Faculty Senate Medical Center Caucus  
Warwick Evans Conference Room, Building D  
Tuesday May 1; 12:03pm  

Presiding: Miriam Toporowicz  

Present: Christine Colie, Mark Danielsen, Mary Ann Dutton, Carolyn Ecelbarger, Ladan Eshkevari (minutes), Karen Gale, Alexei Kondratyev, Ludise Malkova, Maria Luisa Marquez, Eileen Moore, Prosper N’Gouemo, Andrea Singer, Vanessa Sheppard, Miriam Toporowicz (presiding)  

Absent: Parag Bhanot, Rebeca Evangelista, Mira Jung, George Luta, Michael Pishvaian, William Rebeck, Offie Soldin.  

Guests: Martin Iguchi, Miriam Markowitz, Rhonda Friedman, Elliot Crooke, Mary Glasscock, Scott Turner  

Minutes:  

1. Minutes from April meeting were approved.  

2. Mary Glasscock, Medical Center Office of Management and Budget) discussed the Medical Center response to A-133 Audit Findings. She informed the Caucus on issues related to external audit results of grants' budget management. External auditors review any project with government funding greater than $500K. Our external audit report included material findings that GUMC, as an institution is not performing timely CSR and Rx accounting. They found that 25-35% of the time there is late cost transfers. She stated that monthly reviews are needed. Errors posted need to be fixed in 90 days (per our institution, 120 per government). The goal is to get the number of tardy transfers to below 10%. To this end, reconciliation policies will be instituted and implemented across the University and rolled out to Chairs of Departments for feedback.  

The Caucus in turn had feedback related to several issues. a) CRS system is not user friendly for financial reporting; b) time constraint to review CSR each month; c) system navigation is also viewed as an area for improvement; finally d) inexperienced account persons may not know grants procedures—therefore it was recommended that accounts managers be trained in specific grants that they could manage. The caucus discussion centered on the burden this imposes on PI for monthly reviews and the need of a streamlined process. The faculty members working with Mary have been named at the discretion of Luis Weiner and of the dean of research, Bob Clarke. The presiding officer, Miriam Toporowicz, recommended that working group names be forwarded to the Caucus, in order to have Senate representation. She also recommended that there be quarterly updates to the Caucus on the progress of the group.  

3. Martin Iguchi, Dean of Nursing and Health Studies presented on the state of the School and its new initiatives. Some of these include the on-line nursing at Georgetown
program, which now has about 400 students (27% minorities) enrolled across the nation, many of whom are better prepared than those on campus. SNHS is accepting qualified candidates and hiring qualified instructors to ensure maintenance of quality. An important issue related to this program is the barrier to hiring out of state faculty. Dean Iguchi also discussed the initiation of several minors in the school (such as public health, environmental health and global health), and the desire to facilitate social justice into action with students in sustainable community based projects. He would like to see the SNHS as a Public Health School. There are collaborations with Main campus, and law school, but little with the medical school. Overall challenges facing the school were also discussed, such as space, increasing tenure-line faculty positions, increasing research infrastructure and increasing overall research productivity.

4. Research Committee Report. Mary Ann Dutton will send materials on the process (written by the research committee) for proposed GUMC Centers and Institutes. These documents will circulate for review and discussion at next Caucus meeting.

5. Miriam Markowitz briefly mentioned security issues. There will be a town hall meeting on security soon.

6. Election Results: Results were approved, unless a problem presented pending a review by Dr. Marquez. A memo will then be sent to Wayne Davis, Senate President.

7. Old Business: There was a discussion of input on elections of the positions that are appointed by the Executive Vice President. A list of all appointed positions needs to be obtained for review so there would be appropriate Caucus and Faculty input. A Caucus subcommittee was formed to develop the process for appointment of positions, members include: Mark Danielsen (Chair), Karen Gale, Miriam Toporowicz, and Ladan Eshkevari.

8. New Business: Clinical faculty treatment and raises were brought up as a general issue. An example of lack of communication and discussion between the agreement partners was that the Department of Pediatrics was told that they were moving off campus without prior input or notice; this deprives the decision from valuable information such as impact on programs and faculty. The caucus resolved to ask Wayne Davis (Senate President) to discuss this issue with John DeGioia, President of GU

9. Adjourned at 1:35pm