

Faculty Council Minutes

March 7, 2012

Present: Drs. Aloysi, Barnett, Baron, Berin, Evans, Farber, Felsenfeld, Filizola, Gibbs, Godbold, Goldschlager, Harmaty, Hausman, Howell, Huprikar, Kalir, Kim-Schluger, Krauss, Leibowitz, Ma'ayan, Markoff, Palese, Reiner, Schuchman, Stone, Teitelbaum and Wang; Mr. Beck; Ms. Reid

Dr. Leibowitz called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the January 4, 2012 meeting of the Faculty Council were approved.

II. Committee Updates

Professionalism Committee:

Dr. Hausman reported that although he has been consulted on some issues, all have been resolved at the Department Chair level.

Executive Committee:

At the February 29, 2012 meeting, the Executive Committee discussed which groups are responsible for professionalism and misconduct issues. All medical staff issues go to the Physicians Wellness Committee chaired by Dr. Figur. The Faculty Council Professionalism Committee chaired by Dr. Hausman handles faculty matters of a non-clinical nature. The Disciplinary Tribunal Committee chaired by Dr. Landrigan conducts hearings on appeals of faculty disciplinary actions. Student and postdoc oversight is through the Trainee Mental Health Service (Dr. Alan Frisch) or the Employee Assistance Program (Mr. Dan Hughes).

Disciplinary Tribunal:

A Tribunal hearing has been requested and is being scheduled.

Resources Committee:

Dr. Leibowitz reminded the Council that after Dr. Cederbaum stepped down as Chair of the Resources Committee the Council agreed to divide the Committee into three subcommittees: IT, Benefits and Quality of Life. The Council was asked to vote on whether a single person should represent the Resources Committee on the Executive Committee by, or whether a representative from each subcommittee should serve on the Executive Committee. In the absence of any clear preference, Dr. Barnett stated the advantages of having a single representative and Dr. Leibowitz suggested Dr. Haroutunian.

Quality of Life:

- Dr. Farber reported on ongoing efforts to reorganize the subcommittee membership.
- Dr. Leibowitz reported the reconstruction of the cafeteria will include a designated faculty dining area.

Information Technology:

Dr. Leibowitz stated several faculty members have expressed concern regarding the recent switch from I-mail to Exchange. Council members noted the lack of communication between IT and faculty, missing emails, delayed email transmissions, difficulty with remote access and minimal customer/technical support.

Dr. Leibowitz mentioned Dr. Shapiro's recent meeting with IT leadership to discuss various issues such as access to computing resources, obtaining downloadable software and security/compliance for easier email access. Dr. Shapiro welcomes requests from faculty about obtaining specific downloadable software titles.

III. Election of Council President-Elect

Because of the low response rate to the Call for Nominations, Dr. Leibowitz directed that the initial effort be voided and that Council members recast their votes. Elections will be held at the next full Council meeting.

IV. Co-Terminus Proposal

Dr. Leibowitz summarized Dean Charney's proposal to add a co-terminus provision to the affiliate-based faculty term of appointment methodology. If an individual's primary employment is at an affiliate and that position ends, the MSSM faculty appointment will end concurrently. Waivers will be granted on a case-by-case basis at the Dean's discretion. All current obligations will be honored in accordance with existing agreements, and the co-terminous provision will apply to new appointments, reappointments and promotions.

V. Financial Conflicts of Interest in Research Policy

Mr. Beck summarized MSSM Conflicts of Interest in Research Policy changes which will become effective in August 2012. Changes fall into two categories:

1. Clarification of key concepts and terms
2. Incorporation of recent Public Health Service regulatory changes enacted to improve accountability and transparency.

Mr. Beck specifically noted three important changes driven by new PHS/NIH regulations:

- The NIH threshold for "significant financial interests" is being lowered from \$10,000 to \$5,000. The MSSM review process will be unaffected because our threshold for reporting financial interests and managing conflicts is already \$0. However, whereas MSSM currently reports to the NIH only on conflicts >\$10,000, going forward MSSM will be required to report conflicts >\$5,000.
- Travel –Investigators on NIH grants must disclose to MSSM all reimbursed or sponsored travel except when paid by government or academic medical centers; MSSM's compliance strategy is being developed.
- Education – Minimum every four years. An on-line learning module is under development.

VI. Faculty Council Awards Process

Dr. Barnett recapped the highlights of the June 8, 2011 Faculty Council Awards Ceremony, which honored two senior and two junior faculty recipients of the Council's Award for Academic Excellence. Dr. Barnett informed Council members that a Call for Nominations email will be distributed within the week.

Ms. Reid in the Dean's Office will reach out to Council members to identify an appropriate date for the 2012 ceremony.

VII. New Business—Invited Speaker Suggestion

Dr. Leibowitz has invited Mr. S. Harvey, MSSM's CFO, to meet with the Council to review the CARTS budget methodology. Mr. Harvey met with the full Council last year to address concerns regarding Axiom, the travel agency with which Mount Sinai does business.

Dr. Leibowitz encouraged members to suggest speakers for upcoming meetings. Initial ideas for discussion topics included insurance/liability issues and the Stark regulations.

There being no further business, Dr. Leibowitz adjourned the meeting at 12:49 p.m.