

**ICAHN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT MOUNT SINAI  
FACULTY COUNCIL  
Minutes  
November 6, 2013**

**In Attendance:** Drs. Ambrose, Barnett, Baron, Baumlin, Butts, Choudhri, Evans, Farber, Felsenfeld, Filizola, Gibbs, Godbold, Harmaty, Hausman, Howell, Krauss, Leibowitz, Palese, Ragnarsson, Reiner, Shapiro, Shim-Chiang, Stone; Ms. Schneier

Dr. Choudhri opened the meeting by welcoming Dr. Leibowitz back.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the September 11, 2013 meeting of the Faculty Council were unanimously approved.

**II. Benefits 2014**

Dr. Choudhri reported that the Executive Committee met with HR Senior VP Jane Maksoud to learn more about the 2014 benefits plan. She noted that more options will be available for out-of-network care, and emergencies outside the area will be handled as if they were in-network; continuing efforts to build the Mount Sinai Health System will increase the geographic diversity of participating providers. No additional opportunities are available to change the 2014 plan. Dr. Haroutunian represented the Faculty Council on the benefits committee in 2013, and the Council will also be represented in 2014.

Council discussed:

- Considerable ongoing confusion about benefits offerings
- Questions on out-of-pocket limits
- Short timeframe for learning about options prior to enrollment
- Accuracy of benefits advisement
- Changes in the Sinai benefits are moving in the same direction as many other schools, e.g., Columbia.

**III. Faculty Council Strategic Plan**

Dr. Choudhri expressed interest in developing a Faculty Council Strategic Plan for 2014. Topics to address could include:

- Increasing engagement with departmental faculty
- Building awareness, e.g., blast emails after each Faculty Council meeting summarizing issues addressed

- Addressing multiple complex issues
- Exploring possible need to create new committees

Representatives wishing to volunteer on development of the strategic plan should email Dr. Choudhri.

#### **IV. NY Faculty Council Consortium**

Dr. Choudhri described a council of peer institutions, e.g., Cornell, NYU, to share information and ideas.

#### **V. Grievance Options**

Dr. Hausman will create a chart or document outline the grievance options available to faculty with complaints.

#### **VI. New Business**

Dr. Choudhri is seeking input on:

- Council Meeting Schedule – is 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of month at noon best option?
- Speakers/guests for 2014, e.g., Dean Charney, Mr. Chatani (IT), HR/Retirement Benefits
- Faculty Council Awards –continue to hold a separate awards ceremony or roll into the Mount Sinai Achievement Ceremony?