

Dean's Faculty Advisory Council
University of Tennessee, College of Medicine

Date

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Burt Sharp, at 12:03 PM on January 3, 2022, on the Zoom online platform due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Attendance

The following members were present:

Penny A. Asbell, MD, Kevin Beier, MD, EM, Suleiman W. Bahouth, PhD, Dave Bhattacharya, MD, Mark Bugnitz, MD, Terry Cooper, PhD, Denis DiAngelo, PhD, Mitch Dizon, MD, Ian Gray, MD, Jensen Hyde, MD, Chris Ledbetter, MD, F. Matthew Mihelic, MD, Haavi Morreim, JD, PhD, Katherine Nearing, MD, Lawrence Pfeffer, PhD, Crystal Pourciau, MD, Reese Scroggs, PhD, Burt Sharp, MD, Claudette Shephard, MD, Laura Sprabery, MD, Neena Thomas-Gosain, MD, Jerome Thompson, MD, MBA, Joe Willmitch, MPAS, PA-C, Thad Wilson, PhD

The following guest(s) was (were) present:

Scott Strome, MD, Teresa Hartnett, EdD, Polly Hofmann, PhD

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. Minutes had previously been distributed by electronic means.

Business

Dean Strome provided an update on CoM affairs. We continue to focus on diversity and inclusion, to identify new avenues for improvement. We have just hired new chair for the Department of OB-Gyn. Additionally, Dr. David Schwartz is new radiologic oncology, and Dr. Richard Walker is the new chair of emergency medicine. We expect soon to have a new chair of Plastic Surgery. Negotiations with Methodist Healthcare surrounding pathology services are ongoing. Late this month or early next month we should have additional information from ACGME regarding probation, and Dr. Strome is optimistic that various ongoing problem-solving efforts will satisfy their concerns. The LCME survey results are also forthcoming and, as we learn, many of the concerns are from prior to 2020. We are in much better shape than several years ago, notwithstanding the need to make several improvements. Regarding community outreach and the new HealthHub, this new outreach will attempt to provide primary care service for everyone who needs it.

Dr. Strome also identified other developments. This year we will be changing the evaluation process for chairs. It will include a component for productivity/research, a metric for diversity and inclusion, and another new metric for timeliness of issuing grades. He noted that we are planning our first CoM gala, likely to be scheduled for a year from now or thereabouts. Followup DFAC questions concerned how research will be measured, and Dr. Strome indicated that, although research funding will be part of the measurement, grant submissions and non-funded publications will also count. Dr. Strome will encourage DFAC input on how best to frame these metrics for evaluating department chairs.

Finally, this year the CoM will be engaged in strategic planning for education, with both junior and senior faculty involved.

Dr. Teresa Hartnett, Associate Dean for Finance & Administration. She provided a "tour" of the capital flow in the CoM, including how capital flows within the research enterprise. She reported that we are in fairly good, albeit not great, shape financially. She presented information on various sources of funding into the CoM: from donors, external funders, tuition/fees, state appropriations, etc. In addition to state-appropriated "orange" dollars and other outside funding, we receive significant funding for GME (over \$200M/year, over half of which is for the Memphis campus alone). GME money comes initially into hospitals, who forward the appropriate amounts to the CoM for paying residents, clinical faculty (to some extent), etc. The third major category of funding comes from clinical practices via insurance companies, etc. At this point we have 8 faculty practice groups. These funds go to the practice groups themselves and to their associated health systems. Some related funding also comes from health systems, e.g. Erlanger in Chattanooga.

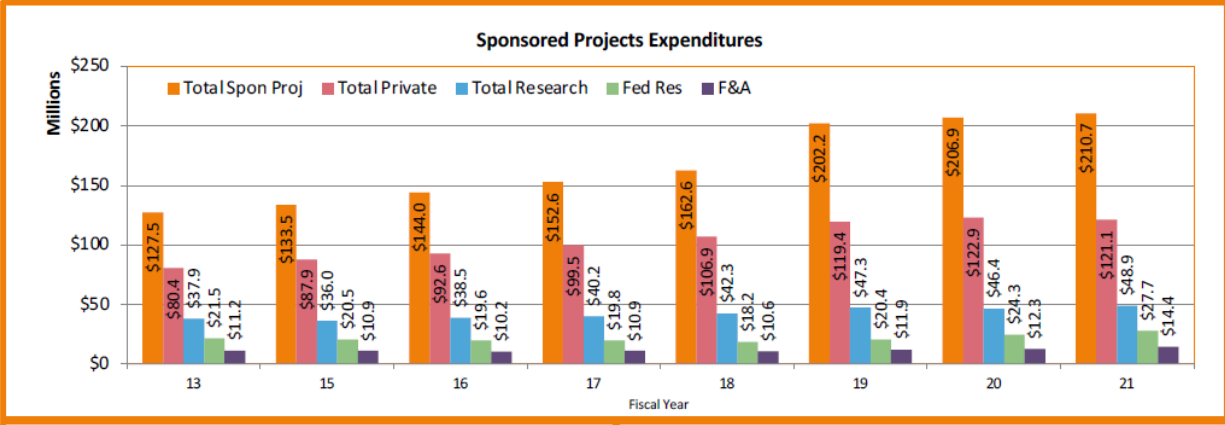
UT's state "orange" dollars tend to be the most discretionary, unlike, eg, NIH funds. Across the state, total all-source funding exceeds \$700 million. That \$700 million does not all flow through UTHSC. They count for LCME purposes, but noting that, the CoM is about 40% of the UTHSC total funding. Overall about 82% of the total income is in Memphis, 9% West TN Family Medicine, 8% Knoxville, 3% Chattanooga. Until 2018, state appropriations were distinct as 3 separate budgets; since then, the funds have been consolidated into one UTHSC entity.

The Memphis CoM recurring state budget has not grown significantly over the years, hence other sources of revenue are needed for growth. Of note, medical student debt has been significantly reduced since 2019. Until two years ago, our out-of-state tuition was very expensive – higher than the cost of attending Vanderbilt medical school. Out-of-state tuition is now markedly reduced. Additionally, UT CoM medical students are now provided with financial literacy training, which further helps reduce debt for the student body as a whole.

Regarding F&A payments: At this time the UTHSC retains 90% of indirect funding, with a projected \$1.4 million to be returned to the COM, while last year UTHSC retained all the F&A in order to build up reserves that had been depleted too far as various campus build-up had been occurring. In addition, the cost of the research incentive (~\$2.4 million per year) was shifted to the COM beginning last year. One effort by the CoM, going forward, will be to work with the new chancellor to direct more F&A money that is generated by the CoM, back to the CoM. For last year and the current year, the actual amount of F&A money generated by the CoM was \$12.3 million and \$14.4 million, respectively. Other colleges receive a similar % of their college-generated F&A money.

DFAC questions concerned such matters as how much of state funding goes into faculty salaries. Of our ~\$55 million from the state (Memphis campus), 82% goes to faculty and staff salaries and, of that, 82% is for faculty salaries.

Dr. Hartnett provided a chart depicting sponsored projects expenditures. She noted that, on that chart, the blue "Total Research" bar excludes GME and other external funding for non-research purposes.



Pres. Sharp then offered "open mike" time for DFAC members to offer their questions, comments and concerns. With few questions from the floor, Dr. Sharpe concluded the meeting by noting it is hoped that the new chancellor will join us for the March DFAC meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on February 7, 2022, at 12:00n CT / 1pm ET by Zoom.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Haavi Morreim, JD, PhD
Secretary