

OSU-CHS FACULTY SENATE

2012-2013

August 3, 2012 Minutes

OSU-CHS Faculty Senate Members

Warren Finn, Ph.D., President

Robin Dyer, D.O., President-elect

Johnny Stephens, Pharm.D, Past-President

Dennis Blankenship, D.O., Sergeant-at-Arms/Treasurer

William D. Meek, Ph.D., OSU-CHS Representative to OSU Faculty Council

Sarah Hall, D.O., Secretary

William Po, M.D.

Charles Sanny, Ph.D.

Jarrad Wagner, Ph.D.

Recorder: Jean Keene

Members Present: Dr. Finn, Dr. Blankenship, Dr. Meek, Dr. Sanny, Dr. Wagner

Members Excused: Dr. Dyer, Dr. Hall, Dr. Po, Dr. Stephens

Guests: Dr. Jarolim, Johnathan Franklin

Call to Order: Dr. Finn called the meeting to order at 12:00; it was held in the Board Room.

Purpose of Special Meeting: Faculty Senate Review and voting on COCA Report

Approval of Minutes:

Due to the special nature of this meeting, minutes of the prior meeting were not presented but rather will be available for voting at the September 14, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting.

Senate President's Report:

Dr. Finn advised that the sole purpose of the meeting was to discuss and vote on the proposed COCA Report and he proceeded immediately to the report review.

Dr. Finn called upon Dr. Meek to report on the Curriculum Committee review of the report. Dr. Meek advised that committee met and discussed the content, and the Curriculum Committee suggested some changes. He said the report theme was good, and the report content included all that COCA required/requested. The report was voted upon and approved by the Curriculum Committee as amended. Dr. Meek advised that the amended report was the document distributed to Senators for their review and subsequent discussion and action. Dr. Finn thanked Dr. Meek and the Curriculum Committee in behalf of the Senate for their diligence, thorough review, and Formal Recommendation of approval. Dr. Finn called upon Dr. Benjamin for a summary of the report.

Dr. Benjamin advised that a substantive curriculum change requires COCA approval, and there are multiple steps in that process. Some of those have already been accomplished. He noted that procedural steps include a 60 day prior notification of a significant curricular change, and that has been done. Further, a 30 day prior notification is required in advance of the meeting at which the new curriculum will be presented for voting/approval. That notification document is the report upon which the Senate will be voting.

As a preface, he advised that it contained information 1) identifying the curriculum change, 2) the faculty adequacy model, 3) the facility resources needed for the implementation of the new curriculum, and 4) governance issues.

Dr. Benjamin said that Faculty governance is an important element. The Faculty Senate represents that aspect within the school, and the Board of Regents is the Governing Body approval referred to in the requirements. Dr. Benjamin advised that the Board of Regents has been kept advised all during the process, and a letter of acceptance of the changes has been received from the A &M Board of Regents and that document was included in a report Appendix.

Dr. Benjamin said the process was divided into three phases. Phase I was to identify the basic components that were to be included in the curriculum. Phase II was charged to develop a structure; this was to be an integrated systems model with early clinical experience. Part of Phase II was to put more structure on the concept of an integrated systems model. It was a two-year process that engaged two groups of faculty addressing two outstanding questions: 1) “What impact would this have on the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program, and, can the program still interface with the medical curriculum?”, and 2) “What is the feasibility of this approach?” The conclusion from both groups was that it was doable. A voting occurred at the General Faculty meeting to move forward to address Phase III on the new curriculum. The report under discussion included the Phase III output.

At that point, Dr. Benjamin proceeded, section by section, explaining the content and responding to questions from Senators. Details were provided on various tables and sections of the report. The Senators expressed understanding and support. Dr. Benjamin noted that the report was not a concrete picture of a precise new curriculum, but it rather represented an example of what the new curriculum could be. He called attention to the proposed change to a 19 to 20 week curriculum, commenting that a 40 week annual curriculum falls within the midrange of medical curricula at other institutions. The current thinking is that our school year would start earlier, perhaps at the beginning of August. He also explained the third and fourth year clerkships, both reporting and providing information as requested.

He next turned to the question of whether we have the resources to accomplish the new curriculum, and he referred to that information content from the report itself. The financial information indicated that this is feasible, noting the class-size increase approvals and stating that the facility remodeling/expansion has been completed. In addition, he explained that software upgrades will permit improved monitoring of student tracking.

Regarding faculty, he provided specific detail while referring to the information in Table 7, which shows the adequacy of faculty hours to handle the proposed curriculum.

At the conclusion of Dr. Benjamin’s report, including the Appendices, Dr. Finn, in behalf of the Senate and the Faculty, expressed appreciation for the complex and comprehensive report content.

Following brief additional discussion, Faculty Senate Formal Recommendation FS 12-13-002 which stated: “**The COCA Report be approved**” was voted upon and unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate on August 3, 2012.

There was neither old business, nor new business presented/discussed at this Special Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.