

Minutes of the McGovern Medical School Faculty Senate

Thursday, April 16, 2020, 4:30 p.m.

WEBEX Meeting

Dr. Parks brought the meeting to order at 4:44 p.m.

Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the March 19, 2020 meeting were approved via WebEx at 5:03pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Honored time opening for Dean Stoll & Dr. Kevin Morano

Dr. Kevin Morano would like to thank everyone for your willingness to work through the challenges we are currently facing.

The projected COVID-19 peak is projected to be April 18, 2020. As such, the University is working on finding safe ways to re-open the institution. Our priority is the safety of our faculty, staff and patients. There are now two testing modalities available on campus, including a rapid testing option. We are still working on antibody testing. The University is trying to determine a feasible plan for testing faculty, students and staff.

The patient volumes at the hospital are actually lower than we anticipated. The ICUs are also in very good shape.

Potential return models include continuing social distancing, universal wearing of face masks and a temporary down surge of research production, manpower and hours. Eventually we plan to return to full research activity. It is possible that this will be in place by the summer.

Questions: There are some differences between MHH and LBJ regarding mask availability and time of return for test results.

Answer: It is possible that both hospitals will use the rapid testing option available at MHH. Currently, both hospitals are utilizing the re-sterilization of masks, which increases supply. LBJ has plenty of N95 masks with the exception of size XS.

Comments: Any research that is COVID based should potentially be funneled up and given more priority.

Question: Are there any updates about antibody testing?

Answer: We are still in the process of determining a platform for antibody screening.

The following is the link to the recorded MMS COVID-19 Update given by Dean Stoll:

<https://uthvideo.uth.tmc.edu/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=fe39b40b-445f-4754-a8e5-aba0013083e5>

You will need your UTHHealth username and password to access the recording.

Announcements

a. Cameron B. Jeter, PhD, Associate Professor, Diagnostic and Biomedical Sciences, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, School of Dentistry

School of Dentistry

The vision of the School of Dentistry is to improve oral health and improve overall health. There are three training programs available at the School of Dentistry:

4-year DDS or DDs/MPH, 105 students/class.

2-year dental hygiene, 40 students/class.

9 residencies, 1-6 residents per program.

The majority of dental graduates go into private practice, with a quarter of the class choosing to pursue a residency.

The school also offers continuing education for dentists and hygienists in practice. There is also a Center for Teaching & Learning to assist faculty in becoming better educators.

There is currently a push to encourage students to join as academic faculty. Traditionally the faculty are comprised of retired private practice dentists.

There are student-led clinics offered at the School of Dentistry, including mobile dental vans, Urgent Care, General Practice, and special patient clinics.

UT Physicians offers a community clinic at the School of Dentistry to assist patients who are unable to receive dental care

secondary to medical co-morbidities, e.g., poorly controlled blood pressure or diabetes.

The School of Dentistry has the goal of becoming a Top 10 NIH-funded dental school. There is a fair amount of research actively underway.

Question: Is there a way for the School of Dentistry to provide Care at Harris County Psychiatric Center, maybe via the dental van?

Answer: This is certainly a possibility. We will look into it and follow-up with the senators.

b. Martin Citardi, MD, Professor and Chair,
Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and Vice Dean for
Clinical Technology; [SEP] Babatope (Tope) Fatuyi, MD, MPH,
Chief Medical Information Officer

Transition to EPIC-EMR monthly update

We are on track to go live with EPIC in 2021.

Questions/Comments: Does EPIC have its own internal telemedicine component?

Answer: Yes, Epic has myHealth VideoVisits. We plan to include the touch model in addition to Allscripts. Dr. Fatuyi will continue to provide updates at upcoming meetings.

Announcements

If you are interested in being the faculty senate secretary or chair (and are a clinical faculty member – since we alternate between a chair from the basic sciences and then a clinical faculty member), please respond to the email that will be sent out shortly.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Next meeting May 21, 2020, 4:30pm

Dr. Kenya Maria Parks – Chair

Dr. Catherine Ambrose-Chair-Elect

Dr. Rhashedah A. Ekeoduru – Secretary

Dr. Zi Yang Jiang-Secretary-Elect

Dr. Nathan Carlin – 2018-2019 Past-Chair

<https://med.uth.edu/faculty-senate/ms.facultysenate@uth.tmc.edu>