

## Minutes of the January 3, 2023 - UF Gainesville COM Faculty Council Meeting (held via Zoom)

### Officers Present:

President – Martin Rosenthal  
Past President – Ashley Ghiaseddin  
Vice President – Erica Dale

President Elect - Sylvain Doré  
Secretary – Paramita Chakrabarty  
Treasurer – Eric Jeng

### Department Representatives Present:

Rene Opavsky – Anatomy & Cell Biology  
Arvin Trippensee – Anesthesiology  
Ji-Hyun Lee – Biostatistics  
Dan Rubin– Community Health & Fam Med.  
Addie Walker– Dermatology  
Meredith Thompson – Emergency Medicine  
Kelly Gurka– Epidemiology  
Ramzi Salloum– Health Outcomes & Bio Informatics  
Kiran Lukose – Medicine  
Ashley Ghiaseddin – Neurological Surgery  
Gabriel Bonnell - Neurology  
Paramita Chakrabarty – Neuroscience  
Robert Egerman – Obstetrics & Gynecology

Ekaterina Lobanova – Ophthalmology  
Luis Pulido – Orthopaedics & Rehab.  
Travis Grant – PA School  
Yu Yang– Pathology  
Mike Davis – Pediatrics  
Jonathan Bird – Pharmacology & Therapeutics  
Carolyn Geis – Phys Med & Rehabilitation  
Erica Dale – Physiology  
Amanda Janner – Psychiatry  
Steven Swarts – Radiation Oncology  
Priya Sharma– Radiology  
Lisa Spiguel– Surgery

### Department Representatives Absent:

Mingyi Xie – Biochem. & Molec. Biology  
Edward Scott – Molec. Genetics & Microbiology  
Si Chen – Otolaryngology  
Romano DeMarco - Urology

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### Guest Speaker:

Sherry Houston, Executive Director at Ronald McDonald House Charities of North Central Florida

### Ex-Officio Member:

Mark Segal, M.D., Ph.D., Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs & Professional Development, UF College of Medicine

### Minutes:

1. President Martin Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.
2. The minutes from the December 6, 2022 meeting were approved.
3. Ronald McDonald House Charities of North Central Florida - Sherry Houston, Executive Director at Ronald McDonald House Charities of North Central Florida
  - Ms. Houston stated that the Ronald McDonald House will soon be moving into what was formerly known as the Hope Lodge in order to accommodate more families. When the Hope Lodge closed in March of 2020 during the pandemic, the Ronald McDonald House executives were given the opportunity to tour the facility, and they determined that the existing structure could be rehabilitated for about \$5M. The new 44,000 square-foot facilities will have 50 guest suites, a family living room area with a hospitality station, a large dining room that will seat approximately 100 people, one large kitchen and one small kitchen, an indoor playroom, an indoor gym, a laundry room, and linen closet, and three more hospitality stations throughout the facility. There will also be a tram to take families to and from the hospital. The current location is 22,000 square feet and has 31 bedrooms that have stayed at 100% occupancy 365

days a year for more than 10 years.

- Last year, the Ronald McDonald House served 791 families who stayed an average of 94 days. There are currently 97 families on the waitlist. They had to turn away 1,962 families last year. The children whose families stay at the Ronald McDonald House have diagnoses such as cardiac issues, premature birth, cancer, or trauma.
- The following four programs help raise money to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities of North Central Florida: The Annual Sporting Clays Tournament (the next tournament will be held on February 17, 2023), The Red Shoe Affair, The Beyond Bourbon Event, and The Gingerbread Event. To date, they have raised \$2.3M of the \$4.4M needed to complete the renovations of the new facility, which they hope to move into by August of 2023. For additional information on how to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities of North Central Florida, please visit their website at: <https://www.rmhcncf.org/>

#### 4. New Business:

- A Qualtrics Survey will be sent to the COM Faculty Council to vote on renewing the COM Executive Committee bylaws.
- Dr. Ghiaseddin provided updates on the evaluation of the COM Senior Associate Deans. He recently contacted the Senior Associate Deans to request a list of potential evaluators that will participate in providing feedback regarding their leadership skills. The evaluation forms will be sent to those evaluators, the Department Chairs, and the COM Faculty Council later this month.

#### 5. Committee Reports:

- President's Report & Executive Committee Report – Martin Rosenthal, M.D.
  - The COM Spring Faculty Assembly has been scheduled for April 14, 2023, from 7am – 8am in the Harrell Medical Education Building, Learning Studio 125. Corey Feist, JD, MBA, will be the featured speaker at the event. Additional details are forthcoming.
- AAMC CFAS – Al Robinson, M.D. and Meredith Thompson, M.D.
  - No updates to report.
- Committee to Determine Best Practices for Hiring at COM - Ashley Ghiaseddin, M.D.
  - Dr. Ghiaseddin and the committee have worked with Dr. Segal to develop a survey for all departments to complete. The survey was emailed to the department chairs today. Once all of the departments have completed the survey, the committee will meet to discuss the results and will generate a report to share with the COM Faculty Council and the COM Executive Committee.
- Curriculum Committee Report (December 2022) – Meredith Thompson, M.D.
  - A third-year Family Medicine elective and a Discovery Pathway in Quantitative Medicine were approved.
  - Admissions requirements for the medical school were discussed, but no changes were made at this time.
  - Updates were provided on the LCME Mock Site Visit, which went well.
  - Several status updates were presented from the various Task Forces that Dr. Harrell has assembled to improve the curriculum.

- Faculty Senate – Michael Davis, M.D.

- No report.
- Hospital Operations Committee - Lisa Spiguel, M.D.
  - The committee has been meeting monthly. The next meeting will be held on January 6, and they will meet with hospital administration on January 11. Council members can send Dr. Spiguel any concerns they would like her to address with the committee ([lisa.spiguel@surgery.ufl.edu](mailto:lisa.spiguel@surgery.ufl.edu)).
- Research Task Force – Jonathan Bird, Ph.D.
  - Dr. Bird stated that Dr. Segal had signed a one-year contract with Lab Archives, an Electronic Lab Notebook provider. There will be a UF-wide free lab notebook for everyone to use, including both clinical and non-clinical faculty. Dr. Segal has not announced it yet to the university, but it should be rolling out within the next few months. The Task Force will form policies for how this will work, but the intent is for students, faculty, and researchers to have access to a fully backed-up online Cloud electronic lab notebook. This should help with compliance with the evolving NIH funding landscape.
- Task Force on State of FL Health Reports and Recommendations – Michael Haller, M.D.
  - Dr. Haller stated that there were concerns raised by a number of COM faculty members about the research activities of Dr. Joseph Ladapo. Concerns were also raised regarding his dual role as a tenured Professor at the University of Florida as opposed to his role as Florida Surgeon General.
  - Ultimately, the COM Faculty Council agreed to form a committee, which Dr. Haller chaired, to look into whether or not there were any violations of the University of Florida research integrity policy. In relation to that policy, the committee specifically looked at the research memo that Dr. Ladapo sent on October 7, 2022 with his most recent guidance on COVID vaccine boosters for young men. There were a number of folks on the committee with significant expertise in evaluating this kind of issue. The specific language in Section 3.B.3 of the Faculty Policy on Research Integrity was what concerned them the most. It states, “careless, irregular or contentious research practices may not meet the standard for research misconduct, but may be a research integrity violation”. They had no concerns about research misconduct, such as making up data, fabricating data, or lying.
  - After reviewing the report, the committee summarized their findings to state that they did have concerns that Dr. Ladapo violated Section 3.B.3 of the Faculty Policy on Research Integrity. The committee subsequently asked the UF COM Faculty Council to refer the matter to the UF Research Integrity Officer (RIO). The summary document can be found at: [COVID-19 Ladapo Detailed Critique 12.22.22.pdf](#).
- Wellness Task Force – Meredith Thompson, M.D.
  - Dr. Thompson stated that the Wellness Committee is moving forward with the clinical awards for faculty, as the awards ceremony is now set for April 14, 2023. The information about the two awards will go out to Chairs in January. They hope the departments will use their own internal criteria to select their departmental-level awards. Ideally, this will be done by February so the Wellness Committee can receive their packets for the college-level awards by

March 1. The Wellness Committee will review the award packets and present the college-level Clinical Excellence Awards and Rising Star Clinical Faculty Awards at the ceremony in April.

- The Wellness Committee has also been working to identify resources for faculty with disabilities. Last month, the committee met with Russ Froman, the Assistant Vice President for the Office of Accessibility and Gender Equity, and Nadja Schimmel-Cruz, the Benefits Manager for COM HR. They clarified the process for faculty who need accommodations. The committee plans to provide this information to the Office of Faculty Affairs to include in their handbooks, which will be clearly displayed on the COM HR website for ease of access.

#### 6. Old Business:

- The Faculty Council Bylaws will be amended, and Dr. Rosenthal will send a draft to the Council members for review.

President Martin Rosenthal adjourned the meeting at 5:36pm.

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#### **Announcements:**

- Warmest wishes for a happy and productive 2023!
- Save the date for the UF College of Medicine Celebration of Research: February 27-February 28, 2023.
- Welcome to Daniel J. Hoh, M.D., FAANS, the new Assistant Dean of Revenue Cycle Management for the UF College of Medicine, effective Jan. 2023
- Welcome to Heather Bentley Long, M.S.N., the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of UF Health Central Florida
- Get active with the College of Medicine community by joining the annual Alumni Affairs virtual 5K to fundraise for student scholarships. Grab your friends and family and run, walk, roll, or self-propel 3.1 miles anytime and anywhere between Jan. 1-31. [Register](#) to participate.
- [Here](#) are some resources for implementing the new 2023 NIH data management and sharing policy. UF Libraries can assist with data services, including plans: contact Plato Smith, Data Management Librarian (plato.smith@ufl.edu). For data/code sharing, data analysis, and data reproducibility, contact Hao Ye ([haoye@ufl.edu](mailto:haoye@ufl.edu)).
- Join the Mentor Academy Spring 2023 cohort. Learn [more](#).
- University committee nominations are due January 31. Learn [more](#).
- Track the progress of the Dean's initiatives under the seven pillars of the strategic plan [here](#).
- To schedule an appointment with the Ombuds office, call 352-392-1308. Appointments are confidential.

The next Faculty Council Meeting will be held Tuesday, February 7, 2023 @ 5PM.

*Minutes recorded by Melissa Liverman, Administrative Assistant, and edited by Dr. Paramita Chakrabarty and Dr. Martin Rosenthal.*