

General Medical Faculty Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 5th, 2017

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks – *Andrea Zsombok, Ph.D., Chair of the General Medical Faculty*
2. Minutes from General Faculty Meeting, July 5, 2017 – Approved.
Aimee Aysenne, M.D., Secretary- Treasurer of the General Medical Faculty <http://www2.tulane.edu/som/gmf/gmfmins.cfm>
3. Address – *Michael A. Fitts, J.D., President of Tulane University*
 - This is his 4th address to the medical school.
 - “A good medical schools are critical to successful universities.” The mission of the medical school is critical.
 - The university must be deeply involved in philanthropy. Notably, the medical school received a large gift of \$25 million from the Deming family to name the Department of Medicine in honor of John W. Deming. Historically as a university, we have been behind our peers for endowments.
 - The downtown campus will soon see improvements for it’s physical structure including:
 - Addition of a police substation and gym in the old Walgreens building.
 - Increased police on bikes.
 - There has been a change of guard at the entrance of the hospital building.
 - There will be increased support of research from the university with an emphasis on improvement of externally supported funding. The goal is \$200 million per year. “The Medical School is leading the way of the research portfolio.”
 - For future growth “there is no university that is hotter than Tulane.”
 - The most undergraduate applicants ever last year and expected 10% increase this year. Lowest acceptance rate ever with 21% and this year will be < 20%. The SAT scores increased 14 points and the diversity has increased from 17% to 22% and is at 27% if international students are included.
 - National interest in coming the New Orleans now.
 - Rankings have increased from 54th to 40th in US News.
 - Has been named one if the Top 25 most innovative universities in USA.
 - Financially, we have balanced the budget for the first time in years.
 - Started increased investment in development about 4-5 years ago with over \$126 million in investments.
 - We have increased the quality of faculty, student recruitment and research.
 - There are ongoing improvements to the uptown campus including a new student center on the Campus Green.
 - Big news will be the public campaign for fund raising, which will roll out in December.
 - Q/A:
 1. Q: To be competitive for NIH grants one needs to be in the top 10% and currently HR will not increase salary support > 50th percentile. How do we get top candidates without paying top salaries?
A: Tulane needs to be a place where people are rewarded for being successful. We will pay people who are great larger salaries than those others. There is a subjective and objective portion of salary negotiations. What is the national norm for this position and how badly do we need this person. The university did a survey of all staff and across the board there were people who were underpaid, overpaid and rightly paid and expect the same in faculty. There is a new leader of HR who is more open to negotiations and discussions.
 2. O: Difficult transportation between the untown and downtown campuses

and cross campus collaboration. The bus is difficult or impossible as is.

A: We are certainly working on collaboration between the campuses. Busing improvement is a great idea. "I hear you."

3. Q: There is a safety concern about pedestrians crossing on Tulane Ave between the hospital and medical school without crosswalk with speeding traffic.

A: "I hear you" We can work on this.

4. Q: Please explain the importance of the Dec 6 roll out.

A: This is the public phase of the campaign for fundraising. 6-7 years ago we raised about \$80 million and now it is about \$180 million. We are in the right location in the city of New Orleans and a great relationship with the undergrad and graduate programs to allow for improved fundraising.

5. Q: Can you talk about the presidential chairs and the status of that plan?

A: The goal is to hire 10 top notched faculty leaders who are proficient in more than 1 field to serve as endowed chairs with \$5 million per chair. There is a push for recruitment of faculty who are leaders in their fields and who create synergy across fields. We currently have 3 of these positions filled.

6. Q: How do we help the homeless around the hospital and med school campus?

A: There is talk about making the old VA a homeless shelter, which would not be in the school's best interest. We are working on more activity in and around the campus to create a stronger footprint including the gym and police substation and will have some sort of food service or cafe. We will be moving all the offices from Poydras to the SOM buildings.

4. Dean's Report – *L. Lee Hamm, M.D., Senior Vice President and Dean*

- "Fantastic trend for the university and the school of medicine is an important part of that".
- *Education*: big challenge is LCME visit in Jan 2019 with submission of application in about 1 year from now.
- *Research* funding has increased by 10% in the past 2 years.
- *Clinical*: UMC is well integrated, the VA outpatient clinics have been open for 6 months and the hospital just opened with a surgery today. Tulane Hospital acquired Lakeview in the spring and is having a small impact now but North Shore is promising for the long run.
- *Community engagement*: The Ruth Furtel clinic which had HIV care and primary care flooded Aug 5 and is still not up and running now. Big challenge.

5. Report from Faculty Affairs - *Tonette Krousel-Wood, M.D., Associate Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs*

- Primary concerns are working on the edits of the bylaws and constitution for faculty, which will require a vote of approval. Additionally prepping for LCME reaccreditation.

6. Reports from Department Chairs

- There is a new flow cytometry available for researchers as well as 2 new single cell transcriptome which are available in the school of medicine and at the primate center.
- There is a new biostatistician who was hired within the school of medicine who will help with collaboration moving forward.

7. Clinical Quality Update – *Alston E. Dunbar, M.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, CMO of Tulane Hospital*

- SLIM: Sepsis, Lines, Infection prevention, and Mortality.
- Sepsis trend is for improvement with July having the lowest rates in the past four years with 5 projected lines saved

- Line infections are decreasing.
- Apollo mission is having the hospital in the 2025 US News and World Report Honor Roll Status.

8. Adjournment