# UTHealth McGovern Medical School Faculty Senate

Thursday, September 16, 2021 ∣ 4:30 pm WEBEX Meeting

# Minutes

1. Call to Order at 4:30pm - Dr. Catherine Ambrose
2. Approval of Minutes (August 2021)
3. Dr. Kevin Morano thanked the Senate chair and secretary from 2020-2021.
4. Transition of Chair – from Dr. Catherine Ambrose to Dr. Nahid Rianon
5. Announcements
	1. Welcome new Senators- Dr. Rianon
	2. 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
	3. 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
6. Reports (15 minutes)
	1. 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)
	2. 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)
7. Old Business (5 minutes)
	1. MMS COVID-19 Resolution – Dr. Catherine Ambrose
		* Resolution passed based on faculty senate votes
8. New Business (20 minutes)
	1. 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.
	2. 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.
	1. 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
	2. 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
			- UTHealth 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
1. Announcements
	1. McGovern Cook Book, recipes to Jennifer Ramos
2. 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**