



Faculty of Medicine

Faculty Council Minutes

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

4:30pm (via Zoom)

Attendees: Alison Ambi, Rick Audas, Jane Barron, Peter Daley, Ann Dorward, Regina Edwards (Recording Secretary), Alison Farrell, Veeresh Gadag, Michael Grant, Taryn Hearn, Deepak Kaushik, Ed Kendall, Eden Kinzel, Virginia Middleton, Pam Morgan, Gerard Mugford, Amanda Pendergast, Tracey Pittman, Michelle Ploughman, Rachel Prowse, Pam Snow, Margaret Steele (chair), Greg Radu, Reza Tabrizchi, Paul Tucker, Jacqueline Vanderluit, Cathy Vardy, Brenda Wilson, Anil Zechariah.

Regrets: Sohaib Al-Asaad, Tanis Adey, Diana Gustafson, Michael Paul, Peter Rogers, Kim St. John, Bruce Sussex, Michelle Swab

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
Introduction and Welcome	The Dean thanked everyone for joining the meeting. She asked if there were new members present to be introduced. Welcomes were extended to Drs. Rachel Prowse (CHH) and Anil Zechariah (BMS), as well as to Alison Ambi (HSC Library) who will be the library representative as Janet Bangma has moved to Acting Dean of Libraries. Participants were reminded to use the "chat" function for questions or comments.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review of AgendaConflict for Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Dr. Ann Dorward moved approval of the agenda; seconded by Dr. Gerard Mugford. It was noted that Dr. Taryn Hearn would be reporting for Dr. Tanis Adey.COI - none noted; agenda approved.	
Review and approval of prior minutes of June 15, 2021	Approval of the minutes moved by Dr. Greg Radu and seconded by Dr. Cathy Vardy. Correction to the spelling of Dr. Kristen Romme's name. Minutes approved.	Correction to June 15 th minutes - Regina Edwards
Dean's Updates	The Dean reported on the following items:	

***Our Vision:** Through excellence, we will integrate education, research and social accountability to advance the health of the people and communities we serve.*

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Class of 2025 orientation is being held this week, and the Graduate Student virtual orientation will be September 7 (2:00-3:00 p.m.). • Newsline advised of the new mandatory mask and mandatory vaccine policy for faculty, staff and learners--the first dose of the vaccine due by September 7 and the second dose by October 15. Accommodations for exemptions would be forthcoming through Newsline, as well as Eastern Health guidelines that would be sent by Virginia Middleton. • As announced, Dr. Tanis Adey will be resigning as Associate Dean, UGME, for her new role as Registrar for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador. A search committee is being formed for a new Associate Dean, UGME and the new Vice Dean, Dr. Dolores McKeen, will chair. • Congratulations on two re-appointments: Dr. Greg Radu as Associate Dean, LWS; and Dr. Sean Murphy as Chair of the Discipline of Medicine. • This is the last official meeting for Dr. Cathy Vardy as Vice Dean of Education and Faculty Affairs. The Dean thanked Dr. Vardy for her 30+ years of service in numerous leadership roles and project teams, as well as guidance in policies. She will continue in a leadership role with the UPEI Proposal. There will be a celebration for her, hopefully in the near future. 	
Dr. Taryn Hearn, Faculty Undergraduate Accreditation Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Accreditation Moment: List of Required Patient Encounters for those who interact with Phase 4 learners. • Dr. Hearn reminded everyone that the Accreditation would be two virtual visits (April 4-6, and a one-day follow-up visit in May). She added that the Accreditation Review Committee had started their work, with paperwork due in January. She noted that Susan Andrews would be doing the virtual Mock Accreditation to take place in early December. • Virginia Middleton noted that the updating of the Accreditation webpage and the website project was moving along. It was noted that Ritchie Perez had taken videos for Accreditation reviewers of places within the Medical School. • The Dean added that Accreditation should be a priority for everyone, and that this was Year 9 (not 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<p>Year 8 as usual, due to the pandemic). She would like to see as many as possible involved in the Mock Accreditation in December. She thanked Dr. Hearn and Brian Kerr for continuing to move this forward. The Dean would be meeting with the Accreditation Team on a weekly basis until the virtual site visit.</p>	
<p>Dr. Margaret Steele, Dr. Cathy Vardy, and Mr. Paul Tucker</p>	<p>UPEI Proposal (attachment to agenda). Discussions have been happening for almost a year with UPEI President Alaa Abd-El-Aziz on a joint collaborative degree. This will be unique, as graduates will have a degree from UPEI and Memorial University. Dr. Steele and Mr. Tucker visited PEI two weeks ago and met with Premier Dennis King and UPEI advisor, Dr. Tom Marrie. There is verbal support for this initiative from them, so we are bringing the proposal to Faculty Council for input.</p> <p>There are usually four places (out of 80) for PEI students in our program, and five places at Dalhousie. This proposal would bring enrollment to 20 places, for the first five years. There are 49 part-time Memorial faculty in PEI for clerkship rotations and electives. This proposal would improve the quality of healthcare in the Province, as well as recruit physicians.</p> <p>UPEI chose to align with Memorial University because of the competency of our graduates working in rural and under-serviced areas; for graduates with strong presence of generalists (both primary care and specialties); and for the similarities in island culture. The benefits (from the attached briefing note) include placing Memorial in a leadership position nationally with the first joint collaborative degree; for the opportunity to engage with unique faculties at UPEI such as the world-renowned Veterinary College (animal and human health); the first school of climate change and adaptation (has one pillar on health); their Paramedicine program; Psychology as a teaching clinic in a new medical building—all of these will provide more opportunities for our faculty for research collaborations and faculty exchanges. Another benefit would be the generation of revenue from our involvement. The Dean asked for any comments or concerns.</p>	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<p>Dr. Daley asked about the location of the clerkships and Dr. Steele replied it would be hybrid with as many as possible in PEI and some in Newfoundland and Labrador. She continued they would hire faculty and decanal roles, as per Accreditation standards. The Dean asked to move the Proposal to the Provost, then Senate and then the Board of Regents. Motion moved by Dr. Brenda Wilson and seconded by Dr. Reza Tabrizchi – Carried. Updates on this proposal would be a standing item at future Faculty Council meetings.</p>	
	<p>Reports from COVID-19 Task Force Committee</p>	
<p>Dr. Greg Radu, Associate Dean, Office of Learner Well Being and Success</p>	<p>Dr. Radu reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation for the Class of 2025 was launched this week. • The White Coat ceremony will be held on September 23 with Dr. Janice Fitzgerald as the Honorary White Coat recipient. • LWS is reviewing policies, specifically physician shadowing, mistreatment policy and procedures, and anonymous disclosure policy, and are now working on final amendments. • LWS will be using the Navigate program to interact with students and to schedule appointments, etc. 	
<p>Dr. Taryn Hearn <i>for</i> <i>Dr. Tanis Adey,</i> Associate Dean, UGME</p>	<p>Dr. Hearn reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-person learning would be resuming at full capacity, with a continuity plan if needed to resume virtual learning. • The Class of 2023 have commenced their core experiences, and the Class of 2022 have commenced their electives and selectives (still no visiting electives permitted). • Preceptor requests have been circulated to the disciplines. • Dr. Pendergast added that clinical skills is going ahead. 	
<p>Dr. Cathy Vardy <i>for</i> <i>Dr. Sohaib Al-Asaad,</i> Associate Dean, PGME</p>	<p>Dr. Vardy reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a record number of students requesting transfers and they were accommodated—the majority were transferring from one Memorial program to another. 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The leniency allowances have ended; if 1/3 of a rotation is missed, then it is a failure and must be repeated. Postgraduate electives across Canada are being undertaken. Academic Half-days will continue with a hybrid approach, upon consultation with learners. 	
Dr. Ann Dorward, Associate Dean, RGS	<p>Dr. Dorward reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are two academic unit planning cycles that will be happening for all ten graduate programs. Dr. Aimee Surprenant will be stepping down as Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Dr. Amy Warren will be the Interim Dean. There was a meeting of Graduate Officers and the mandatory vaccine policy was discussed. There is some uncertainty with the start dates and the September 7 vaccine deadline, so some learners may not be able to participate in-person, and for instructors to prepare for a blended learning environment. There is a shortage of rental housing available. International travel is still suspended for University activities, with deviations on a case-by-case basis. 	
Dr. Reza Tabrizchi, Vice Dean, RGS	Dr. Tabrizchi noted that there are no research specific updates since the July 5 th announcement. He noted that the MRF Competition deadline is October 18, 2021.	
Mr. Paul Tucker, Chief Operating Officer	<p>Mr. Tucker reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking permits need to be purchased through my.mun.ca by the end of August. The building's front doors remain locked, in co-operation with Eastern Health to help direct patients through the patient kiosks. Phase 2 of the Anatomy suite should be complete by the first week of September. Construction work on the far side of the Animal Care Building is for parking and should be available in December. As well, the Animal Care lot should be available in October. 	
Ms. Tracey Pittman, Manager of Academic Affairs	<p>Ms. Pittman reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Dean has been officially re-appointed for a second term. 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She noted it was a pleasure to work with Dr. Vardy, and that the new Vice Dean, Dr. Dolores McKeen, starts September 1. • There were no applicants for the NLCAHR Director, and there will be an announcement in the near future regarding an Interim Director. • There will be interviews near the end of September for the Assistant Dean of Clinical Research position. • The Search Committee for the Chair of the Discipline of Oncology has posted the advertisement with an application deadline of August 26. • There is a call for committee members for the Search Committee for Associate Dean, UGME. Nominations close August 27. • The promotion and tenure deadlines for MUNFA faculty have been extended as per last year; the deadlines for clinical faculty will remain the same but a request can be made if needed, and reviewed on a case-by-case basis. • <u>Vaccines</u> – a reminder that all COVID-19 restrictions remain in place including social distancing, mandatory masks and mandatory vaccines; with a further reminder that a person’s vaccine status is confidential. 	
Dr. Michelle Ploughman	<p>Consultation on Human Neuroscience Centre Proposal (attachment to agenda).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ploughman presented slides on the work of a group of scientists in the field of Human Neuroscience over the last two years—highlights include eight new faculty; 3 million in functional brain imaging and equipment across seven departments/schools/faculties including Psychology, Music, Engineering, Medicine, Human Kinetics, Computer Science, and Marine Institute; 100 trainees; 200 refereed articles; and \$10 million in grant support. • The Dean asked for feedback on this initiative. • Dr. Tabrizchi noted the need to be aware of the University’s policy on Centres that must be followed, 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<p>as well as to be inclusive of any faculty who would want to be involved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Grant asked about the involvement of the Division of BioMedical Sciences faculty members in the consultation. Dr. Ploughman replied it was an organized group and they are now putting a formal structure in place, and they would like to have it open to all faculty to share ideas, and borrow equipment. She added that core members are bringing the proposal forward for consultation, before moving forward. • Dr. Wilson noted it was a strong proposal with commitment from their group to bring it together. She suggested more details were needed for the administrative aspects and resources, as well as to ensure consultation is not seen as exclusive. • Dr. Dorward suggesting a review of the definition of a member and if the course would be offered through Medicine or another faculty. Dr. Ploughman replied that the course was planned as a directed study in CHH, with the home academic unit to be Medicine. • Dr. Mugford stated he was glad to see the initiative and it was important that Medicine be involved. • Mr. Tucker noted there was a project in the works with the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor on augmented virtual reality and would be in contact regarding their needs and their compatibility. • Dr. Steele congratulated Dr. Ploughman and had a few minor points for the document and for consultation, before bringing the proposal back to Faculty Council for approval and a vote. Notes: change references of institute to centre; refine the budget tables to be clearer; add a link to the Medicine collaborative brand; and add full details of the consultations. Dr. Ploughman replied that the schedule for the other consultations was unknown, but feedback should be received within about one month. • Dr. Kendall noted that the document touched on all bases but it will be important to check against the university's policy on Centres. He did suggest reviewing the statement that there would be no financial responsibilities on the university. 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<p>Dr. Wilson added that if resources would be needed in the future, it would be better to include upfront rather than later. Dr. Ploughman noted that it was running as a quasi-center without financial commitment or budget for about 18 months, and further discussion was planned on the proposal.</p>	
<p>Any Other Business – Dr. Margaret Steele</p>	<p>The Dean asked faculty for their preference in future meetings—either virtual, in-person, or hybrid. She noted that the October meeting would include presentation of Promotion and Tenure certificates, as well as a visit from the President. She added that the new Provost has been invited to the November meeting. The Dean wished everyone good luck with the new academic year, and indicated she would be resuming her blog in September. The dates for the Fall Faculty Council Meetings are September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 21.</p> <p>Mr. Tucker noted there was a project in the works with the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor on augmented virtual reality and would be in contact regarding their needs and their compatibility.</p>	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Adjournment at 5:34 p.m. The next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, 2021.</p>	