

COPH Faculty Assembly Meeting
January 16, 2015
COPH Sam Bell Auditorium
10:00 – 11:30 am

President Dr. Tom Mason called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

1. Approval of October 24th, 2014 meeting minutes.

Approval of minutes deferred until next meeting, date TBD.

2. Update from Dean Donna Petersen

Dean Petersen thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished all a Happy New Year. She informed faculty that a full day retreat is in the planning stages to discuss a new course, new direction for the college. The retreat is to be held at the St. Petersburg College Collaborative Laboratories on a date TBD. The Collaborative Laboratories specialize in problem solving and strategic planning and more information can be found here: <http://www.collaborativelabs.com/>.

Dean Petersen identified several areas of discussion including the current initiative to fund universities based upon performance metrics as determined by the state legislature. She noted that the metrics largely concern undergraduate students and are somewhat fluid with changes possible. The current metrics can be viewed at the Board of Governor's website here: http://www.flbog.edu/about/budget/performance_funding.php. Dean Petersen noted that USF was second only to UF in allocation of new funds http://www.flbog.edu/about/budget/docs/performance_funding/AllocationSummary.pdf despite the designation of both UF and FSU as preeminent universities which results in allocation of additional funds to those universities: <http://www.flsenate.gov/laws/statutes/2013/1001.7065>.

Dean Petersen identified our model of managing our own funds as an area in which discussion is needed. In particular, our funds allocation may not change but our costs are changing. She mentioned that we must consider at the retreat how we can be more efficient while still providing the needed courses and programs.

The final discussion points for the faculty retreat which Dean Petersen would like propose are largely the result of the budget crisis in the past years. She stated that in order to become more efficient, we need to discuss the following questions. Do we need all of the certificates, programs, and classes we are currently teaching? This question has been raised due to the heavy teaching loads many faculty acquired during the budget crisis. How much online teaching should we be doing? This question has been raised as main campus has noted that we have a particularly large number of online courses as compared to the rest of the university. What can be done about the large number of COPH graduate students who are currently on probation? This question has been raised because we are currently number 1 in the university for students on probation.

Dean Petersen mentioned that the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) has created new standards for undergraduate stand-alone programs and that this program does not include the traditional five core classes. The accreditation criteria can be found here: <http://ceph.org/assets/SBP-Criteria.pdf>. She further stated that the lack of the five core classes may have contributed to the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) MPH expert panel report which no longer requires these courses for the MPH degree: http://www.aspph.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/MPHPanelReportFINAL_2014-01-09-final.pdf. The model of the 21st century MPH in which the core courses are no longer required raises the issue that COPH is no longer required to be structured in five departments and this is the crux of the discussion for our faculty retreat.

Dean Petersen described schools such as the University of North Texas who do not have departments <http://web.unthsc.edu/education/sph/> and described how that model is applicable at COPH as our degrees are all in public health and not attributed to departments. Dean Petersen described how such a model can further our goals including increased translational research and community engagement. She also mentioned that we are pursuing membership in the Association of American Universities (AAU) and that accreditation is largely research oriented. The metrics for AAU membership can be found here: <https://www.aau.edu/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=10972>.

A question was raised concerning the activities at University of North Texas as the restructuring was largely the result of new hires and centralizing decision-making. Dean Petersen noted that restructuring decisions are common and used as an example the placement of the Center for Drug Discovery and Innovation (CDDI) in the Office of Research (ORI). CDDI employs researchers from across multiple departments but is likely better placed in Arts and Sciences. Similarly, the goals and mission of the Patel Center are the topic of discussion to ensure that it complements and does not compete with existing programs.

A question was raised concerning the allocations of resources to the various departments. The Dean expressed concerns that a department that is more successful than others may have more resources for a given graduate student, resulting in students not being treated equally.

Dean Petersen addressed the current faculty searches and related that criteria used in the searches includes the ability to be collaborative, interdisciplinary, skilled at translational research and use of new teaching and learning methodology. The dean asked the faculty are involved across departments in these searches and to participate and talks and interviews. She also expressed that more lunch-and-learn and leadership opportunities will be available.

Jay Evans announced that the “other” bathrooms will be renovated once the first set of bathrooms is finished. Donna Petersen added that new furniture is coming to the

computer laboratories and then to some of the classrooms. Furniture choices are considering the use of technology in the classroom.

3. Reports from Standing Committees

Dr. Ellen Daley, Chair of the Research Committee reported that the committee is meeting next month and there are openings to add people to the committee. Students and post-docs are especially needed for the committee. Dr. Daley noted that there is an increase in funding for students and that meeting will be held on translational research. Dr. Daley pointed out that despite the upcoming holiday (MLK) the deadline for abstracts for Research Day is on Monday. Further information on USF Research day can be found here: <http://health.usf.edu/research/research-day.htm>.

Dr. Martha Coulter, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee reminded audience members that the APT guidelines follow-up session is to be held next Friday January 23, 2015 in COPH rooms 2016 and 2018 from 9-11 am.

Dr. Tom Mason reported that Dr. Ira Richards, Chair of the Laboratory and Safety Committee confirms that the college is indeed safe.

4. New Business

Dean Donna Petersen reported the College's graduation is now big enough that we will have our own ceremony. The USF Health Commencement is to be held Friday May 1st in the evening. Dean Petersen has requested that faculty members participate as both marshals and on-stage whilst acknowledging that she has requests regalia be provided at no cost to faculty. Dean Petersen also mentioned that nominations are open for honoring alumni. Further information on the nomination process can be found here: <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/overviewcoph/alumni-awards.htm>. Natalie Preston also stated that she would email faculty lists of graduates to help with the nomination process. Dr. Mason noted that some former students have contacted him to request self-nomination.

5. Set Dates for Next Meetings; Feb 20, Apr 17 and 19 June.

February 20th is Research Day and this day has been discarded. Assembly must meet at least one more time this semester and date will be determined.

Dr. Mason asked the audience to acknowledge the appointment of Dr. Donna Haiduven to the CDC Ebola Training Team. Dr. Haiduven reported that the experience is wonderful, rewarding, and exhausting. She states that she was selected based on letters of recommendation, infectious disease control background, and experience working outside of the country. Dr. Haiduven reports that no one working an Ebola Treatment Center has become ill. During the training, she states that students come in wide-eyed but their confidence builds quickly over the course of the week. To learn more about this prestigious appointment, please enjoy the COPH story: <http://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/health/publichealth/news/dr-donna-haiduven-joins-cdcs-ebola-training-team/>.

Announcements:

Dr. William Sappenfield is soliciting nominations for the Chiles Center Award for the Best Student Paper in Maternal and Child Health. Papers or Special Projects submitted in the 2014 calendar year are eligible. The application deadline is 5 pm Monday February 2nd, 2015.

Dr. Kathleen O' Rourke introduced Epidemiology and Biostatistics newest faculty member Dr. Ronee Wilson.

6. Meeting Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am.

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Jill Roberts.