

Dental Senate Steering Meeting
June 27, 2008

Attendees: Drs. Nichols, Nanda, Skinner, Stevens and Zeff
Excused: Dr. Meiers
Guest: Dr. MacNeil

Dr. Nichols announced that the members elected to the Academic Environment Committee are: Clinical Science Representatives - Drs. M. Freilich, J. Meiers, D. Peterson and J. Wagner, and Basic Science Representatives - Drs. R. Stevens and R. Zeff.

The Research Council meeting was held this week and Dr. Zeff attended for Dr. Nichols. This Research Council discussed the Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight Committee (ESCRO) policy regarding the use of induced pluripotent human cells. The Research Council agreed that induced pluripotent human cells do not fall under the Human Embryonic Stem Cell Policy. Dr. Lalande discussed the current ESCRO guidelines which recommend that ESCRO oversight is needed only for 1) in vitro research with genesis of gametes or embryos and other totipotent cells and 2) in vivo research where human stem cells are administered to prenatal animals or when stem cells are injected into the central nervous system of animals. Dr. Upholt, Chair of the Research Council, provided a list of research activities that would fall under the Embryonic Stem Cell Policy. Dr. MacNeil commented that Dr. Bob Kosher has been appointed to the ESCRO committee. A motion was made by Dr. Zeff to forward the Embryonic Stem Cell Policy approved by the Research Council to the Dental Senate. Dr. Nanda seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Nichols forwarded to Ms. Iris Mauriello the Dental Steering' Committee's concerns regarding the Alleged Misconduct Policy of Research. He also forwarded these concerns to the Research Council. Each of the concerns of the Dental Steering Committee were evaluated by the Research Council and their responses are listed in the Research Council minutes. The Research Council pointed out that research misconduct investigations must be completed in 120 days as required by the Office of Research and Integrity of NIH. The Research Council pointed out that the first paragraph of the Alleged Misconduct Policy of Research was redundant since it appeared again on page two. The Research Council recommended removing of the first paragraph of the draft policy. The current Whistleblower Policy is being revised and it is expected that the definition of a whistleblower will be addressed in the Whistleblower Policy. Dr. Nichols said the V.P. of Research will probably be more involved with issues related to research misconduct but that his /her exact role remains to be determined. The Research Council further determined that failure to disclose a financial conflict is adequately addressed by State Statutes and University policies and would not constitute research misconduct. Dr. Zeff motioned to forward the Research Council recommendations to the Dental Senate and this was seconded by Dr. Nanda. The motion was unanimously approved. Dr. MacNeil inquired about the next step following approval of the draft recommendations once approved by Senate. Dr. Nichols indicated that the revised draft policy would be reviewed by the Executive Compliance Committee for final approval. The BOD would be expected to give final approval before Compliance Committee implementation occurs.

The Education Council recommended that Dr. Steven Lepowsky be named as the Director of CERP. He will oversee the ADA CERP accreditation and discipline-based continuing education activities. The ADA recommendations from 2005 need to be addressed in writing

in order to continue CERP certification. Steering feels that each Department Head of the SDM must ensure that their respective continuing education programs are reviewed by Dr. Lepowsky for CERP compliance before the actual continuing education programs occur. Review and certification of continuing education courses should occur before courses are offered in order to be in compliance with CERP. Dr. Lepowsky expects that the required paperwork for the course certification will be provided to him prior to the course is given.

The proposed International Fellowship in Periodontology has received a preliminary review by the Educational Council. The department of Periodontology has proposed a one year fellowship program that will provide additional exposure in periodontology for interested foreign trained dentists who enroll in the one year fellowship program. This is the first postgraduate fellowship program reviewed by the Education Council. Dr. Nichols notified all department heads that existing or planned fellowship programs need to be reviewed and approved by the Dental Senate. Dr. Nichols outlined the concerns addressed by the Education Council regarding the proposed fellowship program in periodontology. Missing from the Periodontology proposal are 1) a dismissal policy and 2) a refund policy. The Education Council feels these concerns are relevant for all fellowship programs and could be addressed as a boiler plate document. Dr. Nanda discussed the organization of the Orthodontics Fellowship Program. Dr. Nichols indicated that a concern with the Periodontology Fellowship program is the treatment of patients by fellows who would otherwise be treated by undergraduates. Because the Dental Council was reorganizing to the Dental Senate last year, there was a lapse in oversight and the Orthodontics Fellowship Program was not reviewed at that time. Dr. Nichols said he must ensure that education program review follows existing governance policy even if programs have started training Fellows. Dr. Nanda said that the structural issues, not the educational issues should be addressed. Dr. MacNeil indicated that our fellowship programs will be reviewed this year, and the Education Council will make recommendations to the Senate for all programs currently in place. Dr. MacNeil feels that Periodontology proposed a fellowship that is up to the standards of the other two existing fellowship programs (Orthodontics and Prosthodontics). It was his understanding that the Education Council will review these programs during the current year and make recommendations for continuation of these programs during the next academic year. Dr. Nichols said that all programs should be held to the same standard. Last year the Orthodontics program was implemented without review by the Dental Council. Dr. Nanda said we need to really define what the Dental Senate should review. Is the Senate going to review whether Orthodontics should offer this fellowship program or is the Senate going to review how the program is structured? There are existing fellowship programs in schools across the country and Orthodontics has modeled its program after the programs currently existing in other schools. Dr. Nichols suggested to Dr. Nanda to think of the Senate approval process as an accreditation review. After programs are reviewed, the Senate will make a recommendation to the Academic Affairs Sub Committee of the BOD as to the faculty endorsement of a fellowship program. Dr. Nanda did not agree and said that the Senate is not an ADA reviewing party for accreditation for the program. Dr. Nichols said that there will be space requirements. If everyone decides to expand their programs where will the space for these expanded programs be assigned? Dr. Nanda said that Senate should decide how to make the fellowship programs better rather than making road blocks; we need to take a positive look. We can help the community and the school, the people who have the resources and space should be encouraged to do it. Dr. Nichols respected Dr. Nanda's views but the Education Council is the body that is responsible to reviewing these postgraduate education programs and making recommendations to the Senate. Dr. MacNeil said the Senate has responsibility for setting the policy and direction for the education programs. These two

words, "policy and direction", can be defined and approached in either a broad or more defined manner. Dr. MacNeil felt that a key issue here is whether the Education Council is reviewing fellowships in general (across the School) and making recommendations for structure going forward, or is Council reviewing the Periodontology application for approval under the existing structure of fellowships. Dr. Nichols felt that we should allow Perio to continue this year as other fellowships have, without approval, and that we hold any decision on acceptance of fellows next year (July, 2009) until the Education Council provides its report this fall. Dr. Nanda suggested that the Senate should discuss the programs already successfully running and what are their issues and the problems. Dr. Nichols said the Educational Council will discuss any boiler plate issues that would apply to any existing fellowship program. Dr. MacNeil suggested a provisional approval for the Periodontology fellowship and Dr. Nichols will forward this proposal to the Educational Council for consideration. Dr. Nanda felt that the process is starting on a negative basis; he is hearing that Dr. Nichols does not like this program and it is not his function as the Chair of the Senate. He added that the Senate function should be to support this exciting program and make it better. Dr. MacNeil said there are pieces that have not been addressed. Dr. Nanda would like a positive outlook from the Education Council and suggestions how to make his program better. Dr. Nichols said that the Senate Steering's responsibility is to forward proposals to the the respective councils and after consideration, refer the Councils recommendations back to the Senate for discussion and action.

Dr. MacNeil felt we should put a hold on any fellowships for the next academic year until a thorough review occurs. By January 1, 2009, we will have the clear indication what the expectations of each fellowship are and all the fellowship will have a chance to submit their program proposals for review and formal approval for next year. Furthermore, the start of the Periodontology fellowship not be delayed because of the timing of this issue.

The accreditation self study was distributed to all faculty. Dr. MacNeil reported that faculty would have one week to provide feedback. Comments will need to be received by August 8 for evaluation. The Senate could provide comments. Dr. Nichols said there will be a Dental Senate the second week of July. He will distribute the self study for review prior to this meeting.

Drs. Nichols and Jacob attended a unification committee meeting at Storrs to discuss possible inclusion of Health Center representatives to the UCONN Senate, the oversight body for their undergraduate education program at the main campus. The UCONN Senate includes committees that are advisory to the Senate. There was a question whether we need representatives on the UCONN Senate from the SOM and SDM. Drs. Jacob and Nichols felt this would not be good utilization of time for UCHC faculty. This issue can be discussed further. Perhaps having a committee with Provost Nicholls and the Council Chairs of the Senate would be a better use of faculty. The Oversight Council of the SOM has been meeting regularly with Provost Nichols. There are SDM representatives on this committee as well. Drs. Hand, Upholt, Eisenberg and Nichols attended the first meeting. In the future, we should consider electing representatives from the SDM and SOM to a committee to meet regularly with Provost Nicholls for better communication with him. Dr. MacNeil said there was an initiative to assemble a body to discuss major Health Center policies such issues as grievances, tenure and promotion.

Independent of the University Senate is an executive committee of the UCONN Senate that meets regularly with President Hogan and Provost Nichols. It is Executive Committee sessions are intended to allow faculty to air issues and there seems to be some enthusiasm

to include faculty representatives from UCHC. We cannot develop a selection process at this time since it is not clear how this proposal will be accepted.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.