

Dental Senate Minutes

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

11:30 am-12:15 pm

Webex

Present: Drs. Tobin, Dongari, Antic, Bayarsaihan, Justin, Wang, Kurup, Lalla, Dutra, Nichols, Schmidt, Rungruanganunt, Bernstein, Dean Lepowsky

Regrets: Drs. Schuyler, Wagner, Lottinger, Reichenberger

Staff: Darlene Gugliotti

Dr. Schmidt called the meeting to order at 11:32 am

Approval of Minutes

- Dr. Nichols approved motion to approve.
- Dr. Wang seconded, no opposed, no abstentions.

Associate Dean Update: Overview of the Office of Faculty Affairs

Dr. Anna Dongari, Professor and Associate Dean

Dr. Dongari shared a slide show reviewing the Office of Faculty Affairs mission.

- Support Chairs and Faculty with recruitment, hiring
- Facilitate onboarding process for new faculty
- Support Faculty with mentoring and career development
- Annual Faculty Evaluation Process
- Serve as a liaison to labor relations and AAUP for faculty matters
- Faculty Development Committee
- Faculty Career Development
- Early Career Mentoring Program
- Faculty Affairs website: <https://dentalmedicine.uconn.edu/about-us/faculty-affairs/>
- Challenges in Effective Mentoring

Dr. Schmidt strongly encourages everyone to take back to their division/department

Questions

Dr. Schmidt-Question regarding support with the annual evaluation or promotion. Is it for a faculty member that needs help putting their self-evaluation or promotion package together?

- Dr. Dongari directed him to the faculty affairs website and look under the evaluation process heading. It is clarified based on the process. Faculty have reached out for me to review their portfolio. Mark Litt is a great resource. I'm more than happy to provide support.

Bylaws, Senate Membership status, and School Updates

Dean Lepowsky commented-some division chairs reach out to Anna for advice during the evaluation process.

Accreditation-finishing the self-study on pre-doctoral program. Jackie Duncan is doing a just an amazing job coordinating everything and being the driver of the process. Our goal is to submit the Pre-doc material on or about August 4th. We will be touching base with all the residency programs have made the appropriate progress in writing their self-studies because they will also have to submitting their portion around the same time well in advance of October site visit.

Bylaws- We have the green light from the office of general council to move forward to a faculty vote. I will be scheduling an all-faculty meeting first to go through them.

There will be a number of all faculty meetings scheduled soon.

Group meetings to discuss the bylaws so we can move with a vote so that vote can be completed no later than middle of July so we can move forward to the academic affairs subcommittee of the board for directors meeting the beginning of August.

Also want to give updates on accreditation, I know there have been a number of emails that have gone out. Additional emails will be going out with the schedules of the interviewing teams. Need to talk about the framework for the strategic plan. Also we need to have discussions about the budget the governor recently signed. Dr. Lepowsky is waiting on some clarity from the University finance people and as soon as he has that information he will share it.

One question that has come up is are we putting on hold the recruitments of faculty, absolutely not we are moving ahead with all of the positions we have planned.

We also want to share with you the results of the climate survey from ADEA, the participation rate was on par with the national data. The Associate deans have seen the data and will be sharing feedback as well, in equity, inclusion, and belonging.

In the next few days I will be sending out emails for these various meetings we will be holding.

Questions

Nichols-In terms of curricular changes or modifications. When should we plan on making these changes, what should be the timeline?

- Dean Lepowsky-If the changes don't change the competencies, you can change anytime. If there is a major shift, it would be wise to postpone to after the site visit; however you could describe the change you want to make in the self-study and discuss during the actual site visit, that is a positive thing.

- Dr. Bernstein-If the change is necessary because of patient care or students being able to graduate then go ahead with the change. Otherwise plan for the spring of 2024.
- Nichols- the changes are tweaking or improving relatively simple things today but not major change.
- Bernstein-things that improve flow are not a problem.

Senate Research Council

Dr. Schmidt-From the last meeting I've confirmed with Dr. Duncan we need a chair for the Senate Research Council. If anyone has any recommendations or ideas of who might serve in that role. I thought of Dr. Tamayol, but he may be too busy. Please reach out to Dr. Schmidt if you have anyone in mind.

Miscellaneous Items Update

Dr. Lalla indicated he had an update on Biostatistician resources-he shared his screen. For statistical support: dentalmedicine.uconn.edu/research/. We have statistical support in place. We have contracted with the UConn Statistical Consulting Services. Quick questions are answered for free. If you do not have funding available, the school will support. On this website there are also other research resources available, including funding opportunities.

Motion to Adjourn 12:15 pm

- Dr. Nichols motioned to approve
- Dr. Kurup second