Minutes of the Meeting of the UTHSCSA Faculty Senate
October 10, 2007

In Attendance: Bennett Amaechi, Deborah Baruch-Bienen, Krista Bowers, Margaret Brackley, James Evans, Peter Gakunga, Rebecca Garcia-Michels, Daniel Johnson, Keith Krolick, William Morgan, Barry Norling, Mickey Parsons, Catherine Robichaux, Rajeshwar Rao Tekmal.

Absent: William Clark, Sally Combest, Christopher Franka, Helen Sorenson, Leticia Vargas, Ronald Verrett, David Vines, Renee Yew.

Guests: Dr. Theresa Chiang, VP for Academic Administration
Dr. Robert Clark, Asst VP for Clinical Research

Convoked: 4:00 PM

University Topics: Updates
Dr. Theresa Chiang, VP for Academic Administration

Promotion and tenure workshops.

Dr. Chiang reminded the Senate of the upcoming Promotion and Tenure workshops to be held after the first of the year. These events are being organized through her office and are supported by a coalition of campus organizations helping to promote faculty development, including the Committee for the Advancement of Women and Minorities, Faculty Promotions, Tenure and Appointments Committee, Faculty Senate, and the Women’s Faculty Association.

Workshop on Promotion and Tenure for Non-tenure Track Faculty
Thursday, January 24th, 2008; 12:00 – 2:00
Academic & Administration Building (AAB) Rms. 108/110/112

Workshop on Promotion and Tenure for Tenure Track Faculty
Friday, February 8th, 2008; 12:00 – 2:00, AAB Rms. 108/110/112

Dr. Chiang stressed that she hopes that department/division heads will strongly encourage their junior faculty to attend the appropriate workshop, and to ensure their availability. Further, senior faculty are encouraged to volunteer to act as discussion leaders/mentors during these sessions.

In addition, there will be a workshop involving department chairs, PTAC chairs, and institutional PTAC members intended to increase understanding and promote consistency throughout the university with regard to promotion and tenure practices. This workshop is scheduled for 12:00-2:00 PM on Thursday, February 14, 2008.

Additional information can be obtained from Connie Hamilton Morris (HAMILTONC@uthscsa.edu).
Nursing Dean recruitment.

Ongoing, with a target date for completion still December 2007.

Chief Operating Officer.

The new COO, Michael Black, came online on October 1. Mr. Black is an expert in areas of strategic planning, financial operations, organizational and leadership development, process improvement, and total quality management. Many of his 37 years of experience are in areas related to academic medicine. We will invite Mr. Black to visit the Faculty Senate during our December meeting.

Vote scheduled for fee increase to support Wellness Center.

A new student recreation/health facility has been proposed for the UTHSCSA and would require a $40 mandatory student fee be assessed to all UTHSCSA students. On October 17, students will be asked to vote on the proposed increase in their fees to help support the facility, partnered with Spectrum, Inc.

Laredo campus dedication.

A second building designed to provide classroom, laboratory and library space on the Laredo Campus Extension (LCE) of UTHSCSA was dedicated on October 10. In addition, the courtyard of the new Academic Building was dedicated to Richard Garcia, former director of South Texas Programs. (link to HSC News)

Final Report of the Committee on Clinician/Industry Interactions
Dr. Robert Clark
Assistant Vice President for Clinical Research

Excerpted and paraphrased from the cover to the draft of the report: The Committee on Clinician-Industry Interactions held a series of 8 meetings between May 16 and August 29, 2007. In addition, several members of the committee convened focus groups with their particular constituencies and reported back to the full committee. The membership of the committee comprised faculty and administrators representing all four of the Health Science Centers’ professional schools, including clinical practice components and student and graduate training programs. The committee began by reviewing and discussing the October 2006 UTHSCSA Report of the Presidential Task Force on Conflict of Interest. There was also extensive review of professional literature and articles in the lay press, as well as relevant guidelines from a number of other academic centers, including Yale University, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania, Stanford University, and University of California at Los Angeles. The existing policies of UTHSCSA clinical partners, namely University Health System and South Texas Veterans Health Care System, were also considered. Finally, the committee reviewed relevant materials from several national organizations and agencies, including the Association of American Medical Colleges, Accreditation...
The final product of the committee’s work is a set of draft guidelines on the interactions of UTHSCSA clinicians with representatives of industry. In keeping with the recommendations of the Report of the Presidential Task Force on Conflict of Interest, the guidelines are based in large part on those promulgated by Yale University School of Medicine (see Coleman, DL, et al., Academic Medicine 81(2):154-160, February 2006), although significant additions and modifications were made in order to best meet the specific features and needs of UTHSCSA.

Dr. Clark that following considerations by the Faculty Senate, that any comments or concerns be forwarded to his office. Approval by the UTHSCSA Executive Committee will be sought at their next meeting.

Additional Discussion

Dr. David Capelli, Chair Institutional Committee on Committees, originally scheduled for this meeting, agreed to re-schedule for the November meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.