SUNY Downstate Medical Center  
EXECUTIVE (Centerwide) COMMITTEE of the Faculty and Professional Staff  
Minutes of the Meeting of Monday, January 11, 2016  
4:00 PM – 5:00PM

**Attending:**
- Presiding Officer: Stephan Rinnert, MD
- Presiding Office Elect & University Faculty Senator: Rauno Joks, MD
- Secretary & University Faculty Senator: Henry Flax, EdD
- Presiding Officer, College of Health Related Professions: Kenneth Martinucci, MS, RT(R)
- Presiding Officer, College of Medicine: Allen Norin, PhD
- Presiding Officer Elect, College of Medicine: Clinton Brown, MD
- Presiding Officer, School of Graduate Studies: Nicholas Penington, PhD
- Presiding Officer, School of Public Health: Paul Landsbergis, PhD, EdD, MPH
- Alternate University Faculty Senator: Farhad Haeri, DPT
- Presiding Officer, College of Nursing: Nancy Giordano, EdD, WHNP
- Alternate University Faculty Senator: Virginia Anderson, MD

**Unable to Attend:**
- Past Presiding Officer & University Faculty Senator: Miriam Vincent, MD, PhD, JD
- Presiding Officer Elect, College of Nursing: Beth Steinfeld, DNP, WHNP-BC
- Presiding Officer Elect, School of Graduate Studies: John Kubie, PhD
- Alternate University Faculty Senator: Mathew Foley, MD
- Alternate University Faculty Senator: Steven Kang, MD
- University Faculty Senator: Helen Durkin, PhD
- Presiding Officer Elect, College of Health Related Professions: Jasmin Thomas, MS, OTR/L

**Review of Minutes of Previous Meetings:**
Dr. Rinnert moved, Dr. Anderson seconded the approval of the minutes of the meeting of December 21, 2015 as corrected (reminder: only approved minutes are posted to the website).

**Presiding Officer’s Report:**
Dr. Rinnert reviewed the procedure for the selection of a new Campus President which was recently followed by SUNY Upstate. A search committee should be selected by the College Council which consists of six elected faculty members and one student. Nine members of the college council are selected by the Governor. Currently the council is not fully constituted and the centerwide committee has written to Carl McCall, Chairman of the SUNY Board of Trustees, to urge that he request that new members of the council be selected by the Board of Trustees and forwarded to the Governor for appointment. It appears that SUNY administration is fine with this process but it may take one or two years which suggests that we will need an interim President. The sense of the committee is that we should not violate SUNY bylaws in selecting a new President since we are not under an emergency situation. It was suggested that this topic
will be at or near the top of the agenda at the SUNY University Faculty Senate meeting on Friday, January 22, 2016.

Paul Landsbergis asked about the proper procedure for the selection of Chancellor’s awards for Excellence. Dr. Rinnert replied that the by-laws state that the governance structure is supposed to appoint a committee; but they are vague in that it does not specify that governance means faculty governance. It is designed to be interpreted by each campus. Dr. Merlino decided to allow the elected officers of the various school representations to the Centerwide committee to form the committee this year. This is at least representative of the whole Medical Center. Dr. Clinton Brown asked if this was designed to foster transparency. It was felt that the whole school should be represented along with the President’s Office.

**Constituent Reports:**

**College of Health Related Professions** - Mr. Martinucci reported that apart from the start of the new Dean there was nothing to report yet this year.

**College of Nursing** - Dr. Nancy Giordano stated that, in common with CHRP and the Grad. School, it is the 50th anniversary of the School of Nursing and the kick off for these events for the three schools will take place on January 19th. There will be speakers from each college and the Nursing school will have a research day in the fall. This year the School will produce 200 graduates - 125 of them BSNs, 69 of these are in the accelerated program. Faculty in the school of Nursing is working at the Brooklyn Free clinic and in collaboration with Maimonides Hospital for the research day.

Margaret Clifton who was running the simulation lab has retired but simulation will continue to feature heavily in the nursing curriculum.

**College of Medicine** – Dr. Norin reported that the policy committee that works with the CAPQ has met five times and the first draft of the revised guidelines for promotion and tenure will be presented to the CAPQ (who have to implement them) for comment and input on Tuesday 12th Sept. A vote will be held by the Executive committee of the Medical school following this and if they are approved without change they will be presented to Dean Pato. The new guidelines are a hybrid of the old and some new suggestions and a point system has been kept but modified. The new guidelines will be published for all faculty to review before preparing packages for promotion. It was suggested that a certain degree of continuity is desirable since it is problematic to change the rules in the middle of the game.

A discussion ensued about the fact that some of the other schools on campus do not have separate standing committees that revise the guidelines for their CAPQ committees.
Finally the Curriculum Committee of the Medical School governance chaired by Dr. Shirley Eisner will be making a report on the new curriculum at the February 8th meeting of the COM Executive Committee meeting.

**School of Graduate Studies** – Dr. Penington stated that there was no news to report from graduate studies since the end of the holiday season.

**School of Public Health** – Dr. Landsbergis reported that Dr. Sweeney was appointed as Head of the [Center for Global Health Institute](#) of the SPH; Dr. Rinnert pointed out that there is a SUNY wide Global Health Institute also and he hoped they would be working closely together.

**University Faculty Senate** Dr. Rinnert asked who was going to the senate meeting on January 22nd, it was replied that as far as we know Drs. Helen Durkin, Rauno Joks, Miriam Vincent and Henry Flax were all going as was Dr. Rinnert.

**Old Business:** The issue of the cost of parking was raised again and Dr. Rinnert replied that he was told that the President’s Office has been working on plans to secure more space for parking. There is an empty lot on the corner of Albany and Clarkson but a shuttle service would be required.

**New Business:**  **Centerwide Issues** None raised

Dr. Rinnert motioned for adjournment of the meeting, seconded at 4.58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Penington, Ph.D.
For the Secretary