

Draft Minutes
October 15, 1998 Meeting
Medical Center Caucus

Present:

Senators

Cole (Chair), Danielsen, (Secretary), Myers, Siva Subramanian, Kellar, Lauerman, Mcgrail, Young, Spiegel, Tracy, Breall, Zuccarelli

Guests

Jorgensen, Bates (Chair, Faculty Senate), Dretchen, Wiesel, Bloom

Excused

Kellar, Regan, Wientzen

Absent

Glaser, Harter, Kromer, Nelson, Sribnau

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

1. Merger/Buyout of the Hospital

Dr Wiesel and Mr. Bloom gave a very general overview of the possibilities of merging the Medical Center with other institutions. Due to the confidential nature of the discussions taking place no specifics were given. The administration is talking with many interested parties including for profit and nonprofit organizations. Both leaders thought that this process would be a protracted one that would evolve over the coming months. It was stated that the University was nowhere near signing an agreement. Overseeing this process is a committee made up of Board members with interests in mergers and acquisitions and is led by Winston Churchill.

Sam and Ken stated that the Medical School would not be closed unless the Medical Center could not be saved by fiscal restructuring and/or merger/buyout. Ken stated that he was worried that sale of the hospital would be the equivalent of throwing away a future "cash cow".

The hospital's economic performance has improved for the past 4 months. However, the process of fiscal re-management will include overhaul of the FPG plan. The relationship of the FPG to the University and the hospital after a merger/acquisition can not be predicted since such an event is not yet close.

Drastic reductions in overhead costs at the medical center, including overhead payments to the University will occur soon.

2. Faculty Salaries

Sam was asked whether "service was worth something". This question related to the current reimbursement guidelines where no financial incentive is given for committee work, Medical School applicant interviews or any other "volunteer activities" by the faculty. Sam replied that it would be, if the faculty decided it was worthwhile, but stated that this would involve redistribution of resources currently allocated to faculty elsewhere.

Ken stated that he could not understand the rejection of the new faculty compensation guidelines by the faculty, which he called a gift. This was vigorously challenged by a number of senators. The management agreed to perform a cost/benefit analysis of the guidelines and discuss the results with the Senate

3. FPG Subcommittee Report.

Cindy Tracy discussed the upcoming revision of the FPG that will probably be a lengthy process and would need to address governance issues of the FPG and income expectations of the participants.

4. Medical Faculty Subcommittee

Cindy Tracy was voted in as vice-president of the Medical Center Caucus to represent Medical Faculty.

The meeting was adjourned at 6.30 PM.