

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee

SUNY-Downstate College of Medicine

August 8, 2022

Attendees: R. Viswanathan, H. Siddiqi, P. Bergold, J. Kubie, J. Meyers, C. Roman, R. Orman, A. Schwartzman, R. Foronjy, S. Marquez, S. Fisher, S. Rabinowitz

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Viswanathan; July and semiannual minutes were approved revision.

Presiding Officer Report

Dr. Viswanathan proposed to the committee to form a standing committee that deals with the library system and simulation lab. If this is approved, the bylaws committee must develop the language. Dr. Siddiqi stated that it could be infused with CEPC. Dr. Siddiqi stated that a committee existed and approved what journals the library should purchase.

Research, Resource and Budget

Dr. Meyers stated that there are changes in the genomics lab regarding whether some staff is staying or leaving. Dr. Knowles has gone, and Dr. Oval, who works closely with Dr. Knowles, may be leaving. It has become an issue with faculty because, regarding resources, what will remain and what will those resources remain or won't be staying, both in terms of expertise and lab equipment? There is a discussion that continues to be on the radar of the powers that be in terms of making sure that the current faculty have what they need to continue their work.

Scott Burnell, part of the Research office IT, submitted a grant to the NIH and got funding for a computing cluster. The grant will be used to modernize the server and computing options around research at Downstate.

CenterWide Committee

Dr. Roman stated that the committee revised the bylaws, including having the presiding officer and presiding officer elect each school on the committee of Center-wide. One reason is that the School of Public Health is not recognized in the bylaws, and the other is due to not reaching a quorum.

Seven members of the Executive Committee voted and agreed to these changes.

Nominations Committee

College of Medicine Faculty & Professional Staff 2022 Election Results Total voters for ballot:
245 (32.2% of 760 on the voting list)

Executive Committee
Presiding Officer-Elect: Dr. Mark Stewart

Secretary Dr. Christine Persaud

Professional Staff Ms. Leonie Harris

Clinical Sciences
Dr. Francisca Velcek Dr. Raavi Gupta Dr. Simon Rabinowitz
Dr. Aditya Maheshwari

Basic Sciences
Dr. Chella Kamarajan Dr. John Kubie Dr. Nicholas Penington

Affiliate
Dr. Cathryn Galanter

CAPQ

Clinical Sciences
Dr. Teresa Smith

Basic Sciences
Dr. Samuel Marquez

Bylaws amendments

All three amendments were approved. Amendment 1. (Total voted 229; Approved 76%; Disapproved 10%; Abstained 14%) Pertains to College of Medicine representation in the Executive Committee of the Centerwide Assembly of Faculty and Professional Staff. Rationale: The Executive Committee needs more flexibility to adapt to current needs, and any changes to the Centerwide bylaws. Under Functions (of the Executive Committee)

Delete this: • J. They shall select from their own membership eight individuals, one of whom shall be from the Professional Staff and one Faculty member from an affiliated hospital in addition to their officers to serve as College of Medicine representatives on the CenterWide CFPS FPAMC.

Replace with: • J. Will appoint the required members to serve as College of Medicine representatives on The Executive Committee of the Centerwide Assembly of Faculty and Professional Staff.

Amendment 2. (Total voted 229; Approved 95%; Disapproved 0%; Abstained 5%)

Item-H- Nomination, Elections and Ballots Sub Committee Rationale: Remove ambiguity in language. In d)

Delete "...the Committee shall transmit through whatever means available, including electronic, to each voting member of the FPACM, a ballot..."

" Replace With "...the Committee shall send an electronic ballot to each voting member of the FPACM, ..."

Amendment 3. (Total voted 230; Approved 89%; Disapproved 3%; Abstained 9%)

Background: The two newly formed sub-committees, Item I. The SubCommittee on Academic Integrity and Professionalism, and Item J. The SubCommittee on Regulatory Compliance, have rules for terms of office and required frequency of meetings that were at variance from those stipulated under Article V General Rules for all Committees

Recommendation: These deviant rules will be deleted so that these two sub-committees will also operate under the General Rules for all Committees.

CEPC

Dr. Nowakowski will be retiring from Downstate.

CAPQ

Dr. Foronjy stated that two major issues had slowed down the committee. One is the overstay for promotion and tenure. There is a seven-year clock, but some people haven't been promoted and or considered for tenure for 10, 15 years, or longer. The CAPQ members have qualms about evaluating these candidates because they feel that they're violating the terms of the bylaws of the institution by doing so. The committee has been working with Dean Clinchy. The committee wanted a clear letter from the administration stating that CAPQ has the ability and authority to evaluate these candidates and should proceed. Some committee members and reservations about the legal aspect of doing that since the standard had been seven years. Within seven years, an evaluation should have been conducted in that time frame. The committee has requested that the letter that Dr. Clinchy wrote give clear guidance on the authority, giving the CAPQ the authority to evaluate these candidates so we could address the backlog of deserving candidates.

Dr. Foronjy stated that he hopes this letter is drafted so he can present it to the Executive committee so they can vote on it and this issue can be put to bed. So many candidates are in this position to no fault, and the CAPQ hopes they can be evaluated once they have gotten clarification.

The second issue that affects CAPQ is the revision of the guidelines. Pre April 2016 guidelines were less strenuous. When Dean Pato came on board, he changed the guidelines and they became more stringent and many of the faculty, mainly the clinical faculty, felt they could never meet the criteria for promotion. So, it was voted on by the Executive Committee to suspend the post-April 4, 2016, and revert to the pre-April 2016 criteria. Members of the CAPQ committee stated that they had spoken to some Executive Committee members who said they did not think that's what they were voting for. Also, some members of CAPQ felt that it was not accurately reflected in the minutes, so Dr. Foronjy would like for the Executive committee to vote on this to make sure that everyone agrees with suspending the post-April 4, 2016 and revert to the Pre-April 2016.

Dr. Viswanathan said that this was discussed in the July EC meeting in which Dr. Foronjy was not present, and there was no motion made for revote. Dr. Yusuff, and other members of her subcommittee are working on revising the criteria, which will be implemented in the future. There is a plan to modernize the review criteria that would be implemented in a prospective

manner, so there will be this period where candidates fall between 2016 and 2022. The CAPQ committee reviewed the bylaws and they felt that it is within jurisdiction of the executive committee to set what the criteria of review.

Academic Integrity and Professionalism

Dr. Rabinowitz reached out to the Dean and stated that since it is an advisory committee, he felt it would be inappropriate to play an initiating role. Instead, he stated that the committee should proceed with what we had planned. There are five members. Dr. Rabinowitz stated that since 2020 things have moved in a different direction. One recognized gender fluidity, while the other was conscious of professional people with diverse backgrounds.

Student Admissions

Dr. Fisher stated that the committee is in the process of screening applicants. Two screeners are on vacation, so Dr. Fisher screened 400 applicants. There is an excess of 600 applications, and if the committee can get more interviewers, they can interview over 1000. There are applicants that the committee will not interview because, in their experience, a person who has all A's at Harvard and 100% tile in the MCAT may not select Downstate. When screening applicants, if he sees a Brooklyn resident working at Downstate, he will choose that person for an interview. Dr. Fisher stated that a suggestion had been made to enroll selected alums into the interview pool, have them trained, and interview applicants to advertise Downstate. Dr. Kubie said this is a good idea but focusing on recent alums who can know the current curriculum. Dr. Rabinowitz stated that was a good idea, but also incorporated the diversity and talk about their experience. Dr. Fisher stated that he would discuss these suggestions with the committee.

New Business

Dr. Viswanathan stated that as per our bylaws in some subcommittees half of the members will continue for another year beyond August 31. Dr. Siddiqi disagreed.