

**SUNY Downstate Medical Center**  
**EXECUTIVE (Centerwide) COMMITTEE of the Faculty and Professional Staff**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Monday, March 9, 2015**  
**4:00 PM – 5:00PM**

**Attending:**

Presiding Officer	Stephan Rinnert, MD
Past Presiding Officer & University Faculty Senator	Miriam Vincent, MD, PhD, JD
Secretary & University Faculty Senator	Henry Flax, EdD
Presiding Officer, College of Health Related Professions	Angela Griffin, PT, PhD
Presiding Officer Elect, College of Health Related Professions	Kenneth Martinucci, MS
Presiding Officer, College of Nursing	Veronica Arikian, PhD, RN
Presiding Officer, School of Public Health	Daniel Ehlke, PhD
Alternate University Faculty Senator	Virginia Anderson, MD
Alternate University Faculty Senator	Mathew Foley, MD
Alternate University Faculty Senator	Farhad Haeri, DPT
Alternate University Faculty Senator	Steven Kang, MD

**Unable to Attend:**

Presiding Officer, College of Medicine	Allen Norin, PhD
Presiding Officer Elect, College of Medicine	Clinton Brown, MD
Presiding Officer Elect, College of Nursing	Nancy Giordano, EdD, WHNP
Presiding Officer, School of Graduate Studies	Nicholas Penington, PhD
Presiding Officer Elect, School of Graduate Studies	John Kubie, PhD
Presiding Officer Elect, School of Public Health	Paul Landsbergis, PhD, EdD, MPH
University Faculty Senator	Kathleen Powderly, PhD
University Faculty Senator	Helen Durkin, PhD
Recording Secretary	Migdalia Gaston

**Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Dr. Ehlke moved, Dr. Rinnert seconded, the approval of the minutes of the meeting of Monday, February 9, 2015 as amended; motion carried.

**Presiding Officer's Report:**

Dr. Rinnert advised the body that he had not been able to meet with Dr. Williams prior to this meeting. Dr. Rinnert related an incident involving a resident who had complained to the GME Committee and was then publicly admonished by his department chair. Dr. Rinnert has requested Dr. Merlino, Vice President for Faculty Affairs, to add to the Faculty Development agenda a module to create a constructive learning environment. Dr. Haeri described a similar incident in CHRP's PT program. Dr. Arikian inquired as to whether Dr. Rinnert had addressed this with the department chair. Dr. Rinnert responded that Dr. Wadowski, Associate Dean for GME, is to investigate the issue. Dr. Flax seconded Dr. Arikian's suggestion to follow up independently. Dr. Griffin noted that, when Dr. Terracina was VP for Student Affairs, she had provided a review of procedures for faculty to use when dealing with student issues. Drs. Kang and Vincent noted the importance of obtaining the facts in all cases. Dr. Rinnert noted that we need a centerwide approach to educate faculty. Dr. Arikian stated that harassment training is disliked but that bullying and abuse concerns underscore the need for it.

**Constituent Reports:**

**The College of Health Related Professions** –Dr. Griffin reported that the college's February 25<sup>th</sup> Faculty Assembly hosted two guests, Dr. Susan Phillips, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Merlino, Vice President for Faculty Affairs. Dr. Phillips met with the CHRP Faculty Assembly regarding the proposed Office of the Provost; Dr. Merlino provided an overview of the activities of his office, including the recent presentation on the "Millennial Student". The faculty is busy finalizing admissions for those programs with June start dates. Dr. Griffin has just returned from India where she was involved in service projects.

Dr. Rinnert shared the section of the SUNY website on the global health institute. There will be a conference in the fall of 2015. Dr. DeHovitz, STAR program, and Drs. Bloem and Rinnert, Emergency Medicine, are all members. Dr. Rinnert offered a participatory role to the Centerwide Committee members. 80% of COM applicants are asking for global health opportunities. Dr. Haeri discussed the interest in global health in CHRP. Both Drs. Rinnert and Ehlke stated that we need better knowledge of global health issues. Dr. Vincent asked about electives in global health offered by the School of Public Health. Dr. Anderson noted that she has worldwide connections in Pathology. Dr. Rinnert noted there are bi-directional opportunities that exist in global health. Dr. Anderson discussed sabbatical opportunities. She noted that she would like to establish telepathology systems for consultations.

**The College of Nursing** – Dr. Arikian reported that the CON has finalized admissions by working 4-5 hours every Monday. All will be done by the end of April. Budget reports were prepared for the CFO last week. Dr. Shirley Girouard, Associate Dean for Research & Innovations, was unavailable to attend today's meeting. Dr. Arikian will invite her to our April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to share her statewide research partnerships, especially her HERSA (Health Resources and Services Administration) grant funded gerontology research. The grant is shared with two faculty members in Psychiatry.

**The College of Medicine** – No report.

**The School of Graduate Studies** – No report.

**The School of Public Health** –Dr. Ehlke reported on the SPH Executive Committee meeting held two weeks ago. Dr. Ehlke provided that group with an update of the Centerwide Committee's activities. He encouraged members to get involved in the University Faculty Senate and its committees. Dr. Ehlke noted that SPH faculty has concerns about the faculty teaching load which is slated to increase. This has created concerns about cuts in research time. This is a problem for faculty in clinical medicine and in CHRP as well. Dr. Anderson shared concerns expressed by faculty in Radiology. We need guidelines for career development. Dr. Rinnert noted that there are two pathways to tenure in the College of Medicine. Dr. Ehlke noted that there are two pathways in SPH as well, but that only one is used. Dr. Rinnert noted that Dr. Merlino's office is scheduled to host a Career Development workshop; attendance is encouraged.

### **University Faculty Senate Report**

Dr. Flax shared information from the March 9<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee conference call including, a request submitted by the Diversity and Cultural Competency Committee to offer Diversity Training to the Executive Committee and Committee Chairs. A joint letter from the SUNY, CUNY and Faculty Council of Community Colleges (FCCC) will be sent to Jim Malatros, the Governor's Chief of Staff, as well as to State Senator LaValle and Assembly member Glick (both chair their respective Higher Education Committees) expressing our concerns regarding the Governor's budget proposals and the educational concerns about the budgetary mandate for all degrees to include experiential education components. Awardees have been selected for the Senator Emeritus Award, the Ram Chugh Award and the Wiezalis UFS Fellow Award.

Dr. Flax announced that he has advised the Health Science Sector that he will be stepping down as Sector Head at the conclusion of the May Plenary. There will be an election for a new sector rep at the May Plenary.

### **Old Business**

By-laws Update – Dr. Flax has begun updating the PDF of our By-laws on our web site.

**New Business** – none presented.

### **Adjournment**

Dr. Rinnert moved to adjourn, Dr. Ehlke seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Henry S. Flax, Ed.D., Secretary