

FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 4, 2012

Members Present: Drs. Barnett, Berin, Cederbaum, Choudhri, Eddleman, Evans, Gibbs, Goldschlager, Harmaty, Haroutunian, Hausman, Huprikar, Krauss, Leibowitz, Manfredi, Markoff, Moskowitz, Rhee, Shaprioler, Shim-Chang, Teitelbaum, Weintraub

Also Present: Mr. Chatani, Ms. Schneier

I. Leadership Transition

Dr. Andrew Leibowitz has moved from the position of President Elect to the position of President of the Faculty Council.

Dr. Scott Barnett has moved from the position of President of the Faculty Council to the position of Past-President.

Dr. Leibowitz briefly welcomed new Council representatives and reviewed the Committees of the Faculty Council.

The Council must undertake election of the following::

- New President-Elect – Following a call for nominations and a tally to identify the top four candidates, brief bios will be developed for each which will be circulated to the entire Council for an email vote.
- New Resource Committee Chair – Dr. Cederbaum has stepped down from this most active committee of the Council, which addressed issues that included travel policy, IT, grant-in-aid and shower/gym facilities. In response to the high level of activity of this committee, three subcommittees were recently formed:
 - IT – led by Matt Evans
 - Quality of Life – led by Jeff Farber
 - Financial – led by Harry Haroutunian

A discussion ensued of whether it is necessary for there to be an overall chair presiding over this committee. The Council agreed to consider three options:

- Elect a new Chair for Resource Committee
- Have three co-chairs for the Committee and no overall Chair
- Have one of the three chairs serve as overall committee chair
- Have past-president serve as conduit between Resource Committee and Executive Committee

An email will be sent to the Council which includes both a call for nominations for President-Elect as well as a request to vote on the three Resource Committee leadership options. Included in the email will be a link to the Faculty Council website so that new members can learn more about the Council.

II. School Update

Dr. Charney welcomed the new Council and highlighted:

- Budget -- A break-even budget for 2012 has been approved by the Board of Trustees.
- Capital Campaign --

- Center for Science and Medicine – Construction of the new building is on schedule, with clinical occupancy to commence in 2012. The research and residential components are scheduled for occupancy in 2013. Approximately 100 faculty are being recruited in anticipation of the opening of the building.
- Extramural Funding – MSSM currently ranks third in the country on NIH dollars per scientist, a reflection of the School's high research density.
- Education – The entering classes of both the M.D. program and the Graduate School have outstanding metrics. A new Science and Medicine program is recruiting its first class of undergraduate engineering, physics and mathematics students to the medical school.
- External Challenges – Continuing economic uncertainties, a diminishing NIH budget and the financial implications of the Health Care Reform Act all pose significant challenges for Mount Sinai and all academic medical center. An internal clinical strategic planning group has been formed to consider how MSH and the FPA should develop for optimal responsiveness to the environment.

Dr. Muller reported that the

III. Continuing Medical Education Reaccreditation

Dr. Muller and Thomas presented on preparation for an October 2012 reaccreditation site visit by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education: formation of re-accreditation committees (now); completion of self-study (7/12); site visit (10/12); vote by Council (3/13). Dr. Thomas described a continuum of learning from pre-med college studies to M.D. training to graduate medical education and finally continuing medical education and the importance of tying them together towards lifelong learning that improves the quality of patient care.

In his new role as Associate Dean for CME, Dr. Thomas plans to seek innovative ways to support and deliver CME. Among his goals is developing CME programs to attract scientists for translational learning and collaboration. Dr. Thomas noted that a recent decree by the ACCME that severely limits corporate support for CME will pose fiscal challenges for MSSM and all schools. He noted that donations from alumni and others would be welcomed.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the November 2, 2011 meeting of the Faculty Council were unanimously approved.

V. Information Technology

Dr. Barnett introduced Kumar Chatani, who has been appointed Chief Information Officer for Mount Sinai. Mr. Chatani stated that his first priority will be to identify tactical issues and long-range and short-range problems that need to be solved. He asked that the Faculty Council Resources Committee separate its concerns into these three categories, and that they further distinguish between critical and "nice to have" items. Council representatives suggested adding a representative to the Dean's Research IT group and include the needs of affiliate-based faculty in IT discussions. Mr. Chatani expressed his commitment to giving faculty the IT support that they need.

VI. Faculty Council Update

Dr. Barnett updated the Council:

- Executive Committee – The minutes of the October 2011 meeting were distributed to the Council.
- Elections – Announcements about the election process have been distributed to Chairs, Directors and faculty; November 30 is the deadline for responding. With the new calendar year, Dr. Barnett will transition to the position of Past President and Dr. Leibowitz will assume the role of President.

VII. Open Discussion

Discussion of the Faculty Council's role and impact included:

- The Council has re-established itself as a meaningful body within the School
- Communication with the faculty at large can be improved
- It would be worthwhile to dedicate Council efforts to making Mount Sinai a better place to work, which could reduce turnover
- The Faculty Resources Committee successfully addressed concerns about Axiom Travel. Some other issues, e.g., Grant-in-Aid, were raised but not resolved.

Recommendations were made to:

- Create three subcommittees within the Resources Committee:
 - Benefits
 - IT
 - Quality of Life
- Identify a limited number of issues on which to focus

Upon motion duly made and seconded, a request to have a Faculty Council representative occupy a seat on a to-be-determined Dean's strategy committee was approved.

VIII. New Business

Discussion of possible improvements included:

- Have all Council members serve on at least one Council committee in order to ensure broad input from the faculty
- Establish protocol for follow-up on issues raised by Council, e.g., Grant-in-Aid.
- Develop metrics for evaluating performance, e.g., responsiveness to email inquiries

There being no further business, Dr. Barnett adjourned the meeting at 12:57 p.m.