

## **Minutes of McGovern Medical School Faculty Senate**

Thursday, April 18, 2019, 4:30 p.m.  
MSB 2.103 & LBJ UT Annex 217 Auditorium

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:32pm.

### **Approval of Minutes (March 2019)**

The minutes were approved at 4:59 after a full quorum was present.

### **Dean's Report**

Dr. Stoll welcomed two new department chairs: Dr. Ben Bobrow (Emergency Medicine), who will arrive June 1, and Dr. Pramod Dash (Neurobiology and Anatomy). She reported that Dr. Colasurdo has been working on increasing legislative funding for UTHealth, such as increasing the formula weight for the School of Biomedical Informatics. He also is working on creating a dental clinic operations funding formula to support clinical training for students and to help ensure dental care remains affordable for underserved communities. Dr. Stoll is working on creating a UTHealth Women's Health Education and Research Center to address the unique health issues of women. Dr. Stoll also noted that our school celebrated Match Day in March, with half of our students staying in Texas. Half of those students who are staying in Texas are staying in the McGovern Medical School community. Also, 40% matched into primary care specialties, which is greatly needed in Texas. The commencement speaker this year is Dr. Rita Charon, Professor of Medicine at Columbia, who is well known in the field of narrative medicine. Dr. Stoll gave a philanthropy update: In FY18, the goal was \$35 million, and we raised \$49.7million. This year we have raised \$17.7 million to date, with a total goal of \$35 million. The ultimate UTHealth campaign goal is \$500 million. Thus far, we have raised \$296 million, of which \$210 million is earmarked for the medical school.

### **New Business**

#### *UT Police Report*

Captain Preacher spoke about campus safety and reported on recent criminal activity on campus. He discussed several highly publicized incidents, but noted that the overall crime rate in Houston has decreased by 10%, and that UT Police has had a 50% decrease in all crimes. Still, he recommended that everyone should pay attention to surroundings at all times. Dean Stoll praised the UT Police Department, stating that they have been very responsive to her calls and concerns.

Audience question: How do we deal with the concerns of faculty, staff, or students who see strangers following them into an entrance?

Police response: Separate yourself, call UT police (713-792-2890), and give a description of the suspicious person as well as the last known direction of travel.

Question: Why are there so many crimes on the south campus?

Police response: The highest crime rates are south of Cambridge, east of 288, where there is considerable gang activity. Unfortunately, this activity sometimes makes its way to campus. He added, “We depend on the community to help us with reporting crimes, because there is not enough of a police presence in that area.”

Question: What happens if you are attacked by a patient?

Police response: Call security and call the police. All of our officers are trained in mental health issues. They are trained to de-escalate situations.

UT Police will also escort you to your car.

## **Reports**

### *UT System Faculty Advisory Council (FAC)*

Dr. Gurur Biliciler-Denktaş is the new Chair of the UT System FAC (FAC). The FAC recently met with the Board of Regents and discussed a number of items, including maternity/parental leave. Dr. Nathan Carlin has offered the support of the Faculty Senate for taskforce creation or any other assistive tasks. There was also a discussion of the need for clarifying the HOOP policy regarding the need to start FMLA leave on the day the child is born. Another item that was discussed at the FAC meeting involved a need to create more stability for non-tenured faculty. Grievance policies are also being reviewed by the FAC, as well as a review of faculty compensation. The FAC continues to address the issue of physician burnout. They are currently reviewing the UT System white paper on physician burnout and determining what changes have been made and which ones still need to occur.

## **Old Business**

### *Open Dialogue*

1. A senator noted that the information and communications department reached out to faculty about utilization of their UT credentials on national educational products. Do we need prior approval? Dr. Stoll stated that it is important that faculty represent the university using UTHHealth credentials. But she added that it is important to distinguish between which of your views are your views only and are not representative of the university.
2. A senator expressed dissatisfaction with the many and various required compliance trainings for various TMC institutions. Would it be possible to consolidate these efforts?

3. A senator expressed dissatisfaction with parking garage conditions. He noted that, while he recognizes that the garages are run by the TMC, there would be no business for them if the hospitals were not there. “We would like a product reflective of what we are paying for,” he said. Options for improvement could include having a faculty-only garage.

### **Announcements**

If you are interested in serving as Secretary-Elect or Chair-Elect next year, please email Dr. Carlin. The Chair-Elect position should be a basic scientist. Please congratulate two new senators on their election to the Committee on Committees: Dr. Rhashedah A. Ekeoduru and Dr. Rachael Sirianni.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Minutes approved by the Faculty Senate on 5/16/2019  
Minutes submitted by Dr. Bethany Williams, Secretary