

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Senate September 13, 2006

In Attendance: Drs. Amaechi, Baruch-Bienen, Brackley, Evans, Geelhoed, Krolick, Meltz, Morgan, Nolan, Plastino, Robichaux, Sorenson, Tekmal, Vargas, Vines.

Absent: Drs. Clark, Kahlenberg, Lam, Norling, Parsons, Ruzicka, Verrett, Wright, Yew.

Guests: Dr. Jan Patterson
Professor and Interim Dean, School of Medicine

Convened: 4:05 PM

Dr. Margaret Brackley, 2005-2006 Chair of the Faculty Senate, passed on the gavel to the 2006-2007 Senate Chair, Dr. Deborah Baruch-Bienen.

Faculty Leadership Award – Jan E. Patterson, M.D.

Dr. Baruch-Bienen introduced Jan E. Patterson, M.D., the recipient of the 2006 UTHSCSA Faculty Senate Leadership Award. Dr. Patterson is currently Interim Chair of the Department of Medicine.

Beginning in 2004, the UTHSCSA Faculty Senate has given an annual award to an outstanding member of the faculty. Nominations are submitted by the faculty-at-large, from which the Faculty Senate makes its selection. The purpose of the award is to provide peer recognition, from UTHSCSA faculty leadership, of the outstanding, long-term contributions of a faculty member with regard to endeavors that significantly enhance faculty development and welfare, and/or the effectiveness of our strategies to accomplish our teaching, service and research missions. Individuals who are awarded this honor serve as exceptional role models for us all, particularly in matters concerned with promoting communication among faculty, communication between faculty and administration, and communication between the university and outside community administrations, agencies or organizations.

Dr. Patterson has been on the faculty at UTHSCSA since 1993. Over the past thirteen years she has held numerous notable administrative positions reflecting her professional skills as a leader, both in and outside of this institution. Her involvement and dedication to mentoring strategies that foster development and growth of the faculty was a prominent factor leading to her selection for this award.

Introduction of Faculty Assembly Chairs

Dr. Baruch-Bienen commented on how she would like to renew relationships between the Faculty Senate and each of the schools' Faculty Assemblies. Without interfering with the activities or authority of each of the assemblies, there may be important bridges to be built among the various schools concerning institutional issues. Each of the

assembly chairs introduced themselves, and described activities that their assemblies may become involved in the upcoming academic year.

Faculty Assembly chairs:

School of Allied Health Sciences	Mary Jacks
Dental School	Dave Cappelli
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences	Robert Brenner
School of Nursing	Rebecca Garcia-Michels
School of Medicine	Jan Bruder

Senate Committee Appointments

Dr. Baruch-Bienen lead a discussion concerned with the membership and goals of Senate committees for the 2006-2007 academic year. Topics of interest may be submitted to the Senate Executive Committee by other senators or the faculty-at-large. Senate committees will then consider those topics forwarded to them from the Senate Executive Committee.

Academic Affairs Committee

Oversight: This committee is concerned with issues of academic environment, such as policies regarding recruitment of chairs and new faculty, endowed chairs, faculty workloads, evaluation of administration, and long range academic planning (such as the SACS review). The goal is to maintain a high quality academic environment for all faculty and students, including the quality of the curricula and the student bodies of each of the schools.

Membership: James Evans, Allied Health (Chair)
Ed Wright, Dental
Keith Krolick, Graduate
Kristen Plastino and Khim Lam, Medical
Margaret Brackley, Nursing

Tasks already assigned: Follow progress made concerned with the SACS review

Scholarly Activities and Faculty Service Committee

Oversight: Monitor the planning, conduct and evaluation of basic and clinical research, and other scholarly pursuits including the allocation of space, facilities, service, intramural support and collaboration. Monitor research, laboratory and administrative services provided by faculty to the University.

Membership: David Vines, Allied Health
Ronald Verrett, Dental
William Clarke, Graduate

Raj Rao Tekmal (Chair) and Robert Nolan, Medical
Catherine Robichaux, Nursing

Tasks already assigned: Follow impact of recent Research Space Policy; Oversee faculty government websites, including SharePoint portal.

Faculty Governance

Oversight: Governance and institutional budget issues of the University and its faculty, and to foster links of communication between the faculty and the administration. Faculty grievances including review of existing grievance procedures.

Membership: Mike Geelhoed, Allied Health
Barry Norling, Dental
Renee Yew, Graduate
Morton Kahlenberg and Martin Meltz, Medical
Mickey Parsons (Chair), Nursing

Tasks already assigned: Review of HOP documents, soliciting participation of other Senate committees as appropriate; Review the currently published grievance procedures.

Faculty Status and Welfare

Oversight: Faculty promotion, tenure and post-tenure review. Mechanisms for the evaluation of faculty and administrators, including all aspects of faculty development and welfare.

Membership: Helen Sorenson, Allied Health
Bennett Amaechi (Chair), Dental
William Morgan, Graduate
Leticia Vargas, Medical
Susan Ruzicka, Nursing

Tasks already assigned: Review the effectiveness of the post-tenure review process.

Senate Executive Committee

Oversight: The Senate's Executive Committee is composed of the chairs of the other Senate committees including the Committee on Committees, as well as the Senate's Chair-elect, immediate Past-chair, and Parliamentarian. The SEC oversees the activities of the other committees, and deals with issues that are so broad as to not fit the charge of any single committee (such as the institutional strategic plan).

Membership: Deborah Baruch-Bienen, Senate chair
Keith Krolick, Senate chair-elect

Margaret Brackley, Senate past-chair
David Vines, COC Chair
Barry Norling, Parliamentarian
James Evans
Rajeshwar Rao Tekmal
Bennett Amaechi
Mickey Parsons

Additional Discussion

A brief discussion concerned the need to consider issues of faculty/campus wellness, childcare needs, as well as to monitor to the changing needs of an ever-expanding UTHSCSA campus(es).

A brief discussion concerned the absence of a university-wide compensation plan for faculty. It is unlikely that a unified compensation plan could be devised in light of the complex and significant differences that exist among the five schools. Discussions concerning these issues should be more appropriately directed at the school deans and faculty assemblies.

A brief discussion concerned the attendance expected of members of the Faculty Senate. Senators were reminded that if they anticipate difficulty in attending the 12 Senate meetings during the academic year (that is, to miss more than 2 meetings total as stated in the Senate bylaws), that they should consider resigning from the Senate so that their school's faculty body can elect individuals that might more effectively represent their colleagues.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.