

- I. Meeting was declared open by **Aimee Aysenne, M.D.**, Chair of the GMF at 5:03.
- II. **Approval of minutes** (Dr. Tracy Fischer, Secretary-Treasurer of the GMF). Minutes of the July 15, 2020 meeting were approved.
- III. **Presidential Address** (Michael A. Fitts, J.D., President of Tulane University). Dr. Fitts expressed his recognition of the need to produce excellent universities and medical schools and the challenges Tulane has faced throughout the past year. Tulane is doing very well during this challenging time:
 - Research dollars are up >50%. A lot of great research triumphs and new funding has been achieved.
 - The medical students presented ways restaurants and bars can open safely to the Mayor (BRACE). This was well received by everyone present.
 - Tulane has responded well to the pandemic crisis, with strong admissions, research, and philanthropy. Many universities have not done as well. Tulane had decided to resume “on ground”, which was driven largely through the help of the Medical School. Robust testing, contact tracing, and quarantine, as well as other restrictions to social distancing are in place and have been, overall, well tolerated by the students.
 - Tulane’s CoVID-19 Dashboard received an A+ from an independent national review. Only Tulane and Ohio State received this high mark.
 - The majority of students are grateful to be back at Tulane. It’s important, however, to recognize that this is an additional stressor for the students.
 - Tulane’s finances remain positive, in spite of additional monies spent on additional classes and testing.
 - Tulane remains strong academically, financially, and pedagogically.
 - Faculty should remain resilient and productive.
 - New building initiatives are continuing. The new fitness center downtown is anticipated to be completed by Fall 2021. LOI for Charity Hospital has been submitted. Initiatives to expand the downtown campus are underway.
 - Equity, inclusion, and diversity agenda is moving forward. A great university is a diverse university. Tulane will continue its efforts in increasing equity and diversity. It is a significant priority for the Medical School and the University.
 - Dr. Fitts opened the floor to questions from the faculty:
 - Q: What’s the timeline for Old Charity and the Downtown Campus? A: There are a lot of moving parts. There are 17 buildings as part of the Downtown Campus. Additional space is needed for research
 - Q: will there be housing available? A: There may be and hopefully, more than just Charity
 - Q: Are there plans for green space? A: Yes
 - Q: Are there any updates on the downtown campus security? A: Several years ago we had a consultant advise us on security issues. They suggested a single entrance into the hospital, building a police station downtown, having a presence on the street. We hope there has been an improvement in this issue. I would like it if people will offer suggestions. There is also an issue with the homeless under the bridge. This requires assistance by the city. It has been a priority of the Mayor, however, it’s unclear how successful this has been here in New Orleans and the rest of the nation.
 - Q: Will the Hutchinson building be included in the improvement of infrastructure? A: I hope there has been improvement, at least in some areas; however, some of this needs to be addressed at the level of the school.
 - Q: Can we have more security guard presence in the building halls? A: There have been more security guards, and this has reduced crime in the buildings significantly.
 - Q: Are there any plans to help facilitate walking in between buildings safely particularly at night? For example, LSU has walkways between their downtown buildings and UMC, but we have to walk under 1-10. A: Please don’t walk at night and/or utilize one

of the options, such as TapRide or security guard escort, which is available 24 hours/day. We don't advise walking under the overpass. It's probably safe most of the time but we don't advise it.

- Q: Sometimes you have to get between the hospitals FAST and you can't wait for TapRide or security escort in middle of the night this is from residents/fellows who take call both places and VA, etc. A: This requires additional discussion and will be addressed.
 - Dr. Fitts asked the community to provide feedback on what kind of walkway/bridge they envision, and he will discuss this with security and the Dean.

IV. **Dean's Report** Dr. Lee Hamm, Dean of the School of Medicine, thanked the faculty for all they've done throughout these trying times.

- CoVID19 testing has linked the Medical School with the undergraduates. Testing is performed twice weekly with results in 24 hours. It has driven philanthropy with large gifts given.
- Many Grand Rounds, Town Halls, and general information presentations that address mental health concerns during the pandemic are being given by Tulane faculty.
- BRACE Program and On Good Authority podcast and other expert voices have increased Tulane's exposure throughout the country.
- The Primate Center is a tremendous resource to Tulane and the rest of the country.
- A new connectivity portal through LinkedIn has been made.
- Homelessness and crime have minimal overlap. Most are not committing crimes. We'll have offline conversations about security issues.

V. **Administrative Updates**

- a. **Office of Faculty Affairs** Dr. Marie Krousel-Woods, Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, welcomed new faculty and recognized new promotions.
 - ~35 new faculty have joined Tulane since July 2020 in multiple departments. Please reach out and welcome the new faculty.
 - Faculty 180 still needs to be completed by several departments. You can find colleagues with similar research interests, but it needs to be completed so people can find you.
 - New upcoming events webpage is now available.
- b. **Office of Academic Affairs** Dr. Kevin Krane, Vice Dean for Academic Affairs, gave a brief overview of the AAMC 2020 graduation questionnaire.
 - Response rate is 60-68%
 - 89.3% students are satisfied with the quality of medical education. This is an improvement.
 - Significant improvement in basic science coursework (75th percentile), clerkships, preparation for residency (25th percentile) still needs improvement.
 - Neurology, OB/Gyn, and Peds have significantly improved in clerkship
 - Community Based Activities (~90th percentile) is rated very high. >77% of students participated in these activities and is an important area for attracting students.
 - Faculty professional behaviors and attitudes is <50th percentile and needs improvement.
 - LCME report: Non-compliance: Study Space, Preparation for Residency, Safety, Career Advising; Continued monitoring: Student mistreatment
 - Other areas of concern: school actions on reports of mistreatment is low
 - The Accreditation agencies and Tulane takes these issues of mistreatment very seriously
 - The results of the LCME report and AAMC questionnaire have been reported to the Curriculum Committee.

VI. **New Business and Discussion** No new business was discussed.

VII. **Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 6:09pm.