

Faculty and Professional Staff of the College of Medicine

Semi Annual Minutes

April 29, 2022, 12 noon – 2:00 pm by Zoom

President's Report

Dr. Riley gave thanks to the following:

1. Dr. Viswanathan for his leadership of the faculty and professional staff assembly of the College of Medicine. Also, he thanked everyone for all they have done for 2020-2022.
2. Dr. LaRosa for this contribution at Downstate. He gave him a tribute since he will be retiring at the end of the calendar year.
3. Dean Brunicardi for his leadership during the re-accreditation by LCME.
4. Dr. Stewart for his tenure as Dean of the Graduate School. He is stepping down as Dean on June 30, 2022. He will remain as a faculty member.

Dr. Riley stated that the state budget was not acceptable, considering he has been working with SUNY Central, the Administration, and the SUNY board's interim Chancellor for the hospital's needs. He will continue to be an advocate for this institution and this has occupied his time.

Downstate has graduated more Doctors of Medicine (207) than any other medical school in New York.

Dean's Report

Dean Brunicardi stated that it was an honor to serve as the Dean of the College of Medicine, which has been a learning experience. He also thanked the faculty for their dedication, to clinical care, research and education. Dean Brunicardi stated that he is living proof that Downstate trains great students and residents since he did his training at Downstate in the 80s.

The key initiatives are diversity and inclusivity, professionalism, and wellness.

Dean Carla Boutin-Foster put together an inventory for the AAMC for diversity and inclusivity, culture, and equity. Downstate is dealing with all of the significant issues that AAMC brought up. Downstate has won three national diversity awards. One was from ACGME, the second was from the National AOA, and the third was from the association of pediatric surgery.

Downstate is in the last stages of the LCME Self Study. The LCME site visit was in February of 2021. The school was given full accreditation with an indeterminate term during that time.

Downstate was given 18 months to fix the eight citations and four elements to comply with

monitoring. COM has been working diligently on it. COM met with the LCME Secretariat, and they were thrilled with the progress. The COM has worked on the following as per the LCME:

- 1) student support services
- 2) career advising program
- 3) office of academic support
- 4) new student health center
- 5) new full-time counseling center
- 6) new financial aid program where students can schedule online

On December 1st, twelve reports have to be submitted to the LCME, and in March, it is expected to hear from them. LCME does not have to return to Downstate. Dean Brunicardi stated that he is confident that all 12 elements will pass.

The college is embarking on a curriculum renewal. As per the consultants, there will be a needs assessment that will outline preserving the core curriculum. In addition, the digital online education strategic plan will dovetail with the curriculum renewal.

Residency Match 2022 Report

Dr. Lazar stated that the match was conducted virtually for a second year and it was successful.

Dr. Lazar reported that our match rate was 96%, better than the national average of 94 percent. In the conventional match, we had six students that did not match. One was in surgery, and five were in orthopedics.

- 21% the students matched in Medicine.
- 15% in Emergency Medicine.
- 9% in Anesthesiology which tied with Psychiatry
- 7% in Pediatrics
- 5% Orthopedics tied with OB-GYN

Students matched in places such as MGH, Columbia, UCSF, Einstein, NYU, and 33 chose Downstate.

Center-wide Report

Dr. Roman stated that the Center-wide committee is in the process of regrouping.

There was a plenary session for the University faculty senate that was held two weeks ago.

The committee is in the midst of elections and asked members to look out for an announcement about voting.

Subcommittee Reports

Nominations Committee

Dr. Brown stated that the committee is comprised of the following members:

Faculty

Carla Boutin-Foster, MD
Rauno Joks, M.D
Raj Wadgaonkar, PhD
Cathryn Galanter, MD
Clinton D Brown, MD, Chair

Professional Staff

Angela Melton-Taylor

Dr. Brown presented the following slate of nominees for the upcoming election, for the term beginning September 2022.

Presiding Officer-Elect: (choose 1)

Raj Wadgaonkar
Other or self-nominations

Secretary: (choose 1)

Christine Persaud
Other or self-nominations

Executive Committee

Staff: (choose1)

Leonie Harris
Other or self-nominations

Clinical Sciences: (choose 4)

Raavi Gupta
Aditya Maheshwari
Simon Rabinowitz
Francisca Velcek
Other or self-nominations

Basic Sciences: (choose 3)

Chella Kamarajan
Nicholas Penington

John Kubie
Other or self-nominations

Affiliate: (choose 1)

Cathryn Galanter
Other or self-nominations

CAPQ

Clinical Sciences: (choose 1)

Lisa Merlin
Stephan Kolhoff
Teresa Smith
Rauno Joks
Other or self-nominations

Basic Sciences: (choose 1)

Riccardo Bianchi
Janice Brissette
Nicholas Penington
Mark Stewart
Samuel Marquez
Raj Wadgaonkar
Other or self-nominations

Dr. Brown requested additional nominations from the floor. Dr. Stewart was nominated for Presiding Officer-Elect. He accepted his nomination.

CEPC

Dr. Nowakowski presented members of the committee.

Maja Nowakowski (Pathology), Chairman
Jacob Aranda (Pediatrics)
Michael Augenbraun (Medicine)
Frank Barone (Neurology, Phys&Pharm)
Helen Durkin (Pathology)
Daniel Friedman (Psychiatry)
Stanley Friedman (MD-PhD Program)
Ellen Hsu (Physiology/Pharmacology)
Jason Lazar (Medicine)
Rauno Joks (Medicine)
Steven Ostrow (Radiology)
Richard Sadovsky (Family Medicine)
Medical Student Representatives (MS1-MS4)

GOALS FOR 2021-2022

- Finalize the proposal for a comprehensive, interactive platform on medical student research opportunities
- Work toward creation of an Office of Medical Student Research under the leadership of Dr. Frank Barone, current Director of Medical Student Research
- Integrate CEPC proposals with medical student research activities of the Dean's Office, College of Medicine, SVPR office (Senior Vice President for Research), HRAC (Human Research Advisory Committee), and LRAC (Laboratory Research Advisory Committee).

FOLLOW-UP: 2021-2022

- 2/17/2022
- A meeting of the Medical Student Research Group took place (by Zoom).
- It was attended by Maja Nowakowski, Jason Lazar, Brian McNeil, Deborah Gustafson, Frank Barone, and Roosevelt Boursiquot.
- It was agreed that the first need to address is the generation of a comprehensive list of faculty research mentors at Downstate and affiliates with the goal to “Identify, Engage, Recruit, and Retain”.
- The group will compile and integrate partial lists created by Frank Barone, Brian McNeil, and others.

Research, Resources, and Budget

Dr. Myers presented members of the committee.

Dr. Jackie Meyers (Dept of Psychiatry; SVPR Research Advisory Council; SVPR High Performance Computing Advisory Committee; Social Justice Research Council; Research Strategic Plan Team)

Dr. Deborah Gustafson (Neurology; SVPR Research Advisory Council; Research Strategic Plan Team)

Dr. Jared Jagdeo (Dept of Dermatology; Brooklyn VA)

Dr. Salva Dura-Berna (Phys/Pharm Dept; SVPR High Performance Computing Advisory Committee)

Carlene Haynes (Dept of Psych, Professional Staff; Senior Grants Administrator)

Goals

- (1) Distill main areas of focus across all Research committees
- (2) Highlight the most important areas of focus to improve Research at Downstate
- (3) Triangulate different committees all discussing Research at Downstate:
 - a. SVPR Research Advisory Council (Human Research Advisory Council & Laboratory Research Advisory Council)
 - b. Social Justice Research Meeting (representation from students, Research Strategic Plan Team, and SVPR office)
 - c. SVPR High Performance Computing Advisory Committee
 - d. Other COM EC intersecting subcommittees: CAPQ, CEPC (Committee on Educational Policy and Curriculum), Research Ethics
 - e. Other ad-hoc committees and discussions (e.g., State University Construction Fund SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University Facility Master Plan)
- (4) Distill main areas of focus across all Research committee & Highlight the most important areas of focus to improve Research at Downstate.
 - i. Design, execute and publicize (!) the vision for research at downstate
 - ii. Public Relations for Research at Downstate
 1. Gabe Rodriguez, Executive Director of Development, Research
 2. Website & other outward facing PR for research at downstate
 - iii. Centralize topics around Research from a variety of perspectives (admin, faculty, students)
 - iv. Incentivize investigators getting grants at downstate
 - v. Resolve issues that are universally adversely affecting all grant funded researchers at Downstate
 - vi. Recognize the achievements of the SVPRs office:
 1. 3 symposia sponsored by the SVPR: Climate Change & Health, Global Health, and Translational Brain Health
 2. New grants managers are being hired who will be assigned to departments for pre-award assistance (training in progress)
 3. Seed grants
 4. PULSE newsletter

Faculty -Student Relations

Dr. Boursiquot presented members of the committee.

Faculty Members:

Dr. Roosevelt Boursiquot (Chair)

Dr. Christina Pardo (Co-Chair)

Dr. Raj Wadgaonkar

Student Members:

Hyuck-Jin Daniel Kwon (COM2023)

Hannah Every (COM2023)

Audrigue Jean-Louis (COM2024)

Ethan Cai (COM2025)

Goals

To provide a channel to establish relationships between the faculty and students to promote communication and support.

Through these relationships and meetings, students can feel supported by the academic faculty at Downstate, and the faculty will foster a more productive and collaborative environment.

Planned Activities

Student-Faculty mixer:

Goal: To provide students with the opportunity to be less formal and get to know more about the faculty and career advice

Casual/informal meet-and-greet in early Fall involving faculty and students, representing different departments in the COM and graduate school.

Students want PBL instructors and course directors from MS1-MS4 to participate.

Student Admission

Dr. Fisher stated the committee had 100 interviewers, but this year the committee is down to 60. There is a need for interviewers, who can commit 4 interviews over the course of the year. All interviews are virtual and are easy to schedule.

Academic, Integrity and Professionalism

Please see attachments

By-laws

Dr Marquez presented members of the committee

Dr. Nira Goldstein

Dr. Neal Mangia

Dr. Eduardo Mascareno

There are no issues with the by-laws since the last assembly.

Faculty & Professional Staff Personnel, Policies, Promotions and Appointments

The subcommittee chair Dr. Yusuff was not available to present. Dr. Viswanathan brought up for discussion an important proposal made by the subcommittee on CAPQ Guidelines.

The Subcommittee on Faculty Policies and Promotions is different from CAPQ, it develops promotion guidelines as well as other policies and then it makes a recommendation to the executive committee. The executive committee is the one which makes decisions. In November 2021 this subcommittee made a motion in the executive committee to abolish the April 2016 CAPQ guidelines and revert to the previous guidelines, stating that it was a unanimous recommendation by the subcommittee. The executive committee unanimously voted (10 of 10 voters present) to accept this motion to abolish the 2016 guidelines and revert to the previous guidelines. This was presented at the December 2021 semiannual assembly of faculty and staff. Discussion was solicited from the audience but no one offered comments. Dr. Viswanathan spoke to Dean Brunicardi and he accepted the recommendation, but requested faculty self-governance to work on improving the previous CAPQ guidelines. Dr. Viswanathan requested the subcommittee to work in consultation with the vice-dean for faculty affairs, Dr. Clinchy, and the chair of the CAPQ, Dr. Foronjy, to improve the previous CAPQ guidelines. Dr. Viswanathan again solicited opinions from the audience in this meeting on this matter. Three faculty members spoke strongly supporting the abolition of the 2016 CAPQ Guidelines and reverting to the previous guidelines. No one spoke against the resolution. The reasoning expressed was that the 2016 guidelines did not give sufficient recognition to clinical scholarship, non-funded research and teaching, the requirement of extramural research funding for associate professorship was not attainable by many otherwise scholarly clinical faculty because they are not given time and support for the same, this made it difficult to recruit and retain excellent faculty in clinical departments, that some junior faculty left because of this.

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