

Minutes of the February 6th, 2024 - UF Gainesville COM Faculty Council Meeting (held via Zoom)

Officers Present:

President Elect – Michael Haller
Past President – Martin Rosenthal
Vice President – Erin Vanzant
Treasurer – Eric Jeng

President – Erica Dale
Secretary – Paramita Chakrabarty

Department Representatives Present:

Arvin Trippensee – Anesthesiology
Thomas Mareci – Biochem. & Molec. Biology
Dan Rubin – Community Health & Fam Med.
Michael Lavery – Dermatology
Ronnie Ren – Emergency Medicine
Kelly Gurka – Epidemiology
Ramzi Salloum – Health Outcomes & Bio Informatics
Gabriel Bonnell – Neurology
Benoit Giasson – Neuroscience
Sarah Baxley – Obstetrics & Gynecology

Jonathan Hu – Ophthalmology
Matthew Patrick – Orthopaedics & Rehab.
Jason Fromm – PA School
Yu Yang – Pathology
Michele Lossius – Pediatrics
Rui Xiao – Physiology & Aging
Matt Daley – Psychiatry
Steven Swarts – Radiation Oncology
Lisa Spiguel – Surgery
Romano DeMarco – Urology

Department Representatives Absent:

Rene Opavsky – Anatomy & Cell Biology
Li Chen – Biostatistics
Sherri Kittelson – Medicine
Edward Scott – Molec. Genetics & Microbiology
Ashley Ghiaseddin – NeuroSurgery

Si Chen – Otolaryngology
Jonathan Bird – Pharmacology & Therapeutics
Shawn McGargill – Phys Med & Rehabilitation
Priya Sharma – Radiology

Guest Speaker:

Billy J. McCarty, M.D., M.B.A., President & Medical Director, GatorCare

Ex-Officio Member:

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

UF Faculty Senator - COM:

Lauren Berkow, M.D., Professor, Department of Anesthesiology

Minutes:

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm.
2. The minutes from the January 9th, 2024 meeting were approved.
3. Priorities and Goals for GatorCare in 2024 - Billy J. McCarty, M.D., M.B.A., President & Medical Director, GatorCare
 - Dr. McCarty joined UF Health as the Medical Director of GatorCare in November of 2021, and assumed the role as President of GatorCare on October 31, 2022 upon Dr. Jill Sumfest's retirement.
 - Over the past year, Dr. McCarty has met with the 13 employer groups across UF to determine member experience and to get feedback of how GatorCare is functioning, with hopes of improving service and establishing collaboration in benefits design/performance.
 - Priorities for GatorCare in 2024 include:
 - Access to care
 - Chronic case management
 - Supplement domestic network

- Benefit value proposition
- Improve health outcomes
- Goals for GatorCare in 2024 include:
 - Increase virtual care
 - Employee navigation
 - Risk stratification
 - Expand CCM services
 - Increase access to care
- Important issues currently being addressed by GatorCare include:
 - GLP1 – Off label use (non-diabetics)
 - Formulary change – Pharmacy Benefit Management (PBM) acquisition
 - Drug shortages – ADHD
 - Coverage of anti-obesity medications
- Dr. McCarty answered questions and addressed concerns of the Faculty Council members. He agreed to provide updates to the Faculty Council following his meeting with the Board of Directors in March.

4. New Business:

- Nominations for the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Awards
 - A call for nominations for the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Awards will be sent out soon. This award recognizes our most outstanding, active peers for providing extraordinary service to the UF COM, including recognition for the college through national reputation in their respective professions. More information on the award and previous awardees can be found at: <http://facultycouncil.med.ufl.edu/faculty-information/lifetime-achievement-award/>.

5. Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee Report – Erica Dale, Ph.D.
 - No updates to report.
- AAMC CFAS – Albert Robinson, III, M.D., Meredith Thompson, M.D.
 - No updates to report.
- Committee to Determine Best Practices for Hiring at COM – Ashley Ghiaseddin, M.D.
 - No updates to report.
- Curriculum Committee - Jason Fromm, M.D.
 - Changes will be made to the medical student curriculum on self-directed learning. It is important for faculty to reliably provide feedback to students on their individual learning plans.
- UF Faculty Senate (January 2024 meeting) – Lauren Berkow, M.D.
 - After serving as Interim Provost for the past five months, Dr. Scott Angle was named Provost of the University of Florida and has signed on for an 18-month term. Dr. Angle plans to set-up a portal to streamline the requests for funds for projects, and the requests will now go through the CFO's office.
 - Updates were provided regarding the Post-Tenure Review, which is expected to launch this month. Faculty who are up for review will be asked to send an updated CV and should expect responses in early May. More information and details about the process

will be provided soon.

- The current Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Danaya Wright, is continuing to work on reducing administrative burdens for faculty.
 - There was further discussion regarding Regulation SB846 on Countries of Concern.
 - Dr. David Norton provided an update on the Strategic Plan for Animal and Human Subject Research. Their goal is to make the IRB and IACUC processes better and more user-friendly.
 - The Board of Governors recently approved Regulation 9.016, which prohibits universities from spending state or federal funds on DEI programs/activities/policies. There are some exceptions related to student organizations and activities and programs required for accreditation or compliance. The Faculty Senate is awaiting guidance from the General Counsel and Provost about what kind of DEI initiatives they can continue.
 - History Professor and Pulitzer Prize winner Jack Davis is the featured speaker at the upcoming Faculty Senate Distinguished Lecture Series to be held at 10am on February 15, 2024 in the UF Senate Chamber at the Reitz Union. Dr. Davis will present a lecture entitled "Coming Ashore: Wonder, Creativity, and the Environmental Humanities".
- Hospital Operations Committee – Lisa Spiguel, M.D.
 - The committee is continuing to work on developing a new platform for their meetings. An update should be provided within the next couple of months.
 - [Research Task Force](#) – Jonathan Bird, Ph.D.
 - No updates to report.
 - Wellness Task Force
 - No updates to report. A representative from the Faculty Council is needed to take over leadership of this group. Those interested can email Dr. Dale at: ericadale@ufl.edu.

Past President Martin Rosenthal adjourned the meeting at 5:51 pm.

Announcements:

- Join the 14th UF College of Medicine Celebration of Research: February 12 - February 13, 2024.
- A transition committee for the new UF Health Corporation was announced, which will serve as the parent corporation to guide the organizational, financial, and strategic goals for our UF Health hospitals and practice plans.
- Please nominate accomplished colleagues for university designated awards (including honorary degree, distinguished alumnus award, distinguished achievement award, and distinguished service award) by March 1st. More information [here](#).
- To schedule an appointment with the Ombuds office, call 352-392-1308. Appointments are confidential.
- For resources and tools to thrive, be sure to check out the UFCOM Wellness [website](#)
- Log Into Your Free Electronic Lab Notebook Account at LabArchives through the [SSO](#): Instructions on accessing LabArchives
- Please use the [Well-Being Index](#), a tool designed to help residents, fellows, program leaders, postdocs and all faculty navigate mental health needs, and provide feedback [here](#) under the people pillar of the college's strategic plan.

The next Faculty Council Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 5, 2024 @ 5:00pm.

Minutes recorded by Melissa Liverman, Administrative Assistant, and edited by Dr. Paramita Chakrabarty and Dr. Erica Dale.