



August 22, 2024

## Executive Committee of the Faculty & Professional Staff Assembly Meeting

### Agenda

- Presiding Officer's welcome remarks
- Old Business
- New Business.
- Good and Welfare
- Adjourn

Meeting Called to Order: 5:00 pm Via Zoom

### Present:

Allen Norin Edeline Mitton Cristopher Roman Daniel Ehlke Samuel Marquez Vikram Pagpatan Efekona Nuwere Kathleen Bratby	Chella Kamarajan Richard Kollmar Nicholas Penington Katherine Perkins Joan Ritter-Teiltel Ramaswamy Viswanathan Natalie Ferguson Alithia Alleyne Veronika Arikian
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Secretary Mitton opened the meeting at 5:03 PM.

PO Norin stated the agenda is to review items that need to be discussed with Dr. Riley. Due to scheduling issues, he could not meet with Dr. Riley beforehand. The items gathered in today's meeting will be addressed and followed up via email. There are three issues for discussion: 1. Concern regarding the Elsevier contract; 2. Status of Downstate Advisory Board; 3. Slowdown in obtaining supplies, approval of contract agreements, and travel approvals.

PO Norin also mentioned that the by-laws should be reviewed to enable the immediate past president to stay on board as part of succession planning and assist the incoming president.

Member Perkins inquired about the status of the library.

PO Norin remarked that Dr. Hussain, head of the library, was deceased. Dr. Riley is in conversation with the Chancellor's office regarding the Elsevier matter.

Member Perkins remarked that, according to Mohammed Hussein, sometime in 2020, SUNY decided to opt out of the big deal and not renew it in favor of a short list of titles to which campuses across the system will have access. Individual city campuses will have the flexibility of local resources permitting supplement titles on the core title list to meet local needs further.

Member Pennington stated that clinical keys are significant and are relied on heavily in medical school teaching. However, the students don't have access to clinical keys anymore. They are told to use very authoritative sources, but now they're being blocked from those authoritative sources, and they may have to get information from the web.

Member Marquez remarked that journals are needed to write grants and bring in money for the institution. Downstate also uses journals to advocate during its students' first and second years of medical education. We're talking 416 students. This directly addresses the tuition generated from that block of students. President Riley should be made aware of this.

PO Norin emphasized that the Legislature was to establish an advisory committee, which we are still waiting to start.

Alithia Alleyne remarked that perhaps, due to the DNC, nothing is happening right now, and everyone is in Chicago.

PO Norin suggested that the Exec Committee contact them directly after October 1<sup>st</sup> if there is no movement to establish the advisory committee.

Member Pennington suggests extending the deadline to six months since the due date is April 2025.

PO Norin remarked that the hospital 2024-25 budget has not entirely been approved yet. He plans to follow up with Dr. Riley on the slow progress in getting supplies for the labs, etc.

Member Kollmar remarked that a lack of personnel could cause the issue. There seems to be a lag in reviewing contracts and orders.

Member Viswanathan brought up the issue of the lack of announcements on campus about the Distinguished Professor Awards.

PO Norin stated that the Dean's responsible for bringing the nominations forward. The process seems to have stopped due to the Dean's unavailability. He will follow up and see if the issue can be reactivated.

#### New Business

PO Norin stated that Member Hall inquired about the SPH wanting to institute a new bylaw, but Dean Demissie disapproved. The rules in the center-wide bylaws did not allow the Deans to approve or disapprove of bylaws, changes, or proposed bylaws. Member Hall is on vacation. The matter will be reported on via email.

Member Marquez asked for clarification as it applies to changes in bylaws. The CPQ Promotions Committee for the College of Medicine wanted to change one of the promotion guidelines. The specific change is one word—"from and.." to "or." The CAPQ is requesting the Executive Committee to appoint a subcommittee for bylaw changes, and that was the mechanism; this was consulted with Ross Clinchy and Dean Brunicardi, but it was rejected.



Member Penington commentated that the Deans cannot veto anybody from standing for election. However, when changing the CAPQ rules, he believes that the bylaws of the College of Medicine state that the Dean has veto approval.

PO Norin states that he and member Perkins will review the document and comment at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.