# 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

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