Minutes
Faculty Council
March 19, 2013

Present: Drs. Ayers, Kim, Pintar, Stock, Walworth, Walker
Absent: Drs. Abali, Aisner, Boyarsky, DiCicco-Bloom, Kiss, Roth

Nancy Walworth discussed communication between Council officers and Dean Amenta regarding the Rutgers strategic planning process. The letter drafted by the Council after the February meeting was sent to Dean Amenta who asked that he be given time to share the concerns of the faculty with Rutgers administrators. Following those discussions, on February 14, RWJMS faculty received an invitation to participate in the Rutgers faculty survey regarding the university strategy. All Deans of UMDNJ units, the executive leadership of UMDNJ and leaders of joint institutes were invited to attend the Rutgers strategic planning retreat on March 6.

Discussion moved to how the Council will interface with various governance structures at Rutgers. After July 1, Dr. Lawrence Golbe, as a member of the executive committee of the UMDNJ Faculty Senate (proposed), reported on efforts underway to integrate faculty governance. He reported that the Rutgers University Senate expects and encourages that individual schools of UMDNJ maintain their current faculty council structures. The Rutgers Senate, which includes faculty, staff, students, alumni and administrators, has been restructured recently, and has determined the number of faculty to be elected to represent each of the UMDNJ units. Faculty representation is determined either by the number of faculty (1 senator for 60 faculty, up to 10 senators, then 1 additional senator for each additional 120 faculty) or the number of students (1 senator for 800 students). In the final analysis, RWJMS will be allotted 11 faculty senators. The graduate school will have one senator, since all graduate school faculty members have appointments and representation from their academic appointments. Dr. Golbe reviewed the responsibilities of the Rutgers University Senate.

A notice has been sent to the Deans of UMDNJ units describing the Rutgers Senate and asking that elections be held. Dean Amenta asked that the Council formulate a proposal for electing RWJMS senators. Following discussion, the Council agreed that of the 11 senators, a minimum of three should come from clinical departments, and three from pre-clinical departments. In addition, the Faculty Council should elect one senator from within its ranks. A proposal describing this election process will be presented at the special faculty meeting scheduled for March 28, 2013.

The status of the current UMDNJ Faculty Senate (proposed) was discussed. It will no longer exist, as each school will be represented on the Rutgers University Senate. There is discussion of establishing a Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Faculty Council, analogous to the Rutgers New Brunswick Faculty Council, Rutgers Camden Faculty Council and Rutgers Newark Faculty Council. As each of these organizational units will have a chancellor, it is presumed that the Councils will serve in an advisory capacity to each chancellor. RWJMS representatives to the UMDNJ Faculty Senate (proposed) will continue to discuss the proposed RBHS Faculty Council with other UMDNJ senators. This matter is on the agenda for a meeting scheduled for Monday, March 25.

A special RWJMS faculty meeting called for March 28 will ask the faculty to vote to recommend changes to the RWJMS bylaws such that the school can function on July 1, 2013 once UMDNJ no longer exists. Specifically, the portions of the RWJMS bylaws that currently refer to UMDNJ or administrators at UMDNJ will be revised to refer to Rutgers or administrators at Rutgers. Portions of the UMDNJ bylaws that are referenced in the RWJMS bylaws will now be specified in the RWJMS bylaws. Following the faculty meeting, the Rules of Procedure Committee will review the proposed
changes before they are sent to the entire Faculty for an electronic vote. Dr. Paul Manowitz, who chairs the Rules of Procedure Committee, presented additional changes to the bylaws that he may propose at the March 28 faculty meeting.

The nomination process has been completed for new officers of the Faculty Council whose terms will begin at the next meeting and extend until August 31, 2013. An electronic ballot will be distributed to Faculty Council members to elect the new officers.

The meeting was adjourned.