

## Minutes of the July 7, 2020 UF Gainesville COM Faculty Council Meeting (held via Zoom)

### Officers Present:

President – Albert Robinson, III  
Past President – Emily Weber LeBrun

Secretary – Jean Cibula  
Treasurer – Steven Swarts

### Officers Absent:

President Elect – Laurel Blakemore

Vice President – Sonia Deshmukh Mehta

### Department Representatives Present:

Shinichi Someya – Aging & Geriatric Res.  
Rene Opavsky – Anatomy & Cell Biology  
Matthew Andoniadis – Anesthesiology  
Mingyi Xie – Biochem. & Molec. Biology  
Ji-Hyun Lee – Biostatistics  
Ku-Lang Chang – CHFM  
Addie Walker – Dermatology  
Meredith Thompson – Emergency Medicine  
Kelly Gurka – Epidemiology  
Jiang Bian – Health Outcomes & Biomedical Informatics  
Kiran Lukose – Medicine  
Lizi Wu – Molec. Genetics & Microbiology  
Paramita Chakrabarty – Neuroscience

Kathleen Green – Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Ekaterina Lobanova – Ophthalmology  
Hernan Prieto – Orthopaedics & Rehab.  
Natalie Silver – Otolaryngology  
Marie Rivera-Zengotita – Pathology  
Daniel Wesson – Pharmacology & Therapeutics  
Erica Dale – Physiology  
Mariam Rahmani – Psychiatry  
Steven Swarts – Radiation Oncology  
Priya Sharma – Radiology  
Ryan Thomas – Surgery  
Romano De Marco – Urology

### Department Representatives Absent:

Ashley Ghiaseddin – Neurological Surgery  
Anna Khanna – Neurology

Petar Breitingner – PA School  
Mike Davis – Pediatrics

### Guests:

Ellen Zimmermann, M.D., Associate Dean for Faculty Development  
Mark Segal, M.D., Ph.D., Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professional Development  
Sylvain Doré, Ph.D., 2020-2021 UF Faculty Senate Chair

## Minutes:

1. President Albert Robinson, III called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.
2. The June 2020 Faculty Council meeting minutes were approved.
3. Introduction of new departmental representatives – Albert Robinson, III, M.D.
  - Dr. Shin Someya was elected for Aging and Geriatric Research
  - Dr. Mingyi Xie was elected for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
  - Dr. Ji-Hyun Lee was elected for Biostatistics
  - Dr. Addie Walker was re-elected for Dermatology
  - Dr. Meredith Thompson was elected for Emergency Medicine
  - Dr. Kelly Gurka was re-elected for Epidemiology
  - Dr. Kiran Lukose was elected for Medicine
  - Dr. Paramita Chakrabarty was elected for Neuroscience
  - Dr. Ashley Ghiaseddin was re-elected for Neurosurgery
  - Dr. Ekaterina Lobanova was elected for Ophthalmology
  - Dr. Mike Davis was elected for Pediatrics
  - Dr. Erica Dale was elected for Physiology & Functional Genomics

#### 4. Committee Reports:

- President's Report – Albert Robinson, III, M.D.
  - The Faculty Council serves as a forum for shared governance and mutual exchange of ideas between senior officers of the College of Medicine and faculty to advance the mission of our great institution.
  - Plans for the Faculty Council CARES initiative were introduced that include moving forward with advocacy for diversity and inclusion, wellness, as well as advocating for community engagement for health equity and access.
- Executive Committee report – Albert Robinson, III, M.D.
  - Dean Tyndall focused on the Climate of Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Community Engagement.
  - Dr. Joseph Fantone and Dr. Julia Close discussed policies and guidance for COVID-related impacts for our medical students, residents and fellows.
  - Dr. Stephen Sgrue provided COM research updates.
  - Jeremy Sibiski provided the COM Finance & Administration report, FY21 budget status, and 2020 projections.
- Update on Chair Searches – Albert Robinson, III, M.D.
  - Dr. Jennifer Hunt has been selected as the new Chair of the Department of Pathology, Immunology & Laboratory Medicine, effective August 1, 2020.
  - The chair search for the Department of Epidemiology is almost complete. The new chair should be announced soon.
  - The COM Dean's Search is ongoing. The search committee completed their initial interviews with several applicants and submitted their recommendations to Dr. David Nelson. Dr. Nelson will now work with a search firm to coordinate virtual interviews with the applicants and COM leadership in place of the campus visits.
- Faculty Lounge art – Emily Weber LeBrun, M.D.
  - Dr. Weber has received 122 submissions of faculty artwork to be displayed in the Faculty Lounge. The committee discussed purchasing a few electronic digital frames for the lounge to showcase all of the art.
- A representative from the Faculty Council is needed to serve on the COM Curriculum Committee. Those that are interested in serving on this committee can email Dr. Al Robinson ([arobinson@anest.ufl.edu](mailto:arobinson@anest.ufl.edu)) or Dr. Jean Cibula ([jean.cibula@neurology.ufl.edu](mailto:jean.cibula@neurology.ufl.edu)) for additional information.
- Finance Committee/EFAC (June 4, 2020 meeting) – Steven Swarts, Ph.D.
  - There is a shortfall of collections for the month of May. However, the total number of visits per week (including telemedicine visits) equaled the number of visits for that time frame in 2019, which is encouraging news.
  - The Faculty Compensation Plan was discussed and will be deliberated upon further once the Compensation Committee, chaired by Dr. Mark Scarborough, reconvenes in August 2020. The Faculty Council will have representation on this committee.
- Research Task Force – Jean Cibula, M.D. for Kimberly Sibille, PhD
  - New members have been added to the Research Task Force. The next meeting will be held on July 16, 2020.
  - A number of resource documents are being developed and will be posted on the Faculty Council website by August 2020.
  - Those interested in participating in the RTF and possibly moving into a leadership position, can contact Dr. Kimberly Sibille ([ksibille@ufl.edu](mailto:ksibille@ufl.edu)) for further information.

5. Chair Evaluations – Emily Weber LeBrun, M.D.

- The chair evaluations will soon be closed. The overall response rate for the college was approximately 65%, although a few departments had an amazing 90-100% response rate. Other departments with interim chairs or recent leadership changes had understandably lower response rates.
- The Faculty Council officers are meeting with Linkage representatives on July 10 to discuss distribution of the survey results.

6. Old Business:

Term limits for top-level positions – Albert Robinson, III, M.D. and Emily Weber LeBrun, M.D.

- This topic was tabled for further discussion until the next meeting.

Review Bylaws of the Constitution of the University of Florida College of Medicine – Albert Robinson, III, M.D.

- Officers and representatives are encouraged to review the Bylaws on the Faculty Council website: <https://facultycouncil.med.ufl.edu/files/2018/10/FC-Bylaws-approved-10-2-18.pdf>
- FC Voting (as in Bylaws)
  - Faculty in attendance constitute a quorum. Majority vote is defined as 50% plus one member in attendance.
- FC Attendance Policy for Departmental Representatives at Council Meeting
  - Departmental representatives who are unable to attend a monthly meeting should select an alternate to attend the meeting as a voting participant.
  - After three absences or more, the Faculty Council will reach out to you and your chair to determine status (expected to attend 75% of meetings).
- General Body Meetings 2020-21 Academic Year
  - Faculty Council meetings are held on the first Tuesdays of the month from 5:00pm – 6:00pm, in MSB Room M-112 for in-person meetings or via Zoom.

7. New Business:

FC Representatives – Identify potential issues for 2020-21 Academic Year

- What can the Faculty Council do to prepare our faculty looking forward over the next six months as we come back to Stage 3 and Stage 4?
- Faculty Council role as a potential resource for our colleagues who are struggling to get their students, post-docs and research faculty back in their labs.

President Albert Robinson, III adjourned the meeting at 6:22 pm.

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**Announcements:**

**UF COM Faculty Council webpage** - <https://facultycouncil.med.ufl.edu/>. All faculty are welcome to attend any Faculty Council meetings. Resources for faculty new to Gainesville may be found here: <https://facultycouncil.med.ufl.edu/faculty-information/faculty-support-resources/>.

**UF COM Faculty Lounge**

Check out the Faculty Lounge in M-125. It's a place to meet colleagues, a place to roost between meetings and a quiet place to work.

**UF COM Ombuds**

To schedule an appointment with the UFCOM Ombuds for faculty, Dr. Keith Stone, email your request to [stonek@ufl.edu](mailto:stonek@ufl.edu), and simply include your name and contact information. To maintain confidentiality use email only to schedule appointments. Additional details can be found online at: <https://ombuds.med.ufl.edu/>.

**GatorCare – Medically Necessary Genetic Testing Now Available**

We are pleased to announce that GatorCare has contracted with PreventionGenetics to perform medically necessary genetic testing for our members effective July 1, 2020. Testing through PreventionGenetics will be

covered at the Tier 1 level of benefits – this means that the Tier 1 CY Deductible is waived and the member is responsible for 10% of the contracted rate (except for the Healthy Rewards HRA and HSA compatible plans, where the CY Deductible applies).

PreventionGenetics Labs has an exceptional reputation and a large testing library. The lab's website, [www.PreventionGenetics.com](http://www.PreventionGenetics.com), contains the test descriptions by gene and by disease, as well as the specimen requirements and shipping instructions.

**Cytogenetic testing** such as chromosomes, microarray studies and cancer cytogenetics should still be sent to **UF Pathology**: [www.pathlabs.ufl.edu/client-services/requisitions](http://www.pathlabs.ufl.edu/client-services/requisitions).

GatorCare has contracted with Heather Stalker, MSc, CGC, a board- certified genetic counselor to assist with:

- Selection of appropriate test products, when requested
- Determination of medical necessity
- Assistance in reviewing/interpreting significance of results of testing, when requested

Requests for genetic testing will need to be submitted directly to Ms. Heather Stalker, [stalkhj@peds.ufl.edu](mailto:stalkhj@peds.ufl.edu), or by fax at (352) 294-8058 and should include a completed genetic testing requisition form available at [www.gatorcare.org/health-resources/genetic-testing](http://www.gatorcare.org/health-resources/genetic-testing). You may be asked to submit additional medical records. Requests will be reviewed for medical necessity and to determine if the most appropriate test is being requested.

### **UF Health Mask Requirement**

- A mask or face covering is required of **everyone** who enters a UF Health facility.
- **All** faculty, staff, students, visitors, vendors and even patients in our outpatient settings, with only a few exceptions for the very young or ill.
- This is an important step each of us can take to protect our patients, our community, our loved ones and each other.

### **UF Health Screen, Test, and Protect Program**

- Public health activities
  - screening for all faculty, staff and students
  - increased testing
  - contact tracing with targeted isolation/quarantining
  - ongoing disease surveillance.
- More information - <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect/>

### **Diversity Corner**

#### **ICYMI: UF Updates: Libraries highlight bestselling books on race and racism**

Books about race and racism topped the New York Times Bestsellers list this past week. These books are sold out of many bookstores. However, anyone connected to the UF VPN can access the following books and articles for free at any time, courtesy of the George A. Smathers Libraries.

- [The New Jim Crow](#) by Michelle Alexander (multi-user ebook)
- [Stamped from the Beginning](#) by Ibram X. Kendi (multi user ebook)
- [White Fragility](#) by Robin DiAngelo (academic article)
- [Just Mercy](#) by Bryan Stevenson (single user e-book)
- [How to Be an Antiracist](#) by Ibram X. Kendi (single user e-book)

### **Wellness Corner**

Resources to Promote Mental, Physical, Psychosocial, and Occupational Well-Being During COVID-19 Outbreak. **Please visit the UF COM Wellness COVID-19 Resource page:**

<https://wellness.med.ufl.edu/2020/04/01/resources-to-promote-well-being-during-covid-19-outbreak/>

The next Faculty Council Meeting will be held Tuesday, August 4, 2020 @ 5PM.

*Minutes recorded by Melissa Liverman, Administrative Assistant, and edited by Dr. Jean Cibula and Dr. Albert Robinson, III.*