MEMBERS PRESENT

Anesthesiology:
Biochemistry Molecular Biology: Drs. Brewer, Gelas, Stock
Dermatology:
Emergency Medicine: Drs. Eisenstein, Geria, McCoy, McRigs, Shah
Environmental and Occupational Medicine: Dr. Kipen
Family Medicine: Drs. Jahn, Heath, Lansing, Like, Swee, Tallia
Medicine: Drs. Aisner, Bhowmick, Coromilas, Melera, Scardella, Sonnenberg, Sunderram, Terregino, Thomas, Walker
Neurology: Drs. Dhib-Jalbut, Golbe, Mani, McKinney, Sonsalla
Neuroscience and Cell Biology: Drs. DiCicco-Bloom, Dreyfus, Pintar, Suss, Varia
Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences: Drs. Bachmann, Balica, Lu, Merjanian
Ophthalmology:
Orthopaedic Surgery:
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine: Dr. Goodell
Pediatrics: Dr. Drachtman
Pharmacology: Drs. Fan, Roth, Walworth
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation:
Psychiatry: Drs. Lebeau, Manowitz, Menza
Radiation Oncology:
Radiology:
Surgery: Drs. Eisenstat, Gracias, Lee

1. The minutes of the December 8, 2014 Faculty meeting were approved - Interim Dean Vicente Gracias

2. 2015 Candidates for the MD degree were approved - Interim Dean Vicente Gracias

3. Dean's report – Interim Dean Vicente Gracias. Dr. Gracias presented the following comments:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- During November, there were 5,390 patients seen in the Emergency Department, 1,718 of which were admitted to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

- One heart transplant and four TAVR surgeries were performed by Cardiothoracic Surgery during November.
• Four kidney transplants and one pancreas transplant were performed during November.

• The Robert Wood Johnson Medical Group is responsible for 61.9 percent of patient discharges at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

• As part of the Ambulatory Access Improvement Project RWJMS engaged with Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care Center’s Call Center to receive scheduling calls. On December 1, 2014 UBHC began scheduling appointments for Medicine, Neurology and Cardiology patients. Within the next few days scheduling will begin for Surgery and OB/GYN. Within the next few months, all calls including off site locations, will be transferred to the call center.

• The Dept. of OB/GYN/Reproductive Sciences has been recognized nationally for its work in advancing maternal safety during the childbirth process. In collaboration with the Tara Hansen Foundation and the RWJUH, in addition to sponsoring a national symposium on the topic, a white paper has also been produced on this topic. This publication will be distributed throughout the country. The Rutgers RWJMS Safe Pregnancy campaign, which is titled “Stop, Look and Listen”, was recently published in the premier journal for the specialty, Obstetrics and Gynecology.

• The medical school is in the final stage of negotiating an extension to our current Horizon contract with a percentage increase over our current rate. It is working with Horizon through Rutgers Partners to develop a pilot population management program.

• The medical school is working with New Jersey Medical School on a federal program called Upper Payment Limit (UPL). This program reimburses academic practices that care for Medicaid patients at rates equivalent to the highest rate paid by private managed care companies.

• Tiger Text for secure texting has been implemented throughout the practice. TigerText messages are encrypted for HIPAA COMPLIANCE and will self-destruct after a preset period of time. TigerText communicates across devices so you can use your mobile phone, tablet, or laptop to send secure messages to any email or mobile number. To date, 330 users who have logged into TigerText, Thus far a total of 2,517 messages were sent from 171 Users along with 223 Recipients.

• Neuroscience and cell biology professor Federico Sesti, PhD, is one of Seven Rutgers Professors to receive a Fulbright Grant for Research and Teaching Abroad. Dr. Sesti will travel to Bangalore, India, to find out how to slow down mental decline as the body ages. Sesti, a leader in aging research, believes that organisms age because cells accumulate oxidized material – including potassium.

• The Star-Ledger ran an article on Jan. 2, about Psy-feld, Dr. Tobia’s didactic course for the third-year psychiatry clerkship. The Associated Press (AP) issued a story as a result, which has been reprinted internationally, including by USA Today and the NY Times. Dr. Tobia and his class have been interviewed by major TV news programs in New York and Philadelphia, and appeared on the TODAY show on Saturday, January 17. The story has interestingly crossed media genres, appearing in Cinema Blend and MTV.com, and Dr. Tobia has been interviewed numerous times on live radio, including at least three sports talk shows. TIME magazine and AMSA’s The New Physician also ran unique articles about the class.
UPCOMING EVENTS

February 7, 2015 - 10:00 AM
Central New Jersey Regional Brain Bee Competition

Great Hall
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
675 Hoes Lane West - Piscataway, NJ

The Regional Brain Bee is the first round in an international competition for high school students in grades 9 -12 testing their knowledge in the field of neuroscience.

Registration is required. Applications will be accepted through Monday, January 26, 2015
For more information contact: mordesja@rwjms.rutgers.edu

March 20, 2015 - 11:30 AM
Match Day Ceremony

Arlene and Henry Schwartzman Courtyard
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital
One Robert Wood Johnson Place - New Brunswick, NJ
For more information contact: evansje1@rwjms.rutgers.edu

4. Nominations for Search Committee - Secretary of the Faculty, John Walker
The Faculty was provided with the nominations by the Nominations and Elections Committee; additional nominations were invited from the floor:

Search Committee Chair, Department of Anesthesiology - The Nominations and Elections Committee nominated David August, Gatt Charles, Darlene Gibbon, Gaurav Gupta, Rajan Gupta, Kim Hirshfield, Juana Hutchinson-Colas, Thomas Kearney, James McKinney, M. Maral Mouradian, Renee Riggs, Jag Sunderram, Archana Tyagi, Grant Wei, Harvey Weiss, Jacqueline Williams-Phillips, Lee Yi-Horng. Ranita Sharma was nominated from the floor.

5. Faculty Council Report - Dr. Aisner, Faculty Council President

- On January 20th Faculty Council met with Philip Mesisca, MBA, CMPE, Senior Associate Dean for Finance and Operations, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School details of this meeting can be found in the minutes of this meeting.
- The Council's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 5PM in CAB 1302 (and in Piscataway via videoconferencing)
- Minutes of the Council may be viewed on the Council website. Faculty wishing to place items on the agenda of an upcoming Council meeting may contact either Ruthe Geardino. (Ruthe.Geardino@rwjms.rutgers.edu), or Dr. Joseph Aisner (aisnerjo@cinj.rutgers.edu)

New Business

6. Dean Gracias asked for new business. Being none, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Walker
Secretary of the Faculty