

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:31 PM with a quorum of senators participating in the WebEx call.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes distributed with the WebEx invitation had 2 pieces of information missing (designated with red asterisks). These were added, and the minutes were accepted unanimously.

3. Reports

- a. Faculty Affairs - Dr. Kevin Morano
 - i. Reminder that all faculty need to meet with their chair for annual reviews, which are due December 1
 - ii. Policy change effective this month
Part-time faculty will no longer be assigned a prefix such as “adjunct” or “clinical”
 - iii. Women faculty forum related events
 1. “Picture a Scientist” film will be screened here at UTH in ~ January 2021. (attachment 1a)
 - a. Webex panel after a 5-day viewing period to discuss the topic: “What can we do for our women faculty”
 2. Nancy Hopkins is one of the scientists in the film at MIT; she will be our virtual keynote speaker at the Women and Girls in Science Symposium on February 11, 2021 (attachment 1b)
- b. Research Update – Dr. Michael Blackburn
 - i. Dean Search
 1. Diversified Search Firm has spent 2.5 weeks meeting with UTH leadership to discuss who we are and what we want for the next dean.
 - ii. Research Numbers
 1. \$10 million increase (\$161 to \$171 million) in grant funding
 - a. 10% reduction in federal/NIH funding
 - b. Most of the funding came from the state
 2. Decrease in expenditures (\$168 to \$166 million dollars)
 - a. Most of the decrease came from the months when the pandemic caused the medical school to decrease activities
 - b. The trend has changed in early FY 21 with increased activities
- c. Interfaculty Council – Dr. Nahid Rianon
 - i. Financially in black so far (September and October) in FY 21
 1. \$90 million liability from all the vacation time people did not use
 - a. There was a request to reduce accumulated vacation time
 - b. Faculty and staff took vacation/showed use of it
 - c. Now we are down to \$60 million for vacation liability – better than expected!
 2. Also, there were other restrictions that helped:
 - a. Hiring freeze

- b. No travel expenses because of COVID-19 pandemic related travel restrictions
- c. Some staff were on furlough one day a week
 - These staff members were able to get federal assistance through COVID-19 pandemic compensation program (\$600 per week plus state unemployment payments) due to the furlough
- 3. Increase in grant funding that included COVID-19 related projects
- 4. Some concerns regarding state budget forecast in Jan 2021
- ii. Lessons from the pandemic regarding working from home and future policies to possibly allow this on a more permanent basis
- iii. Subcommittees formed: Administrative Affairs; Faculty Status, Rights, and Responsibilities; Governance and Academic Affairs
 - 1. All will give reports later in the year
- iv. Update on new dean of faculty affairs in SPH and Women Faculty Forum projects and awards

4. Covid-19 Update – Dr. Luis Ostrosky

- a. Daily number of cases is increasing
- b. $R(t)$ is slightly over 1
- c. 30-40% increase in hospitalization rates these last few weeks
- d. MHH 2000th case on Oct 27th 2020 and 25K tests have been done so far
- e. 52 cases in the hospital today
- f. Lots of research going on both inpatient and outpatient (see attachment 2)
- g. Vaccines Finalists
 - i. Moderna mRNA-1273 / Pfizer BNT162 (mRNA) are new RNA type vaccines
 - ii. AstraZeneca Oxford (AZD1222) is the more traditional vaccine in development
- h. Key Messages
 - i. Community incidence is increasing
 - ii. Be judicious about outside activities, no travel recommended for the holidays
 - iii. Strict adherence to masking and eye protection is keeping us safe
- i. Question:
 - i. AstraZeneca trial qualifications on campus?
 - 1. Answer: Company is targeting those who are high risk (i.e., elderly). Anyone who sees patient is already high risk and qualifies.
 - ii. How will vaccines be given among employees?
 - 1. Leadership is already working on a plan to immunize those at highest risk first and then the rest of the medical school/hospital workers
 - iii. What have the antibody studies at the medical school found?
 - 1. University prevalence 5-7%
 - 2. More information is coming about community prevalence rate

5. Epic Update - Dr. Babatope Fatuyi

- a. UTH and Memorial Hermann Information Exchange (Project Bridge)
 - i. Goals of Increased access to MH clinical data and comprehensive clinical and billing information available at point of care
 - 1. Physician Consults
 - 2. Finalized Imaging, Surgical & Procedural reports
 - 3. Signed physician notes
 - 4. Insurance details & documentation

- ii. Results in
 1. Less repetitive questions, more quick verification
 2. A more seamless patient experience between UTHealth & Memorial Hermann
 3. Increased efficiency
 4. Less repetitive orders and procedures
- b. MyUTHealth Features
 - i. Direct Scheduling
 1. New Problem Visit
 2. Problem Follow-up Visit
 3. Annual Physical
 4. Video Visit
 5. Well Child Check-Up
 6. Prenatal Visit
 7. New Gyn Visit
 8. Well Women Check-Up
 - ii. Appointment Requests
 - iii. Open Scheduling
 - iv. Fast Pass (Joining a wait list and moving appointments to earlier date/time as they become available)
 - v. eCheck In
 - vi. Financial information
 1. Paperless Billing
 2. Price Estimates
 3. Customer Service Messaging
 4. Financial Assistance
 5. Online Payments
 6. Pay as Guest
 7. Payment Plans
 - vii. Mobile Platform/Vendors
 1. Hello Patient (detection of patient when arrive and auto-check-in process)
 2. Elavon – Credit Card vendor
 3. Tavoca – Appointment reminders
 4. Experian – Patient identify verification
- c. Specialist Training Specialist (STS)
 - i. Physicians will train physicians on how to use EPIC
 - ii. Training STS starts January 25, 2021

6. Old Business

- a. Mentoring Taskforce – Dr. Nahid Rianon
 - i. Members: Nahid Rianon (Chair), Anna Konovalova, Sara Guzman-Reyes, Salih Selek, Summer Ott, Syed Hashmi, Nathan Carlin, Catherine Ambrose, George Johnson, Kevin Morano
 - ii. Pilot mentoring program was started last year by Keely Smith and she will be invited to give a report.
- b. Covid-19 Precautions Taskforce (Maskforce) – Dr. Kathryn Gunther
 - i. Data collection of all the medical schools at the medical center and sister UT schools (attachment 3)
 - ii. 85% did have some sort of a formal policy
 - iii. Will send the data to leadership for consideration

7. **New Business**

- a. WFF Excellence Awards – Dr Mandy Hill
 - i. Award presentation details (attachment 4)
- b. December Faculty Senate Meeting – Dr. Catherine Ambrose
 - i. Proposal to cancel December meeting
 1. Second by Dr. Nachum Dafny
 2. Passed by acclamation

8. **Announcements**

- a. Website will be updated regularly including minutes and announcements:
 - i. <https://med.uth.edu/faculty-senate/>

9. **Adjournment** at 5:24PM

Next meeting: Thursday, January 21, 2020

Catherine Ambrose, PhD – Chair
Zi Yang Jiang, MD – Secretary
Nahid Rianon, MD - Chair-Elect
Renee Flores, MD - Secretary-Elect
Kenya Parks, MD – Past-Chair

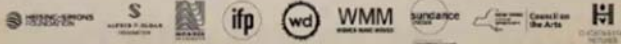
<https://med.uth.edu/faculty-senate/>
ms.facultysenate@uth.tmc.edu



PICTURE A **SCIENTIST**



AN IFRISING PRODUCTION | IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE WONDER COLLABORATIVE | A FILM BY SHARON SHATTUCK AND IAN CHENEY - PICTURE A SCIENTIST
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER AMY BRAND | EDITED BY NATASHA BEEL | CO-PRODUCERS RENE YADAO AND ELLI WASEIN BAGALLO
PRODUCED BY MANETTE POTTLE, IAN CHENEY, SHARON SHATTUCK | DIRECTED BY IAN CHENEY AND SHARON SHATTUCK



pictureascientist.com

Illustrations by Sean McElroy | Poster Design by Ed Morgan

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
WOMEN *and* GIRLS *in* SCIENCE
SYMPOSIUM

February 11, 2021 | 4 - 6:30 p.m. | WebEx

FEATURING:

Nancy Hopkins, PhD

Amgen Professor of Biology Emerita
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



MCGOVERN MEDICAL SCHOOL SPEAKERS:



Amber Luong, MD, PhD



Angela Stotts, PhD



Kristin Eckel-Mahan, PhD

Contact Susan.H.Wootton@uth.tmc.edu for more details.

McGovern
Medical School

Women
Faculty Forum

Attachment 2

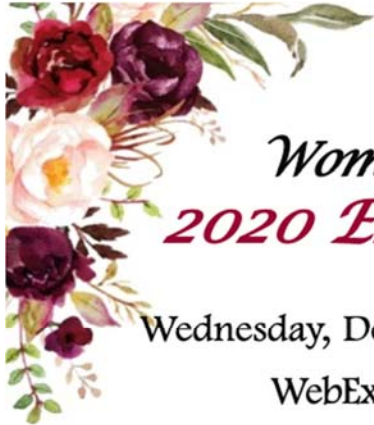
Primary Investigator	Intervention	Funding	Status	Location
Moore/Patel	Stem Cells	Dept of Defense	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Lake	Leronlimab	Cytodyn	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Bobrow	Vadadustat HIF PHA Inhibitor	Akebia/Dept of Defense	Enrolling	MHH TMC, SW
Madjid	Mavrilimumab GM-CSF	Akebia	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Patel	Ruxolitinib JAK Inhibitor	Incyte	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Gusdon	OP-101	Orpheris	Enrolling	MHH TMC, GH, Mem
Akkanti	CSL-312 Monoclonal Antibody	CSL Behring	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Lake	Ramipril RAAS Inhibitor	Pfizer	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Patel	MAS825 Monoclonal Antibody	Novartis	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Arduino	Anti-spike Monoclonal Antibody	Regeneron	Enrolling	LBJ
Patel	Sargrmostim GM CSF	Partner Therapeutics	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Ostrosky	PF-07304814 Antiviral	Pfizer	Enrolling	MHH TMC, Mem

Primary Investigator	Intervention	Funding	Status	Location
Ostrosky	Convalescent Plasma	NIH	Enrolling	MHH TMC, GH, SW
Patel	Losmapimod MAPK Inflamm	Fulcrum	Start up process	MHH TMC, MC
Patel	Otilimab GM-CSF	Otilimab	Start up process	MHH TMC, GH
Huebinger	Activ3	Petal NIH	Start up process	MHH TMC
Patel	Platform	Amgen	Start up process	MHH TMC
Cox/Patel	Stem Cell/ Natural Killer	Cellularity	Start up process	MHH TMC, GH
Akkanti	VIP Analog	PhaseBio	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Arduino	Canakinumab	NIH	Completed	MHH TMC
Patel	Gimsilumab Monoclonal Ab	Kinevant	Completed	MHH TMC
Lake	CD24Fc	Oncolmmune	Completed	MHH TMC

Primary Investigator	Intervention	Funding	Status	Location
Patel	Convalescent Plasma Therapy	JHU-NIH	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Patel	Convalescent Plasma Prevention	JHU-NIH	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Jones	Convalescent Plasma ED	SIREN Network	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Arduino	AZD1222 Vaccine	NIH	Enrolling	MHH TMC
Wang	Ad26.COVS Vaccine	Janssen	In Start Up Process	MHH TMC
Ostrosky	ACTIV-2/A5401 Monoclonal Ab	NIH	In Start Up Process	MHH TMC
McPherson	Antithrombotic strategies	NIH	In Start Up Process	MHH TMC
Ostrosky	Remdesivir	Gilead	Enrolling	MHH TMC

Attachment 3

Academic Medical Center and/or Hospital	Formal Policy	If not, larger city policy?	One uniform Policy?	Exceptions?	Specification on masks?
UT Southwestern (AMC)	Yes	N/A	Customized to Research, clinic and non-clinical	When you are alone in a private office	Surgical in hospitals- cloth allowed non-clinically
UTMB (AMC)	Yes	N/A	Yes	When you are alone in a private office	None
TAMU (AMC)	Yes	N/A	Yes	When you are alone in a private office	None
UT Austin (AMC)	No- Called a recommendation	Yes	No	When you are alone in a private office	None
UT San Antonio (AMC)	Yes	N/A	Yes	When alone	None
UT El Paso (AMC)	No	Yes	No	When 6ft cannot be maintained	None
Methodist (Hospital)	Yes	N/A	Yes	None	None
Baylor (AMC)	Yes	N/A	Yes	None	No single layer or valve masks
Texas Women's University (AMC)	Yes	N/A	No- Varies by location on campus	Office alone or when 6ft can be maintained	No single layer masks. No face shields without masks
Harris Health Systems (AMC)	No	Yes	No- employees and students have a policy not visitors	Patients and visitors apply by city recommendations which has exclusions	Surgical masks only
St. Luke's (Hospital)	Yes	N/A	Yes	None yet- but are considering private rooms	No personal masks unless covered by surgical
MD Anderson (Hospital with AMC)	Yes	N/A	Yes	None	Surgical masks only
HCA (Hospital)	Yes	N/A	No- Not required for those not patient facing	Non-clinical excused; when 6ft can be maintained excused	None
Kindred (Hospital)	Yes	N/A	Yes	None	None



Women Faculty Forum 2020 Excellence Awards

Wednesday, December 02, 2020 | 4:30 - 6:00 PM

WebEx Event Code: 120 199 5152

Excellence in Research

Danielle Garsin, PhD



Rising Star

Jun Wang, PhD



Excellence in Clinical Science

Hope Northrup, MD



Rising Star

Amanda Jagolino-Cole, MD



Use your phone's camera
to join the Ceremony

