Call to Order at 4:30pm - Dr. Catherine Ambrose

Approval of Minutes (August 2021)

Dr. Kevin Morano thanked the Senate chair and secretary from 2020-2021.

Transition of Chair – from Dr. Catherine Ambrose to Dr. Nahid Rianon

Announcements

- Welcome new Senators- Dr. Rianon
- Housekeeping:
  - If you call into the meeting, please email Valerie and Dr. Rianon so that you get credit for attending
  - 60% attendance to meet requirements as part of the faculty senate
- Women in Medicine Month Celebration- September is the month of this celebration
  - Total UTH women faculty 751, Associate Dean 3, Assistant Dean 1, Vice Dean 3, Department Chair 4, Interim Chair 1

Reports (15 minutes)

- Faculty Affairs Update – Dr. Kevin Morano
  - September 1st → 94 applications for promotion: 14 tenure, 80 non-tenure track
    - Extensions given to tenure track faculty 2/2 to COVID
    - MAPP launched, 15 groups, 176 mentees, 30 mentors
    - Annual Faculty Review Started-Important for faculty to use for promotion, compensation, titles, feedback
    - Women Faculty Forum- accepting applications for Excellence Awards (due September 28)
- Interfaculty Council Update – Dr. Georgene Hergenroeder
  - Dr. Cameron Jeter – new IFC Chair transitioned from Dr. Tiffany Champagne-Langabeer
  - Dr. Morano reported on the Town Hall updates
  - Funding for UTH – received $8.8 million (3.9%) increase in Instruction & Operations funding
  - New Legislation passed
    - SB1251 – SPH & MDACC offer a joint degree
    - SB1780 – Texas Infrastructure for Public Health (Pandemic Preparedness – Public Health Workers as a Reserve Force)
    - HB2090 – Texas All Payer Claims Database (Comprehensive health care resource of claims data to inform policy, provide transparency, drive quality)

Old Business (5 minutes)

- MMS COVID-19 Resolution – Dr. Catherine Ambrose
  - Resolution passed based on faculty senate votes

New Business (20 minutes)

- Proposed Faculty Health Support Taskforce – Dr. Nahid Rianon
  - Focus on resilience
  - Survey in 2016-2017: Ombudsman program developed
    - Added stressors in pandemic, personal life entanglements with work life
      - Voting through polling in chat box – proposal of forming a task force was approved with >50% vote during the meeting
      - Dr. Morano → UT System has a working group on burnout and
resilience. Meets twice a year. Last meeting 9/16/2021. They are continuously looking for ideas to decrease burnout and improve resilience.

b. COVID-19 Update – Dr. Luis Ostrosky
   • Admissions still high in the TMC hospitals
   • Elective surgeries are still on hold
   • Pediatric admissions are increasing, used to 5% and now as high as 20%
     • Prior congenital diseases, and now more without any comorbidities
     • Schools are open and now higher level of transmission in the schools therefore spike in cases
   • CDC forecasting for Texas & Harris County
     • Delta variant is more infectious, 5x more infections
     • Breakthroughs: vaccinated people may experience breakthrough infection and this includes delta variant
     • Unvaccinated vs vaccinated people- greater risk of disease is still seen in unvaccinated people
     • Booster doses of COVID vaccine
       • Pfizer likely to be approved around 9/20/21
       • Moderna and Johnson & Johnson data are still pending
   • COVID vaccine can now be ordered for patients while in the hospital
   • Employers > 100 employees mandate for vaccines (Institutions that receive Federal contracts, such as UT-H may be included in the mandate). It’s unclear how state and federal mandates that conflict will be decided.
   • FAQs/Review scenarios on University website regarding exposures and definitions of exposures for guidance. There are also instructions for concerning cases and reporting, policies and procedures.

c. Resident Stress From COVID-19 Related Exposure in Children – Dr. Amanda Herrmann
   • “Residents as parents in the time of COVID”
     • “So. Hard.”
     • Uncertainty- will kids need quarantine, need time off, multiple kids at multiple schools, how to manage emergent call
     • Finances- residents cannot afford reliable child care, hard to find child care, care.com not a viable option for back up
     • COVID illness- even if vaccinated-not a guarantee, kids cannot be vaccinated, multiple kids in the same house, not having the option to stay home with sick kids
     • Emotional stress- small number of female parent residents, unique situations, impression on Program director and co-residents, stress from daycare calls, how does time off impact training
     • What to do? Reach out to parent residents, Be understanding, Be clear about sick days, new ABMS leave policies, understanding of resident commitment

d. GME Update on COVID-19 Related Stress – Dr. Pamela Promecene
   • Weekly average of TMC Daily COVID cases increased
   • Timeline Review of COVID from March 4, 2020 to July 2021
   • UTH Resources for management of COVID related stress
     • Insecure about ability
     • Lack of support system
     • Fear of COVID
     • UTHHealth website → Wellness → Wellness Hub → FRAP (fellow, resident assistant program) Program Services → Emotional Health Resources in the Time of Coronavirus
     • Search McGovern Medical school website → COVID 19 new (in search tab) →
UTHealth COVID-19 Resources
• GME perspective: discussed following topics-
  • Vacation
  • Sick leave
  • Administrative time
  • Scheduled day off
  • Sick leave/FMLA/personal leaves
  • Research time
  • Telemedicine
  • Graduation requirements: ABMS and ACGME requirements

9. Announcements
   a. McGovern Cook Book, recipes to Jennifer Ramos
10. Adjournment at 5:36pm

Next meeting: Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 4:30 PM

Dr. Nahid Rianon – Chair
Dr. Georgene Hergenroeder – Chair-Elect
Dr. Renee Flores – Secretary
Dr. Olasimbo Chiadika – Secretary-Elect
Dr. Catherine Ambrose – 2020-2021 Past-Chair
https://med.uth.edu/faculty-senate/ms.facultysenate@uth.tmc.edu