

Faculty of Health Sciences
School of Medicine Academic Council (SOMAC)
Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday, March 23, 2010
Bioscience Complex, Room 1102, @ 4:30 p.m.

CHAIR: D. Walker, Director of the School of Medicine

Guest: B. Brouwer, Associate Dean, in the School of Graduate Studies

1. Call to Order

D. Walker called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with approximately 65 people present.

2. Approval of Minutes of meeting held December 15, 2009

It was moved by B. Bennett and seconded by R. Deeley that the minutes of December 15, 2009 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

3. Announcements

D. Walker reported on the following announcements:

• **Teaching Hospitals**

The Hotel Dieu Hospital has been told they can go to tender for its major reconstruction. The Kingston General Hospital is currently completing their phase II construction and the Providence Care facility awaits the news that they will get a new hospital at King West.

• **Medical School Building**

The construction of the new Medical Building is currently on schedule and on budget. The funding from the Government stipulates that the building be completed by March 2011. The price tag put on the new building was 77M and we have raised 16M of the 19M expected from the Faculty of Health Sciences. There will be extensive renovations done to Botterell Hall and R. Deeley will oversee this project.

• **CaRMs Match**

It was reported that 95% of our medical students have matched in the first round and the other 5% will be matched in the second round. It was noted that 30% of our graduating class were couples.

• **Dean's Letter**

There will be a terminal Dean's letter coming out sometime between now and June.

4. Academic Affairs: Basic Science Restructuring

• **Clarification of the Graduate Program**

I. Young reported that he would like to clarify a few issues that have arisen since AGoR issued their final proposal.

1. **Clarification of Graduate Program Administration in the integrated department – I.**

Young reported that there would be no change to how the Graduate School administers

their graduate programs in a new integrated department. There will be no change to the reporting mechanism and no change to any decision making process to what we currently have in the Faculty. It was made clear that the chart (appendix 4) from the proposal solely shows the functional and communicative linkages between the graduate programs and the various divisions and committees that would support them.

2. **The Addendum** – I. Young reported that the addendum attached to the agenda was added and approved by the School of Medicine Executive (SOME). I. Young read out the addendum and explained that the divisions placed on the chart (appendix 4) were only suggestions by AGoR. If the proposal is approved, the names of the divisions will then have to be collectively decided on. Following approval there will be a detailed planning process put into place.

Procedure for Voting on the Proposal put forward by AGoR

Before discussion of the proposal, D. Walker asked the members in attendance if there were any procedural issues that anyone would like to address.

T. Massey moved that the vote on restructuring occur by written secret ballot, seconded by B. MacKillop. Majority was in favour of the secret ballot. Carried.

D. Walker read out the membership and eligible voters of the School of Medicine Academic Council (SOMAC) as is currently written in the Terms of Reference.

D. Walker thanked the following members of AGoR, Iain Young, Bruce Banfield, Catherine Cahill, Anne Croy, Roger Deeley, Steve Smith, Steve Vanner, Glen Jones, Ken Rose, and John Fisher who laboured over the last year in putting the proposal together.

D. Walker informed the committee members that in light of the constrained budget before us it became apparent that our current structure would not be sustainable. How do we achieve excellence and how do we deploy ourselves in this environment? Hence the proposal put forward for restructuring.

- **Proposal for Organizational Restructuring of the Basic Sciences and Addendum**

D. Walker asked if the committee had any questions before proceeding with the motion put forward on the agenda.

There was a concern of allowing non-union faculty to vote on the proposal that could ultimately change the organization of the union within this School. What are the repercussions should this proposal go through?

D. Walker responded that the constitution of the Faculty of Health Sciences & School of Medicine includes both clinical and basic science faculty. All our faculty members have made other decisions with votes. There have not been any differential votes. We have kept QUFA apprised along the way and they are fully aware of the restructuring proposal and have never expressed concern over the normal practices within our Faculty or School.

Hearing nothing further, D. Walker put forward the following motion:

“That the Proposal for Organizational Restructuring of the Basic Science Departments in the School of Medicine submitted by the Dean’s Advisory Group on Restructuring plus addendum be approved by SOMAC and referred to Faculty Board for decision.”

I. Young moved and M. Adams seconded the motion.

Before discussion, D. Walker reminded the members that under Bourinot’s Rules of Order that members may speak as many times as they wish but not on the same issue.

During discussion the following issues were raised:

- How does the Faculty of Health Sciences Graduate Council (FHSGC) reporting structure be interfaced into the new structure? The reporting structure will remain the same, with the Graduate Coordinators from each department reporting to FHSGC who will in turn report to the Graduate School Executive Committee (GSEC) who will put forward to Senate all graduate issues.
- B. Brouwer explained to the committee that there were concerns on the logistics in particular the terms for the Research Education Committee that will be coming forward with this proposal. She indicated that the SoGS would work with the Faculty of Health Sciences and School of Medicine on these details.
- There was concern that the fiscal environment or financial situation wasn’t included in the proposal. The response was that AGoR decided not to go into detail in this initial stage. The details will be in the implementation.
- The other issue of concern is the “Common Workload document” for everyone within the current five departments when it becomes an integrated department and how to include the collective bargaining unit members who are outside the five departments. What is the feasibility of including them? AGoR originally pushed the idea of a complimentary workload document for the Biomedical QUFA faculty who reside in clinical departments. This requires good faith among all and creating bridges with the clinical departments. The Dean’s office in the end will have to approve the workload document.
- Where is the power going to be? With the amalgamation of five departments into one this will allow the basic scientists more power as a collective, which was discussed.

D. Walker then asked that the ballots be distributed and asked the voters to vote yes, no, or abstain as indicated on the ballot. Once the votes were collected the Chair asked that a member from the room be the returning or validating officer. The votes were opened and the results were as followed:

41	YES
21	NO
3	ABSTAIN

The Chair informed everyone that SOMAC would now forward the proposal to Faculty Board for approval and if approved will then go to Senate for final approval. Implementation will commence immediately once approved by Senate.

The Chair thanked everyone for his or her discussions and work in this endeavour.

5. Undergraduate Medical Education

- **Action Plan for the resolution of outstanding issues resulting from accreditation**

The Chair reported that T. Sanfilippo was unable to attend this meeting but that the action plan is well in hand.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 5:15 p.m.

D. Edgar
Secretary to the School of Medicine