

Minutes

Dental Senate Steering Committee Meeting September 13, 2018

**11:30 am - 12:15 pm
L7040**

Present: Drs. Reichenberger (chair), H.L. Aguila, P. Epstein, E. Natarajan, F. Nichols, and T. Taylor, Dean S. Gordon

Excused: Dr. J. Agar

Absent: None

Guests: [Dr Gordon is a non-voting member of the committee]

Meeting was called to order at 11:31.

Introduction and scheduling of future meetings: Will 3rd Thursday of the month at 11:30 am to 12:15 pm work for all members? Dental Senate meetings are planned for first or second Tuesday of the month.

The charge of the Dental Senate Steering Committee is to meet on a monthly basis. The group agreed that the Steering Committee will meet from 12:00 – 1:00 pm on the third Tuesday of the month.

The Dental Senate will have their first meeting on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 from 11:30 am - 12:15 pm. Future meetings of the Dental Senate will take place on a monthly basis the first Tuesday of the month or alternatively on the second Tuesday of the month if necessary.

The purpose of this meeting is to lay out a road map for what we want to do over the next few months. The Dental Senate Steering Committee gives charge to the Dental Senate and oversees the councils for Research, Education and Academic Environment. Members of these three councils are suggested by the department heads and voted for by faculty in their departments. The councils are advisory, though the Education Council does have the authority to recommend policies and procedures regarding changes to educational issues. Implementation is the responsibility of the Dean after approval by the Senate.

Both the Dental Senate and the Dental Senate Steering Committee meetings offer the opportunity for administration to bring up matters that faculty should be reviewing.

The function of the Academic Environment council is to provide input to the School of Dental Medicine or UConn Health. It is a body that can provide advice regarding the academic environment. It is important because it shows how the School interacts with the

health center. For example, when Dr. Cato Laurencin was the Medical School Dean and Executive Vice President for health affairs, SDM and UConn Health developed the Guidelines for Interaction with Industry policy.

A discussion took place regarding communication between the committee, councils and the faculty. Meetings are open to all faculty and can be used as a mechanism for managing important decisions. Councils generally handle advisory issues and come back to the Steering Committee and Senate for report. Information can then be posted on the SDM website. If it is sufficiently important, it is announced through the Dean's office. Information can also be disseminated through the Curriculum Management Committee.

Update on terms of Steering Committee members: From Dental Senate bylaws: "Of the five elected faculty members of the Steering Committee, two members must be from the Basic Science constituency and three from the Clinical Science Constituency. The Steering Committee members shall serve terms of one year, and no member shall serve more than three consecutive terms."

The group agreed to have reappointments and staggered terms. More discussion of this topic will take place at the next meeting.

Election of Vice-Chairperson of the Dental Senate. From the by-laws: "The Chairperson shall be responsible for conducting the elections of members of the Steering Committee and of the Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall record minutes, shall communicate with the Senate and shall preside at Senate meetings in the absence of the Chairperson."

The Senate is responsible for voting for the Vice-Chairperson. The vote will take place on Tuesday, October 9th.

Reinstitution of Councils on Academic Environment and Research

Dr. Reichenberger will contact Division Chairs for their suggestions of individuals that should be considered for the Councils on Academic Environment and Research. The Research Council will consist of 6-7 members plus the Associate Dean for Research (Dental) and the Associate Dean for Research (Medical). Dr. Anthony Vella is the new Associate Dean for Medical Research.

Charge for Council on Education

This item is deferred until the next meeting.

Other agenda items (inclusion of the Department of Biomedical Engineering and future agenda items)

Liisa Kuhn, formerly part of Reconstructive Sciences and a Clinical Science Department Alternate Senator, has transitioned to the Department of Biomedical Engineering. It may

be an easy transition to include the Department of Biomedical Engineering with the Dental Senate as Dr. Kuhn is already a Senator. We will bring this item to the Senate to ensure that everyone agrees.

Dr. Reichenberger briefly discussed a presentation of exit interviews for residents that he watched at the latest board meeting. He feels that it could be beneficial for the Dental School to participate in an activity like this as well.

The meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernst Reichenberger, PhD
Chair, Dental Senate