

Draft Minutes

June 3, 1998 Meeting

Medical Center Caucus

Present:

Adam Myers, Jeffrey Breall, Cynthia Tracy, Michael Cole, K.N. Siva Subramanian, Mark Danielsen (Senator elect), Adi Haramati, Raoul Wientzen, Robert Glazer, Cathy Kopac, Richard Bates (guest), Nina Scribanu, Sarah Spiegel, Kenneth Kellar, William Lauerman (Senator elect), Angelo Taveira DaSilva

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m., by the Chair, Dr. Myers. The following items were discussed:

1. Ad hoc committee on Faculty Practice Plan.

Drs. Siva Subramanian and Tracy reported on the progress made by the Medical Center Caucus Subcommittee that is looking into the faculty practice plan administration and faculty representation issues. They indicated that Dr. Subramanian and Dr. Tracy reported to the Executive Committee of the Practice Plan, and their report was greeted with a long silence. Subsequently Dr. Richard Goldberg wrote a letter to the Subcommittee chairs stating his appreciation for the recommendations made by the task force and indicating that he was willing to improve the communication between the practice plan administration and the faculty. He indicated also that representatives could be elected by the Senate or by the faculty to the various committees and in turn, they would be allowed to report to the Medical Center Caucus. This process could be made permanent.

Unanswered were the concerns of the faculty regarding the governance of the various committees on which the faculty have minimal representation. Furthermore, at least one of the Caucus Senators indicated that the election process is flawed, since it gives

the faculty the right to vote on one of four candidates that are pre-selected by the FPG administration. This process is not democratic and does not give an opportunity by the faculty to probe into the proceedings and governance of the faculty practice plan, such as the billing process, which has been plagued with problems for the past ten to 15 years.

2. School of Nursing: Search Committee for a New Dean.

A brief discussion ensued regarding this matter. The composition of this search committee was described and reported to the Medical Center Caucus. The committee is going to be chaired by Dr. Pellegrino and has representation from various departments, such as the Basic Science Departments, Nursing, etc. After discussion, it was agreed that Dr. Cynthia Tracy would represent the Medical Center Caucus in that search committee.

3. Senate Caucus Meetings for 1998-99.

This was discussed briefly and it was agreed that the meetings would not be scheduled for a given day and time. Most faculty and senate members agreed that it was best to have the meetings at 5:00 p.m. on rotating weekdays (excluding Friday) to give an opportunity for the clinical representatives to attend at least some of those meetings.

There was also some discussion of replacement of some senators who are leaving the Medical Center, and those who do not keep their attendance at the meetings, and whether they should be replaced by others. This probably would require an extraordinary election to replace these individuals.

There was some discussion as to whether the minutes of the meetings should be transcribed by an appointed secretary or rotate among the various senate members. Dr. Myers indicated that the compliance of those appointed to act as a secretary was less than desirable, and therefore, one might want to change this policy. There was a suggestion that the meetings be taped and then edited for distribution, and this proposal seemed to have received the widest approval. Senator-elect Dr Danielsen agreed to take on the Secretary position for the next year.

4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously by all senators.

5. The report by the Executive Vice President, Dr. Sam Wiesel.

This was postponed because of a scheduling conflict.

6. It was announced that Dr. Owen Rennert, Chairman, Dept. of Pediatrics, is leaving Georgetown Medical Center.

Most of those present expressed concerns about his departure, since Dr. Rennert was one of the most outstanding department chairs. The causes for his exit were discussed briefly and unfortunately, result from lack of agreement between Dr. Rennert and the Medical Center administration concerning the future of the Department of Pediatrics and the best way to deal with the fiscal difficulties that the department is facing.

7. Adjournment.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned. It was agreed that there would be an extraordinary meeting during the month of July or August for planning of Caucus activities for the next academic year.