

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Faculty Council Meeting

February 10, 2023

7:30 a.m.

Members Present: Brad Britigan, Vimla Band, Surinder Batra, Sheila Ellis, Charles Enke, Howie Gendelman, Karen Gould, Rebekah Gundry, Jeff Harrison, Joseph Khoury, Ron Krueger, Trek Langenhan, Kim Latacha, Steve Lisco, Howard Liu, Lyn Mack, Travis McCumber, Dave Mercer, Matt Rizzo, Deb Romberger, Kari Simonsen, Carl Smith, Mike Wadman, Ashley Wysong

Ad Hoc: Chandra Are, Kelly Caverzagie, Shirley Delair, Wendy Grant, Mike McGlade, Geoff Talmon

Guest: Iqbal Ahmad

Minutes:

1. Welcome and Minutes (Dr. Britigan)

- a) Meeting called to order at 7:31 am
- b) January 2023 minutes were approved without objection

2. Post-Doc Agreement Discussion

Iqbal Ahmad, PhD presented a new proposed contract for post-doc employment (see attached – changes highlighted in yellow) that was recommended to Senior Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Dele Davies by the Post-Doc Education Advisory Council. It is intended to add a probationary period to the employment contract for post-doc fellows as removing these fellows who are not meeting research expectations in a timely fashion has been a problem in the past. Questions were asked by multiple members of the Faculty Council seeking clarification and further understanding of the proposed contract. Encouragement provided for having departments work towards greater cooperation with the goal of attracting better post-docs and identify a reward structure to help us to grow. This conversation can be considered at a future Faculty Council meeting. This item is informational and therefore does not require a vote by the Faculty Council.

3. Faculty Council Membership

Dr. Caverzagie reviewed a previously shared SBAR related to the background and need to increase general faculty representation on the Faculty Council with the goal of increasing engagement and awareness of the COM by general faculty. Proposal #2 on the SBAR was recommended and after discussion amongst Faculty Council members, the proposal was approved unanimously with the goal of implementation for the upcoming academic year.

4. Announcements (Dr. Britigan)

- 1) College of Nursing Dean search is in the final stages and College of Dentistry Dean candidates likely to be announced next month. Eppler Cancer Center leadership search is about a month behind the others.
- 2) Chair of Physiology search committee moving along with currently doing Zoom interviews at the current time.
- 3) Concern is rising that our anticipated funding from the state will be less than originally asked or anticipated. Further details to follow.

5. Admissions and Student Affairs (Dr. Grant)

- 1) Dr. Beau Konigsberg will be stepping down from Assistant Dean for Admissions and there will be a call for faculty to replace that position soon. The Faculty Council formally acknowledges the long-standing leadership in the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.
- 2) OASA looking to establish a scholarship committee to identify how available scholarships are distributed to students
- 3) Match Day will be March 17 at the Scott Conference Center on the UNO Campus

6. Educational Strategy and Learning Environment (Dr. Caverzagie)

Update provided regarding progress on UNMC-Kearney project

- 1) Ongoing issues regarding space with the CON concerned about individual office space and new meeting spaces that would be in accordance with University-wide standards for space. Dr. Langenhan commented that this is being looked at by the UNMC Faculty Senate.
- 2) Dr. Caverzagie thanked faculty who attended last evening's Faculty Townhall reviewing the 2022 AAMC Graduation Questionnaire
- 3) Faculty and department chairs reminded that the COM Strategic Plan is available for review on the UNePlan website through the UNMC Intranet ([info.unmc.edu](http://info.unmc.edu))

7. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (Dr. Delair)

Dr. Delair provided highlights of current activities of DEI team including:

- 1) Outreach events are increasing
- 2) Task Forces – Dr. Britigan thanked faculty members who have participated in these groups
- 3) Curricular changes continue to be implemented

8. GME (Dr. Are)

GME Funding for new positions continues to be on track.

9. Clinical Affairs / Nebraska Medicine (Dr. Lisco)

- 1) GME Implementation Team working to establish a reserve fund to mitigate any loss should the state remove future funding – this will take a bit of time to develop this reserve fund
- 2) Rusty McCullough will now be the Associate Vice Chancellor for Clinical Research and VP of Research at Nebraska Medicine

- 3) On 2/13/23, the COVID units will be decommissioned as previously announced by Nebraska Medicine.
10. Pediatrics/CSP/Children's Hospital (Dr. Simonsen)
- No updates
11. COM Business Affairs (Mr. McGlade)
- No updates other than budget as noted by Dr. Britigan.
12. Elected Faculty
- No concerns or issues
13. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 am

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bradley Britigan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bradley Britigan  
Dean