MEMBERS PRESENT

Anesthesiology:
Biochemistry Molecular Biology: Drs. Brewer, Erickan Abali, Gelines, Hampsey, Kinzy, Stock
Dermatology:
Emergency Medicine: Dr. Riggs, Wei
Environmental and Occupational Medicine: Drs. Gochfeld, Kipen,
Family Medicine: Drs. Jahn, Lansing, Like, Risimini, Tallia
Medicine: Drs. Bhowmick, Steinberg, Weinstein
Neurology: Dr. Dhib-Jalbut
Neuroscience and Cell Biology: DiCicco-Bloom, McAuliffe, Moorman, Pintar, Suss, Varia
Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences: Drs. Bachmann, Gibbon, Segal
Ophthalmology:
Orthopaedic Surgery:
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine: Drs. Amenta, Goodell, Hitchcock, Kirn, Kuriyan, Soto, Tenorio
Pediatrics: Drs. Drachtman, Mehta
Pharmacology: Drs. Langer, Rabson, Roth, Walworth
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation:
Psychiatry: Drs. Cutting, Lebeau, Menza, Saks
Radiation Oncology:
Radiology:
Surgery: Drs. August, Dombrovskiy, Goldsmith, Gracias, Graham, Lemaire, Shiroff, Spotnitz, Taylor, Weiss

1. The minutes of the September 24, 2012 Faculty meeting were approved.

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

   • The Dean expressed thanks to all the faculty and staff of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and all members of the RWJUH team for their assistance and teamwork during Hurricane Sandy and its aftermath.

      o An automail was sent to all UMDNJ faculty, students and staff dated November 20, 2012, concerning available resources to those who suffered Superstorm Sandy related losses and reminds everyone to avail yourself of these services if you are in need.
The Dean recognized and thanked Denise V. Rodgers, MD, the interim president of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey for her leadership during the crisis and Stephen K. Jones, for his invaluable communication and assistance throughout that week.

The following is a brief summary regarding some of our activities and efforts during the immediate recovery phase:

In the area of Research:

- Chairs and institute directors were sent a spreadsheet to document losses; any additions will still be accepted. The process of identifying potential funds is ongoing; faculty with losses specific to an external grant can contact the program to see if funds are available to replace resources. The university insurance and any claims through the university’s insurance are still under review.

In the Clinical Practice area:

- We are estimating an approximate loss of $100,000 in medications/vaccines; we are working with manufacturers and other agencies to replace these.

- Over 4,000 ambulatory care visits were canceled during the week and in order to help accommodate some of these our providers and staff have added 69 new sessions and extended 65 sessions.

- Follow up on our processes will occur in concert with a task force under the leadership of Sharon Holswade and Rob Prodoehl. Chairs and institute directors will be receiving an invitation to a meeting scheduled for January 8th to debrief and look at lessons learned from this storm as well as preparedness across RWJMS. The RWJMG Clinical Care and Operations committees and the RWJMS research committee will be engaged to look at the output from that task force.

Earlier this month, the Rutgers Boards of Governors and Trustees voted unanimously to approve the changes outlined in the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act. This act, will take effect July 1, 2013, and transfers to Rutgers nearly all of the schools, institutes, and centers of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

The Eric B. Chandler Health Center hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony on October 9, 2012 for its new satellite located in the New Brunswick High School. Services will include medical care, comprehensive dental, and social services which began on November 19th. This was a collaborative effort between Johnson and Johnson, UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, the Eric B. Chandler Health Center Community Board, the New Brunswick Board of Education, the office of the Mayor of New Brunswick, New Brunswick Development Corporation and the Foundation of UMDNJ.
Dr. Amenta recognized and offered congratulations to the following faculty members:

- James Millonig, PhD, associate professor of neuroscience and cell biology and a member of the Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine. Dr. Millonig and his collaborators: Linda Brzustowicz, MD, professor and chair of genetics at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and Neda Gharani, PhD, senior research scientist at the Coriell Institute are the recipients of the coveted Edison Patent Award from the Research & Development Council of New Jersey. The award recognizes a UMDNJ patent for research that established an association between Engrailed Homeobox 2, (EN2), and a gene involved in human development, and susceptibility for autism and related disorders. The Research & Development Council of New Jersey presented the award to Dr. Millonig and his team on Thursday, November 8.

- Dr. Alfred Tallia on his publication in Health Affairs. The article authored by Dr. Tallia and his team reports on the three-phase development of the ACO to date, the challenges it has faced and solutions to those challenges and enabling factors that have contributed to its success so far.

- Bruce Haffty, MD, Professor and Chair of Radiation Oncology, as he has been named President-Elect of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO). Dr. Haffty began his 4 year term at the ASTRO’s Annual Meeting, which took place October 28 – 31, 2012.

- Robert Like, MD, Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health, as he has been invited to be a member of the inaugural class of the W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute Senior Fellows. The Cobb Senior Fellows will be comprised of those who have distinguished themselves broadly in addressing healthcare disparities through work in research, clinical care and/or mentoring.

- Kusum Punjabi, MD, MBA, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, on her election as the President of the Young Physicians Section of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin and Member-at-large of the Women’s Physician Congress of the American Medical Association

Dr. Amenta updated the faculty on the status of active search committees. He reported the following:

- Chair, Department of Medicine – Search committee was charged on November 20, 2012
- Chair, Department of Surgery - Search committee will be charged on December 4, 2012
- Chair, Department of Dermatology - Search committee was charged on September 25th.

Dr. Amenta informed the faculty on the following Upcoming Events at RWJMS:

December 11, 2012 - 4:00 PM - 2nd Annual Ira B. Black Memorial Lecture
Main Auditorium Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Reception to follow in the Great Hall
Speaker: Lloyd Greene, PhD
3. **RWJMS Faculty Council Report** - Nancy Walworth, RWJMS Faculty Council President

The Council has had a slow start this academic year. As a result of bylaws changes to account for the reorganization of the basic science departments and the departure of the RWJMS-Camden faculty, faculty elections to standing committees and the Council, which normally take place during the summer months, were delayed until late September. Following the completion of the election, the Council remained one member short. The Nominations and Elections Committee is assembling a slate of candidates to include faculty in the one department from which the final member of the Council must be elected. A Council meeting scheduled for October 30, 2012 was canceled due to the arrival of Hurricane Sandy.

While the newly configured Council for this academic year has yet to meet, areas of interest for the coming months are likely to include the following:

- Assess the relationship of the Council to faculty governance structures at Rutgers and within Rutgers-Biomedical and Health Sciences
- Contribute to integration of RWJMS with Rutgers where possible and appropriate
- Continue to encourage communication with the Dean and the administration
- Continue to initiate discussions regarding issues of concern to the Faculty
Recently, members of the Faculty raised the following issues:

Following the hurricane, several faculty communicated concerns regarding the status of backup power in research buildings on campus. For example, while there is backup power in the research tower in Piscataway, information as to the location of outlets that are connected to backup power systems is limited to non-existent, putting at risk the products of years of research.

Faculty received notice of the intention of the State of New Jersey to increase the fringe benefit rate for state employees from 37.95% for FY2012 (up from 35.15% in FY2011) to 45.45% for FY2013. Since large increases were not included in budgets for grant-funded salaries, the impact on grant dollars available for research activities other than salaries could be significant.

The faculty at UMDNJ has been without a contract for several years. UMDNJ opened contract negotiations with the union representing the faculty (AAUP) and circulated a contract proposal to the faculty by e-mail, the contents of which have generated concern.

In the process of conducting the faculty election in September, the consequences of designating departments as clinical or preclinical became apparent, particularly in light of the reorganization of the basic science departments, which eliminated two preclinical departments. There are now 17 clinical departments at the medical school and three pre-clinical or basic science departments. The RWJMS bylaws stipulate that six members of the Council must come from clinical departments and six from preclinical departments, with no more than two from any one department. As a result, each of the preclinical departments must contribute two faculty members to the Faculty Council.

The next meeting of the Faculty Council is scheduled for Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. in CAB1302 in New Brunswick and the Dean’s Conference Room in Piscataway

Meeting minutes, links to items of interest and Council reports to the Faculty can be found on the Faculty Council website at: http://rwjms.umdnj.edu/faculty/council/related.html

New Business

4. Dean Amenta asked for new business. Being none, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Spotnitz
Secretary of the Faculty