Executive Council Meeting – Minutes/cak
January 12, 2016 at 5PM

Faculty Members: William Bina, MD-Chair; Samuel Shillcutt, PhD-Vice Chair; Carolyn Klatt, MLIS-Secretary to the Faculty; Richard Elliott, MD; Ron Garner, PhD; Anna Krampl, MLIS; James Thomas, PhD; Robert Visalli, PhD; Yudan Wei, MD, PhD; Butch Wolff, MD; Zhi-Qing Zhao, MD

Student Council Representatives: Carmen Lee

Non-voting Members: Standing Committee Chairs- Ron Garner, PhD; Eric Shaw, PhD; James Knapp, PhD; Jon Shuman, PhD; Mike Smith, PhD; Tina Thompson, PhD

Ex officio Members: Marie Dent, PhD; Wayne Glasgow, PhD; Alice Aumann House, MD; E.S. Prakash, MD; Robert J. Shelley, MD; Jean Sumner, MD; Tina Thompson, PhD

I. Dean Bina called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. The minutes for the January 12, 2016 meeting were approved.

III. No old business

IV. No new business

V. Reports from the Standing Committees
   A. Admissions Dr. Garner
      There have been 99 offers of admission, with three declines. Thirty-eight GAP (Guaranteed Admissions Program) students were interviewed. There are 38 students to rank on the regular pool accept list for this month. There are discussions in progress with Dr. Shuman and the bylaws committee on redoing the bylaws for meeting purposes.
   B. Curriculum & Instruction Dr. Thompson
      Clinical Skills was reviewed and both short term and long term action items were identified to be addressed. The long term action items will be addressed in the curriculum revision and the short term are for the class of 2019. The Internal Medicine Accelerated Track Subcommittee has come up with a modification of the curriculum and there will be a meeting following the Executive Council meeting to make sure that it is ready to go to the CIC for approval so that the Internal Medicine Accelerated Track can move forward in June.
   C. Faculty Promotions & Tenure Dr. Smith
      Letters were sent to the Dean.
   D. Library & Learning Resources Dr. Chase
      No report. Next meeting February 17, 2016
   E. Nominating Dr. Shaw
      It will soon be time to work with Dr. Dent to survey the faculty for interest in different committees
   F. Research Dr. Knapp
Progress is being made on the web page. Anna Krampl will be able to implement updated webpages for the Macon division of basic medical sciences by next month. There are five Savannah clinical faculty members that currently have research webpages. In addition, webpages for five additional Savannah clinical faculty members are being made. Carolyn Klatt is working on Savannah webpages. A second round of invitations to present oral and poster presentations at the research symposium have been sent to the faculty of the School of Medicine. Drs. Russ and Visalli are putting together a joint meeting with the faculty of the department and the members of the Grants and Contracts office to determine a set of terms and policies that faculty can use to communicate more effectively with the Grants office.

G. Rules and Bylaws
   Dr. Shuman
   No report.

H. Student Appraisal & Promotions
   Dr. Burke
   No report.

I. House of Delegates
   Dr. Placzek
   Dr. Thomas reported that the House of Delegates Research Committee is working to help develop a way to assist faculty who have not had much or any experience doing research to learn more about the process. Promotion and Tenure requirements are more astringent now regarding publishing. Dr. Dent mentioned that the IAMSE series is devoted to research and it might be helpful. She will send information to Dr. Susan Codone at the Teaching and Learning Center.

VI. Student Representative Report
   The Student Council is still working on bylaws. There will be a town hall meeting on January 26.

VII. Administrative updates
   A. Academic and Curricular Affairs Update
      Dr. Thompson reported that there were five failures on the Host Defense exam. There was a range in scores from 56 to 97 percent on the exam. There were nine failures on the Pulmonology exam. The range in scores was from 51 to 89 percent on the exam. All students who have failed have already had their counseling meeting or are scheduled to have it this week. One student in the Class of 2019 has been put on a leave of absence for academic reasons. One student in the Class of 2014 has been dismissed for failure to meet the requirements for graduation.

   B. Admissions Update
      Thirty eight Guaranteed Admission Program students were interviewed.

   C. Student Affairs Update
      Dr. Roche reported that two students were accepted through the San Francisco Match. Five military students matched through the Armed Services in December. The match process for the other students will start in January. The DiSC program will be featured at a Service and
Learning Symposium on January 30 in the Macon School of Medicine auditorium. Dean Bina mentioned that as students prepare for the match, he is available to provide them with consultation, encouragement, and advice.

D. Faculty Affairs and Development Update
Dr. Dent reported that on January 29 Jennifer Boryk-Ratner will present a grant writing workshop in Macon for Mercer School of Medicine and Mercer undergraduate students. The six session winter IAMSE seminar series on Research in Health Sciences Education is in progress. The first session was last week and is being repeated due to technical difficulties. It will be every Thursday for the next six weeks. Drs. Dent, Glasgow and Visalli met with Dr. Petruzzelli, who is with ACI, and they will be doing a joint research colloquium with Memorial probably April 21 during a Grand Rounds. Friday Dr. Dent will meet with the person who is going to be providing training for team based learning. The dates will be March 15 in Macon and March 16 in Savannah. Dr. Dent will be sharing further details later. Dr. Glasgow reported that we are continuing to work with the leadership of the Georgia Research Alliance. They will be in Macon on Monday, January 25 and will be meeting with Dr. Glasgow, the president and the provost with a focus on capital equipment for research most likely for Savannah for the first piece, and funding for start-up packages for recruitment in the next fiscal year. Craig Sullivan with TreMonti Consulting, that provides strategic programs and intellectual management services, is coming to Savannah next week with a proposal of what they can do for us as a university in terms of faculty that have projects moving into potential commercialization. They have worked with Emory and Georgia Tech.

E. Hospital Administrators Update
No report.

F. Diversity and Inclusion Updates
No report.

VIII. Deans’ Updates
Dr. House asked Dr. Wolff to report on St. Francis being officially bought by Lifepoint, a for profit corporation with seventy small to medium sized hospitals. St. Francis will be one of their larger. Lifepoint is interested in expanding the institution and they are committed to continuing Mercer School of Medicine education and exploring the possibility for Graduate Medical Education. The new CEO is David Koontz.

Dr. Shelley reported that Savannah got an official certificate of occupancy for the Hoskins Building before the first of the year which qualified us for a multimillion dollar new market tax credit. The library has not moved yet. We are waiting on furniture and hope to have everyone in the building by the end of the month. We are waiting for Otis Elevator to install a badge reader for security on an elevator.
Dr. Bina reported that we are waiting on the close of the first six months of the University budget. Dr. Bina is waiting to approve travel to see what the situation will be. At the University level, the law school is down in enrollment as are the theology school and the school of education. Some positions at the School of Medicine are on hold. We have been putting off hiring but will hire a few classified positions probably in July. School of Medicine challenges include no tuition increases in five years and Mercer Medicine losses. We are continuing to recruit for open positions, but when faculty will come on board is dependent on the budget. We will increase the number of students in Savannah with the class of 2020. There are two open positions in the basic sciences in Savannah and another position in community medicine. Dr. Elliott asked about training program opportunities with Coliseum. Dr. Bina explained that Coliseum is a Hospital Corporation of America hospital. HCA is a for profit hospital chain based in Nashville. They own hundreds of hospitals. Over the past 4 or 5 years they have developed their own Graduate Medical Education programs, starting in California and Florida. Coliseum wants to eventually have over 100 residents in training, but they are starting with Internal Medicine with 8 or 9 residents per year and four in Psychiatry per year. Their residency programs will begin in 2017. We are in discussion with them regarding Mercer becoming an academic sponsor in terms of faculty appointments, use of the library, and other resources, but not funding. Our principle hospitals for 3rd and 4th year students will remain Navicient, Columbus Regional, St. Francis, and Memorial.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Dates to remember:
- 2015 Annual Faculty meeting April 26, 2016
  4:30-5:00 President Underwood/Provost will address the faculty
  5:00 – Annual Faculty Meeting begins
- Next Executive Council Meeting, ECRs, 5:00 p.m. January 12, 2015