

Minutes of the GMF Meeting

Wednesday, July 15, 2015

Meeting started at 12 PM

Dr. David Franklin, Chairman of GMF welcomed the attendees. He went over the following issues:

(1). **Location and Timing for Future GMF Meetings.** He offered the choice of location for the future GMF meetings between DeBakey Center (Murphy building) and the main auditorium (1430 Tulane Avenue, SOM Building).

Later, Dr. Franklin introduced Dr. Hamm, the Dean of School of Medicine.

(2). **Dr. Lee Hamm, M.D.,** Senior Vice President and Dean, School of Medicine; James R. Doty Distinguished Professor and Chairman.

- Discussed the plans of the President of Tulane University related to reviewing the budget as the financial situation is not where it needs to be. This has implications for the SOM and the expectation is that the process is going to be transparent. He informed that the funds go back and forth between SOM and the University while the University mainly pays for the electricity and security. He expressed the opinion that there is not going to be drastic changes relating to SOM budget. He offered to provide more details as they become available.
- He touched on areas where SOM can improve to become financially self-sufficient. He identified Clinical and Research productivity as areas with scope of improvement and mentioned that there are no plans to increase tuition fees.
- Talked about Strategic Plan and its implementation. He mentioned that it is now ready to be fit into capital campaign the university is likely to announce in little over a year.
- In response to invited question related to the University's debt, his recollection was that it amounts to around 700 million, mostly in the form of long term bonds. The consultancy group engaged by the University to review the budgets made the assessment of Tulane University's budget. It was identified that the university drawing from the 'credit line' quite a bit more than what a typical university of comparable size would have done. He mentioned that he was not clear whether there are painful ways such as reducing the salary raises are being considered.
- Dr. Hamm also took a question from Dr. Emad Kandil about VA Hospital's plans to hire their own clinical and research faculty and staff. He mentioned that VA Hospital's plans to hire their own staff has worried many departments in SOM but he stated that these plans are not as extensive as feared. Based on his communication with administrators of the VA Hospital he felt that VA is an opportunity but not a threat to SOM.

(3). Dr. Franklin announced **GMF Election Results** and the newly elected officials were introduced to the attendees. He invited the members of the GMF to offer their suggestions to help the elected members of various committees. Later, he invited Dr. Prasad Katakam, newly elected Secretary of GMF, to present the annual budget of GMF.

(4). **Dr. Prasad Katakam, MD., PhD., Secretary of GMF, presented the GMF budget.** Initial Budget on July 1st, 2015: \$5000.00 and the expenses incurred for the July 15th Meeting included \$322.50 for Food and \$70.50 for Labor, leaving the currently \$4,607.00 in the Budget.

(5). **Dr. Franklin updated the progress on the editing the bylaws of GMF** to be more in touch with more recent events. The edited document, he said would be made available to the faculty member for review by providing links online before the next to next GMF meeting. Later voting for the approval will be conducted.

(6). **Dr. Kevin Krane, MD.,** Chairman of Curriculum Committee, provided an overview of the medical school curriculum.

- He shared the statistic that Tulane medical students have 99% pass rate in USMLE Step I. He also highlighted the features of a unique clerkship implemented at Tulane SOM that involved students work in the community looking at the context of care and social determinants of health.
- He also discussed the goals of the curriculum committee. He emphasized the efforts to encourage active learning and professional behavior among the students

- He mentioned about the plans to communicate with the administrators of the UMC and the students were involved in the process.
- In response to a question, he mentioned about teaching the students the basics business in medicine as a part of health care system. Some of which he mentioned is built into courses such as foundations of medicine in basic science. Later in the clinical curriculum, they learn some business aspects of medicine in Family Medicine. He offered to include as a seminar this topic in the Interdisciplinary seminars that offered to the students.
- He discussed about Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA) are required before joining residency program.
- There was discussion about the need for vertical integration of curriculum.

(7). Dr. Franklin invited the update on **Faculty Senate and Dr. Sam Landry** provided the details. He provided overview of the activities of the Senate Committee to revise the Handbook. He cautioned that the process is slow and identified the key issues addressed. First issue was about the disciplinary procedure and procedure of termination. Second issues was related to family leave and informed that it is now considered that faculty are entitle to family leave. Third issues was about appointments related to Track Switching. Currently discussion are continuing about whether there should be no change or lengthening the clock etc.

(8). Work Force Management **Benefits Committee** offered to provide details of the upcoming changes in the next meeting.

(9). Student Mental Health. There was discussion about increasing incidents of student suicides and informed about the Tulane website devoted on the University Senate page.

(10). Dr. Lee Hamm discussed the need for the senators to study the Intellectual Property related language to study the impact on School of Medicine.

(11). Dr. 'Tonette' Krousel-Wood, MD, Associate Dean/Associate Provost for Health Sciences, informed that the faculty voted to remove qualifiers from non-tenure track faculty appointments such as Tenure and Research. This was approved and fully accepted and recommended by the school of medicine to the University which in turn approved the changes.

(12). **Dr. Barbara Beckman, Associate Dean for Admissions** for the Tulane School of medicine provided report on the admissions for the upcoming year. Current class of 185 students come from 38 states include 78 females and 102 males with an average GPA of 3.6. Tulane University (25 students) and University of Virginia are the two most represented universities. Underrepresented minorities (19 students) most of them being Vietnamese. She also mentioned about the need to do fund raising to increase the number of student scholarships from the current level of thirty scholarships.

(13). P and H committee report was provided by Dr. 'Tonette' Krousel-Wood and she drew attention to the faculty information online about tenure and non-tenure track promotions. She also made announcement regarding the Faculty Orientation (September 16th 8AM-4PM) and Faculty Reception (September 16th 6 PM).