

Minutes

Dental Senate Meeting September 8, 2020

**11:30 am – 12:15 pm
Online Meeting**

Members: Drs. E. Reichenberger (Chair), S. Lepowsky, S. Antic, J. Balloch, M. Barndt, D. Bayarsayhan, M. Brown, S. Brown, I. Chen, R. Clark, J. Cotney, E. Dutra, B. Irizarry, R. Kelly, L. Kuhn, S. Kurup, R. Lalla, T. Liang, C. Lottinger, P. Maye, F. Nichols, J. Rabat, S. Ruiz, T. Schmidt, J. Wagner, Y. Wang, and Q. Zhu

The meeting was called to order at 11:33 am.

Dr. Reichenberger thanked the group for their confidence in him to lead the Dental Senate for another 2 years. He introduced the newest members of the Senate and informed all to come to him with any questions or suggestions.

Approval of Dental Senate Meeting Minutes from July 14, 2020

The minutes from the Dental Senate meeting that took place on July 14, 2020 were approved as submitted.

Informational Items (Status of bylaw revisions, mentoring and grant reviews, departmental reviews; Senate Councils)

Status of Bylaws

- Drs. Reichenberger and Bernstein have been working on revising the bylaws of the Dental Senate for past few months. Due to Covid and other pressing priorities, there has been some delay in finalizing the document. The goal is to bring back a solid draft to the Senate for further discussion. Dr. Lepowsky noted that the Office of General Counsel will need to be kept in the loop regarding these updates. Alyssa Cunningham has already offered many comments and suggestions, but she has moved into a new role.
- Dr. Lepowsky noted that if there are structural changes to the school in the course of the strategic planning process, bylaws and the department review process will need to be tailored to fit with the administrative structure of school. Dr. Lepowsky recommended that the senate come up with a priority order list to define urgent items and those other items that can theoretically wait for larger discussion.
- Dr. Liisa Kuhn shared some suggestions/requests regarding BME being incorporated into the bylaws. In 2012, the Board of Trustees approved BME as part of the dental school documented in a memorandum of understanding stating that BME is part of the schools of engineering, medicine and dental medicine. Is this paperwork sufficient to have full BME representation in the Dental Senate?

The current bylaws only includes SDM clinical departments and SoM basic science departments.

- Dr. Lepowsky has a meeting scheduled for Friday, September 11, 2020 with deans of the schools of engineering and medicine and the new department head of BME. If the Board of Trustees has already approved of BME in SDM, there may be a way to have BME represented in the dental senate without changes to the bylaws.

Mentoring and Grant Reviews

- Dr. Raj Lalla provided an update to the group. The Research Council has representatives from every division in SDM. In a previous meeting, a proposal about peer review of grant applications was discussed. Since research is also involved in strategic planning, this proposal will be a part of that. We will start to get input and will include the proposal related to grant reviews and mentoring along with strategic plan.

Miscellaneous

The steering committee will vote on nominations to fill vacant chairs at its next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernst Reichenberger, PhD
Chair, Dental Senate