



# UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

## FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine  
Minutes of the February 11, 2013 meeting  
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Red Room, Donnelly Centre

**Members Present:** K. Pritzker (Speaker), I. Witterick, C. Woodland, C. Whiteside, V. Kurdyak, C. Turenko, S. Spadafora, C. Streutker, J. MacDougall, K. Berg, A. Jakubowski, S. Verma, D. Anastakis, A. Rachlis, P. Houston, A. La Delfa, D. Templeton, P. Hamel, G. McSheffrey, N. Jaber, B. Scarth, G. Bandiera, F. Miller, D. Balaban, A. Buchan, R. Hegele, C. Hu, S. Rappolt, B. Ballios, E. Wong, A. Gotlieb

**Regrets:** A. Brown, S. Tung, P. Catton, S. Mahant, Y. Yunusova, B. Papsin

---

### Call to Order

The Speaker called the meeting to order and noted that there was a quorum.

#### 1. Minutes of the previous meeting of Faculty Council – October 22, 2012

The minutes of the meeting of October 22, 2012 had been previously circulated. They were approved on a motion from S. Verma and seconded by S. Spadafora.

##### 1.1 Business Arising

The following was moved by D. McKnight and seconded by A. Gotlieb:

“THAT the consideration of the question of the Guidelines for Relations with Industry in MD Training be resumed”

The motion passed.

This resumed the discussion of the motion moved by I. Witterick and seconded by D. McKnight:

“THAT the Relationships with Industry and the Educational Environment in Undergraduate and Postgraduate Medical Education be approved as submitted”

Dr. McKnight reminded Council that the discussion had been deferred in order to allow additional consultation with MedSoc. Brian Scarth, MedSoc President, informed Council that the student group has met with Dr. McKnight and their concerns have been resolved. They are now prepared to support the motion. There was no further discussion and the Chair called the motion to a vote.

The motion passed.

#### 2. Report from the Speaker

Dr. Pritzker indicated that the Striking Committee would be meeting in advance of the coming Faculty Council meeting to prepare a list of nominees for the Standing Committees of Council. He encouraged all members to consider making nominations to the Standing Committees as the desire is to have more than one nominee for each available position.

Dr. Pritzker also noted that the pending amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws are currently in final review by the Agenda Committee's Working Group and will be coming to Council following approval at the Standing Committees.

### **3. Reports from the Dean's Office**

#### **3.1 Report from the Dean's Office**

Dean Whiteside indicated that the following was the follow up to a process that began Fall and invited Professor Stephen Matthews to read a letter to Council (dated November 19, 2012 and included in the minutes). Dean Whiteside then read a letter from herself to the Speaker of Faculty Council (dated November 20, 2012 and included in the minutes). Dean Whiteside invited questions and, upon receiving none, indicated that she considered the matter now closed.

- 3.1.a Dean Whiteside invited Deputy Dean Sarita Verma to speak to the Strategic Plan Year 1 Activity Report. Dean Verma indicated that there has been progress on all six of the goals outlined in the Strategic Plan and that some of the major themes have been interdisciplinary and interprofessional activity and the collaboration between internal and external partners. She noted that performance indicators are being identified and sorted into four categories: Primary, Academic, Research, and Accreditation.

Among the primary performance indicators is researchers citing U of T on publications as an accurate assessment of productivity. Currently (Fall 2012) 80.3% of U of T researchers cite U of T and the goal is 85% for Spring 2014. In addition, integrated academic data management will allow for efficient access to Faculty data and the goal for Spring 2013 is to design and deploy a data system. There are also goals for the indicators of alumni relations (progression toward meaningful alumni relations across all units) and fundraising revenue to support academic priorities (\$40M for Spring 2013 from \$20.7M in Fall 2012)

Dean Verma noted that the Academic Indicators include data collection in the areas of applications, enrolment, time to degree, awards, academic achievement, employment after graduation. She also identified some Research Indicators as measures of productivity, impact, funding share and grant captures.

#### **3.2 Vice-Dean, Research & International Relations**

Dr. Buchan indicated that CIHR is going through changes in that the open operating grants will cease to exist in 2014. Dr. Buchan's office is working on plans to aid in the transition. She encourages all members to go to the CIHR website and review the new process and implementation dates. In addition, there they are exploring additional funding sources. She also noted that there are a number of international initiatives that have been active in China, Brazil and Europe and that 'National Champions' are being created to be primary contacts for specific areas who will target researchers active in these regions.

#### **3.3 Vice-Deans, Education**

Dr. Spadafora indicated that UME Vice-Dean Jay Rosenfield will return from Administrative Leave at the end of February and thanked Dr. Patricia Houston for her contributions as Acting Vice-Dean over the past 6 months. Upon his return, Dr. Rosenfield will assume the title Vice-Dean, Undergraduate Medical Professions Education and will be responsible for the MD program, the Physician Assistant Program, and

the Medical Radiation Sciences Programs. In addition, UME is heavily engaged in project planning around the areas of non-compliance identified in the 2012 Accreditation report.

Dr. Spadafora indicated that PGME remains heavily engaged in preparing for the April 7-12, 2013 Accreditation Visit. PGME has also recently reviewed, revised and approved the Guidelines for Addressing Intimidation, Harassment and Other Kinds of Unprofessional or Disruptive Behaviour in Postgraduate Medical Education, and Postgraduate Trainee Health and Safety Guidelines.

CEPD is making final preparations for its Committee on Accreditation of Continuing Medical Education visit which will be held March 20-22, 2013. Individual faculty, members of partner organizations and our various committee members will be meeting with the two external surveyors during this two-day schedule.

The Educational Innovations Office will soon be a newly established unit in the Faculty of Medicine designed to support and promote the authors of educational products and services with copyright and commercialization issues. In addition, the new office will assist in providing oversight on contracts and agreements currently not managed by the University's research arm.

The Vice-Dean of Graduate Affairs has been revised to reflect a growing portfolio, and is now the Vice-Dean, Graduate and Life Sciences Education. The office requests that references to their old title be updated on any online or paper documentation.

The Education Achievement Celebration will be held on Tuesday May 7, 2013 from 4:00 - 7:00 pm at Hart House. The keynote speaker for this year's event is Adalsteinn Brown (Department of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation).

#### **4. New Business**

##### **5.1 Education Committee**

The following was moved by I. Witterick and seconded by S. Spadafora:

“THAT the Statement on Protection of Personal Health Information be approved as submitted”

Dr. Glen Bandiera, Associate Dean, PGME (Admissions and Evaluation), indicated that the Statement was first put forward in 2009 and was reviewed by the Education Committee. The Committee at that time expressed some concerns about the limited scope of the document with respect to changing technology. The document is intended to be a guide to the protection of personal health information in the context of the learning environment. The document now includes CEPD and BScPA within its jurisdiction. He noted that due to the nature of the learning/working clinical environment, learners will come into contact with personal health information and it is important that they be aware of the responsibility that comes with this. The guidelines needed to specifically reference PHIPA in that hospitals are required to take reasonable steps to ensure that personal health information is not stolen, lost or copied. He noted that in the event of a breach there would be a responsibility to disclose this information.

The motion passed.

The following was moved by I. Witterick and seconded by S. Verma:

“THAT, as of the 2014-15 academic year, the BScPA Program starts in the Fall semester.”

The Speaker invited Dr. Maureen Gottesman, Medical Director, Physician Assistant Professional Degree Program, to speak to the motion. Dr. Gottesman indicated that the BScPA Program currently begins in the Winter term despite most university programs beginning in the Fall. Changing the start date would better align the Program with the traditional academic cycle. The proposed change would begin in September 2014 and would result in a skewed double cohort for 2014-2015 (as there would also be an intake in January 2014). The cohort of students scheduled to start in January 2013 will not be impacted.

Dr. Gottesman noted that the schedule shift will allow the Program to address feedback from both students and faculty on how the course is structured. She identified some minor adjustments to the course schedules that will be required. The change would also allow better alignment with the Physician Assistant National Certification Exam schedule as students currently write the October exam while still in the program where all other Canadian programs finish prior to the exam leaving U of T students with a self-reported disadvantage. Finally, the new schedule would prove better for student job searches due to the Ontario PA Graduate Employment Initiative expectation that students sign employment contracts in the Fall

The motion passed.

The following was moved by I. Witterick and seconded by A. Gottlieb:

“THAT, the Guidelines Regarding Infectious Diseases and Occupational Health for Applicants to and Learners of the Faculty of Medicine Academic Programs be approved as submitted”

Dr. Mary Vearncombe indicated that the goal of the Guidelines is to protect learners from infectious diseases and, in doing so, to protect their colleagues and patients. She noted that legal counsel advice was sought after the Education Committee and a paragraph was added to the document to make it clear that information must be disclosed. Specifically, disclosure of information to the CPSO is required by anyone seeking a license, educational or otherwise. Dean Verma thanked Dr. Vearncombe and the Expert Panel for their leadership in the creation of this document. Dr. Vearncombe thanked the Faculty for their innovation in this area.

The motion passed.

### **5.3 Graduate Education Committees**

The following was moved by A. Gottlieb and seconded by A. Buchan:

“THAT the proposal to establish a collaborative program in Musculoskeletal Sciences be approved as submitted.”

Dr. Ben Alman indicated that there is currently an increase in musculoskeletal disorders. The proposed program will focus on education and the training of graduate students in musculoskeletal research. The University of Toronto has faculty who constitute one of the largest musculoskeletal research communities in the world. Advances in these areas are converging to allow for major advances in translating research to musculoskeletal care and health, and this collaborative program will build on this community to provide a unique education and training program.

The program will foster graduate education, training and research in musculoskeletal sciences by bringing numerous but dispersed graduate students together with musculoskeletal researchers within the University of Toronto in a focused and purposeful way and encouraging collaboration across a wide spectrum of medical-related disciplines within the University through the core course and seminar series. There is currently only one other similar program in North America at the University of Rochester. This program will allow graduate students in different disciplines to be supported by the Institute of Medical Science, and the Musculoskeletal Centre, an EDU:C focused on interdisciplinary musculoskeletal research.

The motion passed.

The speaker noted that the Memorandum on Ethical Conduct of Research has been included in the materials package for information and asked the members to review the document.

## **5. Standing Committee Annual Reports**

### **5.1 BScPA Board of Examiners**

Dr. Ronn Goldberg was not able to attend but provided the following notes to be read into the minutes by the Speaker:

- The BOE has met 4 times since last year's report.
- 4 Students have been brought before the BOE. Two of whom were presented twice.
- 1 student was placed on remediation.
- 1 student was granted a supplemental examination.
- 1 student failed two courses and was required to repeat these courses.
- 1 student failed three courses and had several minor lapses in professionalism and was dismissed from the program. This decision was upheld by the Appeals Committee.

### **6.1 Appeals Committee**

Dr. Doug Templeton noted that in the time since he's been Chair (since July 2010) there have been only two appeals and both were in the latter half of 2012. Both were dismissals (from MRS and BScPA respectively) and both were upheld. He noted that in his earlier in his tenure the appeals were more frequent, were more contentious and often resulted in split votes. He noted that it was his opinion that this indicates that the Boards of Examiners are functioning well. He indicated that the programs' thorough documentation significantly aides the Appeals Committee and believes that the appeals seen during his tenure as Chair have been a result in flaws in the admissions process. Dean Whiteside thanked Dr. Templeton and all those who have involvement in the Boards of Examiners and the Appeals Committee.

### **6. Faculty Council Forum**

Dean Whiteside presented a forum on the effect of the current financial climate on the Faculty of Medicine.

### **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm