

Feb. 2013
Approved.

Minutes of the Medical Center Caucus- 02/05/13

Dr. William Rebeck brought the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Members present included: William Rebeck (presiding), Christine Colie, Mark Danielsen, Mary Ann Dutton, Carolyn Ecelbarger, Ladan Eshkevari, Rebecca Evangelista, Karen Gale, George Luta, Ludise Malkova, Maria Luisa Marquez, Eileen Moore, Prosper N'Gouemo, Andrea Singer, Ken Tercyak, and Miriam Toporowicz.

Members absent- Parag Bhanot, Alexei Kondratyev, Michael Pishvaian, Vanessa Sheppard, and Scott Turner.

Guests: Miriam Markowitz, Rhonda Friedman, Offie Soldin, Bob Groves, Adi Haramati

Agenda:

1. Minutes – Minutes of the December meeting were approved.
2. Update on GUMC Operations – Miriam Markowitz (Chief Operating Officer) gave an update on operations at GUMC. There is progress on the new university policy on protection of minors on campus, and there will be information about how to introduce people into the required systems. A behavior threat assessment team is actively working on how to identify individuals that may be threats to campus. The inclement weather policy for GUMC will be consistent with the whole university. The bone marrow transplant center from Hackensack will be joining with GUMC in March or April. Finally, Miriam escorted the new VP of Facilities (Robin Morey) on a tour of GUMC to highlight areas of need.
3. GU Provost – Bob Groves came to the caucus to discuss issues of importance across campuses. In his position, deans of the various schools (graduate school, business school, etc.) report to him. He oversees much of the main campus administrative apparatus.
 - a. Main campus interactions. He was enthusiastic about more collaborations between the main campus and the medical campus. He would like to increase research efforts on the main campus. Bob is trying to identify new interdisciplinary programs with joint faculty appointments across campuses. They would like to begin with an existing senior faculty member and then move onto new searches. There should also be chances to develop collaborations with institutions within 20 miles of GU, such as the NIH or NIST.
 - b. Changes to the graduate school. A document describing different possibilities for the future of the graduate school was circulated to members of the caucus. Bob has been gathering input about these changes to the graduate school from faculty. There were questions about how funds for graduate programs get allocated across programs, and whether the graduate school favored programs on the main campus. Information was provided about the extensive nature of master's programs at GUMC.

- c. Administrative changes. Bob has made some changes to the administrative structure of the provost's office. He invited members of GUMC to provide advice about a faculty member who would serve as the new vice provost for science.
- d. Teaching of undergraduates. Bob would like to see more undergraduate teaching and research in GUMC. The caucus will provide him with some information about the current work with undergraduates by GUMC faculty.
- e. Bob asked to be invited back to the caucus for another meeting this year.
3. Association of American Medical Colleges Council of Faculty and Academic Societies – Adi Haramati presented by-law changes at AAMC that established a new mechanism for faculty members to affect policy. A new council has been established that will invite schools to each send two faculty members, one with less than 10 years of service and one more senior. Importantly, these faculty need to be selected by the faculty themselves, and would be responsible for reporting back to the general faculty. There are two yearly meetings that these faculty members would attend: the regular AAMC meeting and one only for members of faculty and academic societies. The caucus was asked to develop a mechanism for selecting these faculty members and coming up with nominees soon.
4. Chairs of Biochemistry and Neuroscience – It was suggested that interim appointments need to be made to these departments because they are currently chaired by faculty members who are now senior associate deans. These positions make the chairs overextended and could put them in positions of having conflicts of interest. The chair will bring up the issue again with the GUMC EVP.
5. Salary equity – A committee was developed to examine cases of salary inequity in GUMC, and the caucus appointed George Luta to it. He will provide an update at the next caucus meeting.
6. Biomedical Graduate Education websites – There was concern that changes to the websites would negatively impact GUMC programs and recruitment. There was particular concern that changes were being instituted without faculty input.
7. Updates – Marko Moscovitch, a valued member of the GUMC faculty community, passed away recently. There was discussion of a memorial service. Members of the caucus were encouraged to attend upcoming GU and GUMC town halls to discuss issues of importance for the faculty. Bill Rebeck, the current chair of the caucus, will not be serving in that role next year due to a sabbatical. He requested the individuals interested in serving as chair next year should contact him.
7. Meeting adjourned at 1:45