

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES

December 08, 2023

7:30 a.m.

Members Present: Brad Britigan, Vimla Band, Surinder Batra, Rebekah Gundry, Jeff Harrison, Dwight Jones, Steve Lisco, Howard Liu, Dave Mercer, Matt Rizzo, Deb Romberger, Carl Smith, Mike Wadman, Ashley Wysong, Jennifer Adams, Sheila Ellis, Zahid Iqbal, Beau Konigsberg, Kim Latacha, Travis McCumber, Kody Moffatt, Olabisi Sheppard

Ad Hoc: Chandra Are, Kelly Caverzagie, Shirley Delair, Howard Fox, Wendy Grant, Mike McClade, Geoffrey Talmon

1. Welcome (Dr. Britigan)

Dr. Britigan welcomed all to the December meeting

2. Minutes and Announcements (Dr. Britigan)

November minutes were unanimously approved

Dr Britigan shared that in mid-November he was in Kearney and met with health system leaders and physicians in the tri-city areas. There's a lot of enthusiasm and growing level of interest in the regional campus as it's developing. Work will continue to move forward.

3. Old Business (e.g., follow-up's, updates)

CME Committee Charter (Dr. Caverzagie)

Proposed revisions to the CME Committee Charter for review

Dr Caverzagie gave a recap of his agenda items from the last meeting. Dr Lisco brought up the issue that the charter that had been approved by the CME Committee; but, the bylaws state that the faculty council needs to review and approve those charters. One change that needed to occur was related to the leadership. The charter as originally written stated that the chair and the vice chair would be appointed by the dean; but, the bylaws state that they be elected by the committee. New language was introduced that would have the committee members select their own leadership. The bylaws charge the faculty council to approve changes to the charters for the standing committees and provide feedback to the leadership of the standing and special committees as requested. Committee membership is elected by the general faculty.

Charter will be brought back to the committee and then presented at the next faculty council meeting for a vote. This language will be applied to 4 or 5 of the committees.

4. New Business

a) Topics brought forward by General Faculty Leadership

No updates

b) Topics brought forward by Department Chair Leadership

No updates

c) Topics brought forward by COM Administration

No updates

## 5. Informational Items and Announcements (if needed)

- Admissions and Student Affairs Wendy Grant, MD

### Student affairs:

Student affairs is stable. Students are in the middle of interviews, 2 & 3 students are getting ready to make their schedules to move on up to their next phase, M2s are getting ready to go into their dedicated time for STEP 1 prep. We feel like the advising system has matured. The academic advisors have all had individual meetings with the M2 students, Dr Erickson and Dr Grant have also met with all the M2's to talk about career planning, etc. M1s are finishing up their first semester.

Admissions: Friday is the last interview day. Applications up significantly this year - ~15/20%. There is also an uptick in Nebraska applicants, which is encouraging – may be some hold over from the pandemic. Goal was to interview 375 – going to add 140-142 this year. All offers will be out by the first week of March. All interviews have been via zoom. Will have two in person recruitment days for accepted students and one virtual recruitment day for accepted students.

4<sup>th</sup> year students battling the interview process for the upcoming residency match with hybrid in person versus virtual interview in place.

Dr Grant asked Dr Smith about the thought process with ACOG nationally regarding their plan to exit the ERAS system for residency application in the Fall of 2024 and utilize their own system. Dr Smith relayed that the enthusiasm for resident selection using software that is built into the new application service has tremendous response across the country and will be adopted by almost all OB-Gyn programs. The potential challenges that this will pose for students applying in more than one specialty, couples matching, and SOAP were discussed, as well as ability to have a central repository of applicant data to track over time was discussed. This will be particularly true if additional specialties exit ERAS.

- Undergraduate Curriculum — Geoff Talmon, MD

The M2 and M3 students will soon enter the next phase of the curriculum soon. Dept coordinators will be very busy over the next month. Just making everyone aware.

Over the past year, the curriculum leadership has been embarking on an effort to overhaul our OSCE system. This is the simulated patient exams used to assess the students. Not a lot of harmonization from phase one to phase three. We are being more purposeful knowing what's being tested when and incorporating other topics for assessment. There is a need for a centralized pool of OSCE graders who are faculty members. Will send out a call to begin to populate those ranks. Will most likely take a full week of time in an academic year – a small compensation will be provided.

- Educational Strategy & Learning Environment Kelly Caverzagie

### Information / data to collect regarding iEXCEL utilization

One thing we've learned as we've collected information for the strategic plan is that we don't have a lot of information on how we utilize that building for education purposes. Process is getting a little better. The quality committee recommended to come to faculty council and the curriculum committee and ask the question as it pertains to education, "what do we want to know". It is also a reasonable question for the department chairs.

Dr Are advised that there is software available that tells us who is using iEXCEL, which floor they are using and is divided by residents, medical students, physicians. A large amount of information has already been gathered. He is happy to bring info to a faculty council meeting.

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Shirley Delair, MD

Medical students are now very involved in pre-health pathways in the advising.

Upcoming session next week with focus on taking MCATs.

Education programs: this year we are having the second iteration of our M3 intercession day, where about half of the M3 class, after 9 months of clerkship, come together and view a documentary on health disparities that are race related.

DEI committee met after the last faculty council meeting and are reviewing our charter with a lot of the feedback we received.

- GME Update Chanda Are, MBBS  
There are two main cycles of interviews for GME match. The big one is going on now and is going reasonably well. There is another one held in the middle of the year that is almost exclusively for subspecialty fellowships.
- Research Howard Fox, MD, PhD  
Research funding is strong but flat. We are encouraging people and helping them to submit grants.  
Training grants help our reputation and our research. We need residents and fellows to conduct research. It is very expensive to train them and we need additional grants to enhance our ability to train them.  
Dr Band mentioned there is training going on (The Center for the Improvement of Mentor Excellence in Research) that all basic science faculty are required to complete.
- Clinical Affairs/Nebraska Medicine Steve Lisco, MD  
Re: HR and DEI restructuring: Anna Cramer took over for Frank Venuto as the Chief People Officer. Her new VPs are Katie Beach, VP for People Operations and Ada Walker, VP for People Development and Culture.  
Next week is second stage of the request for qualification process for Project Health, formerly known as Project NEXT. Two proposals on the table – asking for teams for construction, architecture and design.  
Financial pressures on the college have been reflected onto the departments. Changes coming to the state funding, changes in the DDIF funds and changes in the Medicare physician fee schedule all are in play.
- Dr Britigan mentioned there will be two mandatory training requirements: one for Title IX training and one for all individuals who are included in the hiring process (due by mid-March).
- Pediatric Affairs/CSP/Children's Hospital Kari Simonsen, MD  
No Update
- COM Business Affairs Mike McGlade  
No Update

6. Other Business - None

7. Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,



Bradley Britigan  
Dean

OSKIE – not sure on spelling  
Kept Cutting Out – this is all I got for Dr Are