

Minutes

Dental Senate Steering Committee Meeting March 19, 2019

**12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Dental Dean's Conference Room, AG012**

Present: Drs. E. Reichenberger (chair), H.L. Aguila, P. Epstein, E. Natarajan, F. Nichols, and T. Taylor

Excused: J. Agar, S. Gordon

Meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm.

Approval of Minutes: December 18, 2018

Approval of the minutes of the December 18, 2018 Dental Senate Steering Committee meeting was deferred until the Dental Senate Steering Committee meeting in April.

Summary from Discussion Groups at Last Faculty Retreat

An All Faculty Retreat took place last month and four points were discussed: CONNcept, faculty recruitment, faculty development and resident training including master's thesis. A summary of these group breakout sessions will be distributed. Highlights from the retreat will be discussed further at the All Faculty Meeting on Friday, March 29, 2019.

Dr. Natarajan discussed the need for consistent application of faculty mentoring. A formalized process is needed. Not all faculty receive the same level of mentoring. Another issue relative to faculty development is a desire for an orientation package for dental school faculty.

Agenda for Next Senate Meeting – Update of Dental Senate Bylaws

The Dental Senate is in the process of updating the School of Dental Medicine and Senate bylaws. Once all the updates have been submitted, the document will go to administration for review. Faculty will also have an opportunity to review the document and then a decision will be made within the dental school which changes to accept.

One goal of these revisions is to keep the text more general to avoid the need for repeated revisions. Amendments will allow for specificity, when needed.

Charge for the Council on Academic Environment (Report on Department Review Process/SharePoint Site)

The Council on Academic Environment has been charged with the reinstitution of

department reviews. This is a big process that includes both a review of the department and the department chair. One issue that has already been brought up is how to fairly review the divisions. Anonymity of survey responses is important when going through this process and due to the smaller size of some departments/divisions we have to find a way to protect anonymity.

Dr. Natarajan suggested that we utilize Husky CT rather than SharePoint as we get closer to the first department review.

Charge for Council on Research

The Council on Research will receive a charge after the white papers from the All Faculty Meeting will be available, probably after the upcoming All Faculty Meeting on March 29.

CONNcept

There is some concern about the initiation of CONNcept amongst faculty. There is still a lot to be done and the CONNcept leaders continue to meet weekly. Dr. Reichenberger will follow up with the dean to see if there are any new developments.

The meeting adjourned at 12:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernst Reichenberger, PhD
Chair, Dental Senate