MEMBERS PRESENT

Anesthesiology:
Biochemistry:  Dr. Roth
Dermatology:
Emergency Medicine:
Environmental and Occupational Medicine:  Dr. Richardson
Family Medicine:  Dr. Swee
Medicine: Dr. Santiago, Steinberg, Strair, Sunderram, Terregino, Thomas, Walker, Weinstein
Molecular Genetics, Microbiology, and Immunology:  Dr. Rabson
Neurology: Drs. Balashov, Golbe, Mani, Sonsalla
Neuroscience and Cell Biology:  Drs. Dreyfus, Hitchcock, Millonig
Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences:  Dr. Ebert
Ophthalmology:
Orthopaedic Surgery:
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine:  Drs. Amenta, Cadoff, Galkowski, Kim, Kramer, Rhodes, Soto, Winkelmann
Pediatrics:  Dr. Petrova
Pharmacology:  Drs. Walworth
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation:
Physiology and Biophysics:  Dr. Weisleder
Psychiatry:  Drs. Cutting, Lebeau, Manowitz, Menza, Saks
Radiation Oncology:
Radiology:
Surgery:  Drs. Ahmed, Calvano, Dombrovskiy, Foty, Gale, Goldsmith, Gracias, Haser, Hsia, Spotnitz, Stafford

1. The minutes of the May 16, 2011 Faculty meeting were approved.

2. Dean's report - Dean Peter Amenta. Dr. Amenta reported following announcements, awards and events:

   - The White Coat Ceremony for the RWJMS Class of 2015 was held on August 5th. Congratulations to all involved.
     - 130 students make up the RWJMS Class of 2015, including 6 MD/PhD students; 6 Access Med students, and 5 returning BA MD students; And we have 7 new Access Med students


- The class is 57% female
- The average age of the class is 23 years, with students ranging from 20 years to 34 years of age.
- 21% of the incoming class was born abroad, representing 13 different countries.
- 16% of the class comes from groups that are under-represented in medicine.
- The class of 2015 hails from 57 different institutions, including 16% from the Ivy League and 19% from Rutgers University.
- 80% of the class majored in the sciences or held a double major.

- New Faculty Orientation – will be held today, October 19, 2011 4:30 – 6:00 PM (CAB 1302, New Brunswick)

**Appointments**

- Cheryl F. Dreyfus, PhD, as been appointed as Chair, Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology.

  Dr. Dreyfus received her PhD in cell biology at Cornell University and undertook her postdoctoral training at Einstein Medical College. Before joining UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in 1990, Dr. Dreyfus was on the faculties of Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons and Cornell University Medical College. A dedicated teacher, Dr. Dreyfus is noted for her exceptional mentorship of undergraduates, graduate students, and junior faculty. As a committed citizen of RWJMS, Dr. Dreyfus has served on the Appointments and Promotions Committee, the Admissions Committee, and a number of search and review committees.

  Internationally recognized as a scientist, Dr. Dreyfus’ work focuses on the regulation of brain cell development and death. She has published over 70 papers, 14 book chapters, and is frequently an invited speaker and participant in national and international conferences and symposia.

**Awards and Recognition**

- Ann Stock, PhD, Professor of Biochemistry has been appointed an editor of the *Journal of Biochemistry*.

- Robert Like, MD, Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health has been appointed to the Region II Equity Health Council, a federally sponsored council from the Office of Minority Health, Department of Health and Human Services. The inaugural meeting took place September 26th and 27th.

- Norma Saks, EdD, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Assistant Dean for Educational Programs and Director of the Cognitive Skills Program has been appointed as Chair Elect of the Northeast Group on Educational Affairs, an affiliate of the Association of American Medical Colleges.
• Monica Roth, PhD, Professor in the Department of Biochemistry has been awarded the R. Walter Schlesinger Basic Science Mentoring Award for 2010. Dr. Roth received this award for her guidance and support of young scientists.

• Joseph Aisner, MD, Professor of Medicine has received the Norman H. Edelman Clinical Science Mentoring Award for 2010. Dr. Aisner was recognized for his dedication to mentorship of junior faculty.

Research

• Smita Patel, PhD, Professor of Biochemistry and her research team have been chosen for advanced online publication of two articles in last month’s Nature:
  o The study, “ATP-induced helicase slippage reveals highly coordinated subunits” identified how the ring-shaped helicases move along DNA.
  o The study, led by Dr. Patel and Joseph Marcotrigiano, PhD, Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Chemical biology at Rutgers University, “Structural basis of RNA recognition and activation by innate immune receptor RIG-I” shows the structure of retinoic-acid-inducible gene -I, or RIG-I, for the first time.

• Jesse Crosson, PhD, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health and his team have the lead article in the September edition of Annals of Family Medicine, “Meaningful Use of Electronic Prescribing in 5 Exemplar Primary Care Practices”, by Dr. Crosson provides key requirements for successful implementation of electronic prescribing, including extensive efforts to redesign workflow, ongoing training for team members, readily available technical support and a commitment to continuing improvement. Each of these steps requires a transformation of practice.

• A study conducted by James S. McKinney, MD, Assistant Professor of Neurology and his team, including Yingzi Deng, MD, Adjunct Instructor of Medicine and John Kostis, MD, Professor and Chair of Medicine The study, entitled, “Comprehensive Stroke Centers Overcome the Weekend versus Weekday Gap in Stroke Treatment and Mortality”, was published on August 25, 2011 in Stroke: Journal of the American Heart Association. The study found that New Jersey patients who are admitted on weekends and holidays to a hospital that is designated a Comprehensive Stroke Center do not have a higher mortality rate than patients admitted during the week in contrast with earlier studies of myocardial infarctions that found the “weekend effect” to be significant at all non-federal, acute care hospitals in New Jersey.

Other Business

The RWJMS Rules and Procedures Committee have recommended that Anna Headly, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Medicine, Barbara Marroccoli, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine and Gary Nackman, Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery be granted voting faculty status with a qualified academic title. The Dean has accepted their recommendation.
Upcoming Events

- **November 3** – Dean’s Research Awards – 10:00AM – 1:00 PM (Dean’s Conference Room and Great Hall, Piscataway)

- **November 6** – Reception for our Alumni and Friends at the 2011 AAMC Annual Meeting – 6:00 – 8:00 PM (The Colorado Convention Center, Room 104, Denver, Colorado)

- **November 14** – Annual George and Lily Boxer Memorial Lecture – 4:00 PM (Main Lecture Hall in Piscataway)

- **April 21, 2012** - RWJMS Alumni Gala (Heldrich, New Brunswick)

3. **Laboratory Research Task Force Report** – Dr. Terri Kinzy

   The following motion for vote of the faculty was presented.

   The UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, after full internal and external review of the laboratory research programs at the medical school and several faculty feedback steps, will implement a new structure to facilitate the advancement of research. This will reduce the number of departments in order to strengthen and align focused research areas while supporting the educational programs of the school. The number of departments will be reduced by two by abolishing the Department of Biochemistry and the Department of Physiology and Biophysics.

   The prior steps in the process including faculty feedback were reviewed and the next steps were presented as indicted below. The motion was modified with a suggestion and prepared for subsequent vote by the faculty by eBallot.

   Process for report sharing and feedback is as follows:

   - Basic Science Chairs Presentation November 17, 2010
   - Executive Council Presentation November 18, 2010
   - RWJMS Faculty Forum December 10, 2010 followed by written feedback until January 2011
   - Follow up on individual feedback and faculty meetings with Dean Amenta spring 2011
   - RWJMS strategic planning retreat March 10, 2011
   - Presentation to each individual chair May 31, 2011 and chairs provide to faculty subsequent to the meetings.
   - RWJMS Faculty Forum July 21, 2011
   - Final discussions with faculty prior to final presentation for advisory votes to the Dean
   - Presentation prior to vote for RWJMS Faculty and Executive Council at regularly scheduled meetings October 2011
Timeline for implementation:

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<th>October 2011</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>January 2012</th>
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<td>Present final plan for departments at Oct 19 RWJMS faculty meeting and send eBallot advisory vote on proposal to abolish 2 departments.</td>
<td>Establish A and P process to move faculty.</td>
<td>A and P committee reviews all primary faculty moves. (Dec. 8/Jan. 12).</td>
<td>UMDNJ University Affairs/Research Committee and BOT review/approve proposal to abolish 2 departments.</td>
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<td>Advisory vote in RWJMS Executive Council on Oct 20 on proposal to abolish 2 departments.</td>
<td>Present LRTF process and plans to the University Affairs/Research committee of the UMDNJ Board of Trustees (BOT).</td>
<td>Before Dec 10th send memo for January UMDNJ Academic Affairs and UMDNJ BOT.</td>
<td>Reorganization planning is initiated including fiscal effects and movement of faculty to the new departments following the A and P process.</td>
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4. RWJMS Faculty Council Report – The Faculty Council of RWJMS (FC) met in June, July, September, and October. Going forward, the FC will meet a minimum of four times per year as required in the Bylaws, in September, December, March and June, with monthly meetings scheduled that are subject to cancellation in the absence of pressing agenda items. Meetings are held at 5 p.m. in the CAB1302 with v-tel to Piscataway.

Provisions for expanding access to meetings for faculty at other sites are under discussion. Following FC meetings, the President of the Council communicates in writing recommendations from the FC to the Dean, followed by in person discussion of issues that have been raised. The FC thanks the Dean for taking the time to have these constructive discussions.

Activities of the FC since June include the following:

- The FC synthesized input from Faculty regarding the Kean Report to share with Dean Amenta in preparation for his visit with the UMDNJ Advisory Committee in June. Those observations were also included in a letter prepared by the UMDNJ Faculty Senate Development and Implementation Committee that was sent to the Advisory Committee.

- The FC proposed and received approval from the Faculty for a mechanism to elect RWJMS Senators to the UMDNJ Faculty Senate. That election is in progress and closes on Monday, October 24. The UMDNJ Faculty Senate has begun meeting and it is expected that the RWJMS Senators will be in place for the next meeting on October 31.

- The FC reviewed a draft policy for Faculty Disciplinary Procedures that was submitted by the Committee of Review. Suggested revisions will be returned to that Committee for consideration.

- The FC requested that the Dean and Dr. Kinzy discuss the LRTF implementation plan with the Faculty. At the request of the FC, the Faculty Forum held in July for this
The FC discussed the changes in Standing Committee membership that will result from implementation of the proposed reorganization plan as well as the departure of the Camden faculty, and raised the question of what changes to the RWJMS Bylaws might be required to account for these alterations. Discussion of this matter is ongoing and the FC urges the administration to solicit faculty input as Bylaws revisions are considered.

The FC invited the chair of the Advisory Committee on Appointments and Promotions to discuss the mechanisms by which criteria for promotion, particularly for non-tenure track faculty, are communicated. Dr. David August attended the October 11 FC meeting for this purpose and various ideas for better communication of the criteria were discussed. Suggestions included increased visibility of the guidelines on the RWJMS website.

The FC discussed the issue of communication between the administration and the faculty. The FC recommends that steps be taken to better disseminate to the Faculty decisions made at the Executive Council. The FC recommends that matters of importance to the Faculty, including, but not limited to, the development and implementation of new policies regarding research, teaching, and clinical service, and staff changes within the Dean's office that impact the Faculty, be distributed to the Faculty promptly and visibly. Discussions with IT and the Communications Office regarding this issue are underway. In addition, plans are being formulated for how best to disseminate Faculty Council discussions, meeting minutes and recommendations.

5. Dr. Amenta asked for new business, and adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Spotnitz
Secretary of the Faculty