ICAHN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT MOUNT SINAI
FACULTY COUNCIL
Minutes
March 5, 2014

Present: Drs. Ambrose, Berin, Choudhri, Evans, Farber, Felsenfeld, Gibbs, Gillespie, GOdbold, Haroutunian, Hausman, Howell, Kim-Schluger, Leibowitz, Miller, Ragnarsson, Shapiro, Stone, Teitelbaum, Wang; Mr. Lawrence, Ms. Schneier

I.   Approval of Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the January 8, 2014 meeting of the Faculty Council were unanimously approved.

II.   Faculty Council Updates

Benefits
Dr. Haroutunian reported that per Ms. Maksoud, receipt of RFA for prescription carriers is needed before initiating 2015 benefits process.

Because of ongoing interest in benefits issues, Council agreed to:
- Invite Ms. Maksoud to meet with F.C. Executive Committee this summer before 2015 benefits are finalized.
- Invite Ms. Maksoud and Human Resources Team to meet with full Council in September
- Consider inviting BOT members to hear FC perspective on benefits early in decision making process

2014 Faculty Council Speakers – Council expressed interest in:
- Intellectual Property – Erik Lium, new V.P for Mount Sinai Business Partners; Geoff Smith, Director Mount Sinai Technology Institute
- Faculty Practice – Dr. Callahan can discuss integration of faculty practices system-wide

Grievance Tree -- Dr. Choudhri reported that this will be created before June 2014

Strategic Planning Initiative – Dr. Choudhri suggested that the Council consider scheduling optional additional meeting to discuss

Faculty Council Meeting Time – Those present voted on following options:
   o   Wednesday @9:00 a.m. – 4-5 votes
   o   First Wednesday @ noon (current) – most votes
   o   End of day – 2 votes

Will poll all members on these options. Members agreed that technology can be used to draw more faculty in, through videoconferencing and other tools.

Faculty Council Awards - Dr. Leibowitz reported that 16 nominations have been received for junior, senior and lifetime awards; some are re-nominees from last year. Re-nominations are encouraged because there are so many excellent candidates. However, even in absence of formal policy, a third resubmission would be questioned.

III.   Academic Technology

Mr. Paul Lawrence, Vice President for Academic Informatics and Technology, updated the Council:
- Levy Library – with the transition of the collection to a digital library, the existing space will be transformed into a Learning Commons
- Archives – overseen by Ms. Barbara Niss
- Instructional Technology:
  - Teaching support is available to all faculty.
  - First distance learning Masters: Master of Science in Healthcare Delivery Leadership Committee co-chaired by Mr. Lawrence and Dr. M. Shapiro – planning to ensure that the School meets needs into the future; working closely with Curriculum Committee
  - MOOC – Mount Sinai's first MOOC, by Dr. R. Iyengar has been developed through Coursera.
  - Blackboard – standardized teaching and learning platform
    Aim for interconnected IT infrastructure so that systems speak to each other.
- Academic Systems – Mr. Larry Fried oversees videoconferencing system inventory
- Research – Mr. William (Bill) Fultz leads
- High Performance Computing – Ms. Patricia Kovatch leads

Mr. Lawrence reported that discussions are in progress with Google over new IT options, but we must be careful to adhere to regulatory compliance, e.g., HIPAA.

Council raised quality of life issues that need to be addressed, including:
- Remote access encryption
- Interactive technology, e.g., calendar messaging
- Digital transactions, e.g., "grant credit card" that some schools have
- Better imaging sharing

Council agreed on the importance of communicating to Mr. Chatani the importance of investing money to decrease unnecessary expenditures of time.