Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Senate
April 12, 2006

In Attendance: Drs. Amaechi, Baruch-Bienen, Brackley, Evans, Geelhoed, Keiser, Krolick, Lam, Luduena, Olson, Parsons, Robichaux, Sorenson, Tekmal, Vargas.


Guest: Dr. Theresa Chiang
Vice President for Academic Administration

Convened: 4:05 PM

University Updates
Dr. Theresa Chiang
Vice President for Academic Administration

Allied Health:

Department of Respiratory Care has a new Chair, Dr. Robert Wilkins (as of August 1). He comes from Loma Linda University, and is the author and editor of the major textbooks used by respiratory care students across the country. He is an outstanding teacher and has a history of advancing the profession.

Medical School:

The Board of Directors of the University Physicians Group (UPG) approved the change of the name of our clinical practice to UT Medicine San Antonio effective March 1, 2006.

On March 6th Dr. William Henrich began his role as the new Dean of the Medical School. Dr. Thomas Mayes stepped down as Interim Dean and returned to the Department of Pediatrics as Chairman.

Dr. Henrich gave his presentation, "Building a Bright Tomorrow" on Monday, April 3rd to the Medical Faculty Assembly stating his visions and goals as Dean.

On March 30th, the FKP architects presented the completed MARC Program Plan to the Departmental Clinical Chairs, their Administrators, the MARC Steering Committee, and UPG leadership. The opening of the MARC is anticipated in 2008 with groundbreaking to be held in September of this year.

Nursing School:

Nursing faculty and students participated in a screening at La Villita in February, in collaboration with Univision and pharmacy students. More than 1,000 San Antonio
Residents were seen, their drugs were reviewed, BP, glucose, and cholesterol were screened, and general health education was delivered. The HSC provided all of the arrangements for nursing. An article on the event can be found on the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists’ web site. It is anticipated that this will become an annual event.

Strategic Plan update:

A draft is being prepared which will be expanded to include proposed strategies for achieving stated goals and objectives that were recently submitted by members of the Executive Committee. Although a very tight time frame is involved, since the University Compact, a summary of our short-term goals, is due to the System by May 1st, Dr. Chiang reiterated that the long-term strategic plan is to be considered an evolving document which may take some time to finalize.

SACS Accreditation update:

In preparation for developing strategies for collecting the materials required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) for purposes of requesting renewed UTHSCSA accreditation, a team of representatives will attend an orientation meeting in Atlanta on June 12th. The team will include Dr. Cigarroa, Dr. Chiang, Dr. Kaminski, Mr. Lynch, and Dr. Krolick as a faculty representative.

Report from the Chair
Dr. Margaret Brackley
Chair, UTHSCSA Faculty Senate

Chair-elect:

The Senate Executive Committee recommended that Dr. Krolick be appointed Chair-elect. After thorough discussion, all senators in attendance concurred with that recommendation by a show of hands. A secret ballot was conducted. Dr. Krolick was elected Chair-Elect of the 2006-2007 Faculty Senate.

Space Allocation Plan update:

Dr. Brackley reported that she and Dr. Krolick were invited to meet with Drs. Herman and Cigarroa to discuss the recent Senate response to Dr. Herman’s proposed space allocation plan. Dr. Herman, VP Research, considered all items of concern to the Senate and indicated that he anticipated no dramatic change in the proposal as it now stands. However, he stressed three main things. First, if we truly wish to reach the stature of institutions that we admire, we must use mechanisms for achieving success that are similar to theirs. Second, Dr. Herman emphatically stressed that the proposed policies were not intended to be punitive, and would likely have a negative impact on only a very small subset of our faculty, while benefiting the majority. And third, the plan is a we’ve got to start somewhere document and that once policies
are put into place, periodic review will take place to verify that such policies are working and of benefit to the UTHSCSA and its faculty.

Report from the Faculty Advisory Council:

Issues of concern to the FAC include (details can be found in the minutes of their meeting archived on the FAC website: http://www.utsystem.edu/UTFAC/):

Time & Effort reporting – discussed in terms of recent penalties placed on UTMB from NIH.

Graduation rates – not an issue for health science centers.

Strategic planning – UT System strategic plan will go to the Regents July or August. It can be found on the UT System websites: http://www.utsystem.edu/IPA/planning/ProposedFramework042006.pdf http://www.utsystem.edu/IPA/planning.htm

Science & Technology – Texas loosing ground, whereas California continues to do very well.

Student Regent – Newly appointed representative spoke to the UT FAC.

Next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on May 10, 2006.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:15.