that need to be replaced.

Sue Pollack – facilities is working to have more sensitive monitors, extra-sensors because pipe network is so old and covered. Acknowledgement by Facilities that this is a big problem. There needs to be a maintenance plan particularly re: upgrading piping, electrical, and so forth. The University’s attention on Hutchinson is much more acute in a while given recent issues. No plans for change in insurance. Are there preventive measures than can be taken (Don’t put things on the floor, get waterproof covers)?

Discussion of the professionalism committee and peer messengers at EJ.....AIMEE AYSENNE

At MEC, it was mentioned that they use a peer messenger system (B-SAFE) but includes the chief of staff and the service line leaders are notified, unlike our evidence based confidential system. Dr. Mauldin would feed it through the Tulane professional system previously.

Dr. Hamm – B-SAFE is LCMC system, not the Tulane system. If there are problems with it, we can see if we can address it.

Sue Pollack – recommend to medical staff leaders to talk with med staff leadership at EJ. Dr. Killackey is likely already working on it.

Dr. Aysenne – UMC asked for directorship nominations in fall, list was LSU heavy. Will this process be duplicated or done annually to ensure Tulane representation at UMC? She’s been told that she has to round at 7am at Neuro ICU for NP signout at UMC and required to be physically present for 8 hours/day – they won’t let her even go to her office in Murphy. NPs hired by LCMC.

Dr. Hamm – when they did those, they had 14 service lines. Tulane had 0. Medical directors – Tulane got about 1/3d of the medical directors. Put into place by prior CEO. They are aware that it needs to be looked at. No word on what they’re going to do with it. Tulane has some protections at UMC, but they’re not extensive, and not nearly as extensive as at EJ. When transition took place, some thought EJ would become Tulane-heavy and UMC LSU-heavy – we pushed back on that, but it’s a complicated matter.

Downtown Development

Dr. Boh – no food source downtown except downgraded cafeteria, medical school (1 booth) + Subway. No food trucks anymore. Can't have didactics downtown either since no food service.

Dr. Hamm to raise concerns. University trying to figure out what to do – Hutchinson vs old hospital area vs food trucks (not enough) vs vending machines. Med students zoom now, so even less of a presence. This is a food desert.

Faculty Retention

Dr. Boh – during transition, track faculty numbers. Due to struggles with clinic staffing, concerns re: long-term retention. Are faculty considering leaving?

Dr. Hamm has not been hearing that. Though part of this meeting is to hear from faculty. Meets with chairs regularly – no concerns have been raised. This is one of the most concerning items. Partly morale, partly state of mind. Provided updates to uptown campus re: transition. This opens up opportunities, seen by medical school and university (President Fitts). Need to make progress sooner (not in decades) – we're in the midst of it. Account on leadership in various forms – see the glass is half full.

Dr. Pierre - We did such a great job building the Tulane community, and that's what is missed in this new place. Morale will rebound once we figure it out at EJ. Dr. Hamm – we need to have more Tulane specific items at EJ. How do we be more cohesive? Dr. Aslam – once we get marketing figured out, people will start feeling more attached to our new location. Dr. Boh – news/advertising focused more on EJ and LCMC, not so much the Tulane name (LCMC putting out LCMC name, not Tulane name).

Budget

Dr. Pierre re: budget – educational, conference expenditures – do we expect any changes?

Dr. Hamm – still hasn't been identified.

Dr. Donald re: budgeting. As far as patient navigation, do we know the referral patterns? How do we share unreferral patients?

Dr. Hamm – in state of flux. We have put in place a single phone number for patients and providers to call to get an appointment. We have been monitoring the referral pattern. It's too early to know what the numbers mean. Unreferred are determined by the service. Joint council meetings – academic group from Tulane and existing EJ doctors determined pattern per service.

Dr. Turner – advertising within. Received an email about how to send referrals within system to her. Some people are used to having their referral patterns already set up. Communication within needs to be prioritized. How to clarify services within? I know how to refer through Epic, but how do I refer to downtown clinic?

Dr. Hamm – at 1st, referrals/consults were not initially Tulane-friendly. Now, there is a “Tulane” option for referrals/consults. Big challenge – the places still not on epic (uptown square, Tulane ER,

lakeside, downtown clinics) – not a good mechanism to go between the two systems. In some ways, worse than when run by HCA. 2nd phase of Epic in April roll-out to be addressed with potential solutions/help to address this. Best way to make appointments now is to call the MD/clinic directly. Downtown can't refer to EJ – print out referral/note and fax them to EJ.

NEXT STEPS

CHAIR OF GENERAL MEDICAL FACULTYNAKEISHA PIERRE

- Touch base with Dr. Killackey re: professionalism concerns
- Facilities concerns being addressed with Sue

ADJOURNMENT at 5:59pm

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 6th, 2024 at 5pm.