

# UTHealth McGovern Medical School Faculty Senate

Thursday, March 18, 2021 | 4:30 pm

WEBEX Meeting

## Minutes

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes (January 2021) approved unanimously by the senate
3. UTHealth Update – Dr. Giuseppe Colasurdo
  - a. Financials
    - i. Overall budget for the medical school is about \$1.3 billion out of >\$2 billion for the University as a whole
    - ii. The University is doing well and operating in the black in the first 5 months of fiscal year
    - iii. Appreciation given to the Chairs for being fiscally disciplined and providing stability
  - b. Question raised regarding predictions for some return to normalcy (i.e., in-person meetings, normal travel, etc)
    - i. Education side: students want a safe, in person commencement. The medical school is working on the logistics to make that happen.
    - ii. Research side: see Dr Blackburn's comments
    - iii. The University is not ready to make a one-size fits all announcement for a return to normal activities as the university recognizes that schools and departments have different needs and vulnerabilities.
      1. Guidelines/guiding principles anticipated for return to normal to be released in May or June 2021.
    - iv. Travelling guidelines still pending (awaiting UT System's recommendations as well as trends of infection rates from the pandemic)
  - c. Questions about legislative session in Austin
    - i. Met with key elected officials already
    - ii. Expect \$15-16 billion in funding from federal sources, but unknown allocation
    - iii. Formula funding originally projected \$5-6 million decrease may hopefully turn into budget neutrality
    - iv. Tuition-Revenue Bonds being sought for building renovations
    - v. No reduction in funding for psychiatry
    - vi. Mission Specific Funding for research anticipated to continue
    - vii. Public Health Institute creation being planned, and funding requested
  - d. Match Day is 03/19/2021: programs and students did well
  - e. Memorial Hermann
    - i. Modernized affiliation agreement being negotiated (current agreement goes until 2029)
    - ii. Ernst & Young is involved as a consultant

4. Update – Dr. Michael Blackburn
  - a. Plans for joint commencement ceremonies at Minute Maid Park. Students will be split into two different groups:
    - i. Medical School, Graduate School, and School of Informatics on May 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - ii. Nursing School, Dental School, School of Public Health on May 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - b. Plans for return to in-person classes in September
  - c. Research
    - i. >\$100 million in basic NIH funding for the first time in medical school history
    - ii. Rank went from #55 -> #53 for funding
    - iii. COVID related funding \$125 million extra
  - d. Dean Search
    - i. Full interview mode right now
    - ii. 8 potential candidates being interviewed via Zoom
    - iii. A smaller group will be invited to come on campus for in-person interviews in the next few months
5. Faculty Affairs -- Dr. Kevin Morano
  - a. Faculty interest form for committees will be sent out in the next month
  - b. Faculty development / sabbatical leave is due next month (see the faculty affairs website)
  - c. ELN Committee (Electronic Lab Notebook) has selected LabArchives as the chosen program that the school will provide at no-cost to faculty and staff here.
    - i. Many other peer institutions use this platform
    - ii. 3 components
      1. ELN
      2. Inventory Module
      3. Scheduler
    - iii. Runs on web browser/tablet/phone
    - iv. Output (we have unlimited storage)
    - v. Protection of intellectual property
    - vi. Next steps
      1. Create UTH website for info and training
      2. Will be scheduling 2-3 webinars from LabArchives experts to provide introduction to the software
      3. Hope to see steady and quick (voluntary) adoption of the platform
6. EPIC Update – Dr. Babatope Fatuyi
  - a. May 8<sup>th</sup> is the go-live date
  - b. Provider Personalization Activities
    - i. Sign up after group 3-hour class is completed
    - ii. Start signing up April 12<sup>th</sup>
    - iii. Duration is 1 hour (either in person or via Webex) and will be coordinated by the CMIO office with the individual departments
    - iv. User Settings and Quick Reference guides will be configured
  - c. EPCS Enrollments (Electronic Prescription of Controlled Substances)
    - i. 46% complete among clinical faculty

- ii. Enrollment Fair continues until end of March
      - 1. Go to 6410 Fannin, Suite 1531 8AM-4PM Monday through Friday
      - 2. Remote support also available
    - iii. Starting April 1<sup>st</sup>, those people that do not register will be on their own to register as resources will be shifted to Go-Live Events
  - d. Dragon Medical One Training
    - i. Training starts in early April
    - ii. Have 5 interns that will be assisting with physicians' Dragon set up and training
    - iii. Stayed tuned for dates and venue
- 7. Diversity and Inclusion Efforts – Dr. LaTanya Love / Dr. Asia McCleary-Gaddy
  - a. Recent events included Social Determinants of Health and Racism by Kimberly Baker, DrPH on 02/24/2021 and Courageous Conversations: Transitioning as a Leader in the Military by Ronald Acierno, PhD and Commander Amanda Fisher, US Coast Guard on 11/11/2020
    - i. Part of Diversity and Equity Speaker Series
  - b. Resources: check <https://med.uth.edu/diversity/resources/> or visit the office at MSB G.300
  - c. Services to faculty
    - i. Sponsor faculty to attend AAMC Conferences
    - ii. Organize and host faculty networking mixers
    - iii. Provide mentorship and mentorship opportunities
    - iv. Support faculty for promotion and tenure process
    - v. Unconscious bias training for faculty hiring committees
    - vi. Distribute and analyze diversity needs assessment for MMS
    - vii. Highlight our outstanding faculty via social media and newsletter
  - d. Services to students (learners)
    - i. Teaching unconscious bias, health inequities, microaggressions, systemic oppression, power and privilege
    - ii. Student networking mixers
    - iii. Student affinity group support
    - iv. Admissions interviews and committees
    - v. Academic support
    - vi. Letters of support
  - e. Services to prospective students (Pipeline/pathway programs):
    - i. AMP- twice a month workshops at underrepresented high schools
    - ii. JAMP- Texas legislation to support Under Represented Minorities in Medicine (UriM) high schoolers into medical school
    - iii. SHPEP - 6-week summer internship for UriM undergraduates
    - iv. Pre-health Conference - 1 day conference for pre-health undergraduates
  - f. How to get involved?
    - i. Complete surveys sent out
    - ii. Attend networking events
    - iii. Volunteer with pipeline/pathway community programs
    - iv. Assist your department Vice Chair of Diversity and Inclusion

8. Announcements
  - a. Virtual Smythe Lecture set for 4pm, April 20<sup>th</sup>
    - i. Speaker: Louise Aronson, author of “Elderhood”
    - ii. “Pandemic and Prejudice: Lessons from COVID-19 About Aging and Healthcare in America”
  
9. Adjournment at 5:31pm

**Next meeting: Thursday, April 15, 2021, 4:30 PM**

Dr. Catherine Ambrose – Chair  
Dr. Nahid Rianon – Chair-Elect  
Dr. Zi Yang Jiang – Secretary  
Dr. Renee Flores – Secretary-Elect  
Dr. Kenya Parks – 2019-2020 Past-Chair

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