



Faculty of Medicine

Faculty Council Minutes

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

4:30pm (via WebEx)

Attendees: Sohaib Al-Asaad, Janet Bangma, Peter Daley, Ann Dorward, Sheila Drover, Norah Duggan, Regina Edwards (Recording Secretary), Jessica Esseltine, Alison Farrell, Laura Gillespie, Melanie Greene, Diana Gustafson, Connie Hapgood, Kathy Hodgkinson, Deepak Kaushik, Brian Kerr, Ed Kendall, Eden Kinzel, Kara Laing, Ken LeDez, Michael Leitges, Craig Moore, Pam Morgan, Gerald Mugford, Amanda Pendergast, Rachel Prowse, Peter Rogers, Rod Russell, Margaret Steele (chair), Teri Stuckless, Michelle Swab, Paul Tucker, Jacqueline Vanderluit, Brenda Wilson, Margo Wilson Geoff Zbitnew.

Regrets: Tanis Adey, Janna Andronowski, Michael Bautista, David Jones, Michael Paul, Angela Penney, Tracey Pittman, Daryl Pullman, Greg Radu, Kim St. John, Sevta Savas, Pam Snow, Reza Tabrizchi, Cathy Vardy.

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
Introduction and Welcome	The Dean thanked everyone for joining the meeting. She asked if there were new members present to be introduced, and acknowledged Dr. Deepak Kaushik from BioMedical Sciences Division. Participants were reminded to use the “chat” function for questions or comments.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review of AgendaConflict for Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">COI - none noted; agenda approved.	
Review and approval of prior minutes of April 27, 2021	Approval of the minutes moved by Dr. Teri Stuckless and seconded by Dr. Peter Daley. Minutes approved.	
Dean’s Updates	The Dean reported on the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Physician Recruitment and Retention in NL Retreat – Our Faculty will be hosting the retreat on June 9 to explore solutions to promote better physician recruitment and retention in Newfoundland and	

Our Vision: Through excellence, we will integrate education, research and social accountability to advance the health of the people and communities we serve.

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<p>Labrador. The event will be co-hosted by Drs. Vernon Curran and Scott Moffatt, with discussions facilitated by Anne Becker of Climb Consulting Inc. Participants will include undergraduate medical students, resident learners, specialist and generalist physicians, administrators, educators, government representatives, and members from communities across the province. To register: https://www.med.mun.ca/opd/programs/info.asp?id=4380 To help us prepare for the retreat, please complete a short survey by May 21st: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RuralPhysicianRR Questions should be directed to: Gerona McGrath, gerona.mcgrath@med.mun.ca</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Plan Update – Despite the ongoing pandemic, the implementation of <i>Destination Excellence</i> is continuing. The DEIST Steering Team held its regular bi-monthly meeting in April, and the next will be in June. Three of the teams have completed their work. <u>Social Accountability</u> matters are being operationalized in the Office of Social Accountability, led by the Assistant Dean, Dr. Bolu Ogunyemi; updates are on their website. Wellness-related recommendations from the wellness survey will be reviewed and an action plan developed by the <u>Wellness and Well-Being Advisory Committee</u> (WWAC), co-chaired by Drs. Tracey Bridger and Greg Radu. Research-related work to reduce barriers to clinical researchers is being led by Dr. Reza Tabrizchi. Graduate Studies will remain on DEIST. The Culture of Excellence team has been updating a heat map and an excel document of the status of progress with respect to implementing the unit assessment recommendations. It is important to note that although several recommendations are considered completed, ongoing work will be required to maintain and sustain the changes. • The Balanced Scorecard Team has completed the card development, and the Office of Finance and Administrative Services will gather data and analyze. The project team will transition into an Advisory Group with additional members to oversee results and provide advice on its implementation. 	

Our Vision: Through excellence, we will integrate education, research and social accountability to advance the health of the people and communities we serve.

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Internationalization team will develop an internationalization strategy for the Faculty, with the team co-chaired by Dr. Sohaib Al-Asaad and Ms. Cindy Whitton. There will be a call for members. • An Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) team will be created to ensure a co-ordinated strategy to realizing our goals in these keys areas, and will be co-chaired by Dr. Cathy Vardy and Ms. Tracey Pittman. More information will be forthcoming. Given this is a significant area for improvement in the Faculty, the Dean encouraged learners (undergraduate, postgraduate, and graduate) as well as staff and faculty, to apply to join this committee. The Dean reminded everyone to review the professionalism website, and the links to the policies and procedures. • For updates on the strategic plan, please review the Destination Excellence website. • The Anatomy Laboratory is open, with Stages 1 and 2 completed, with Stage 3 by late August. Thanks were extended to Dr. Patricia Cousins on navigating this rebuild to one of the best anatomy laboratories in a Canadian medical school. In addition, the Histology laboratory is also re-opening, in its original location. • Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Thanks were extended to Eastern Health for PPE donations. If required for your research, please visit room HSC-2767 (daily, 10:00-12:00) and staff will be available to sign out the PPE. For any questions, contact Dr. Cousins at (patricia.cousins@med.mun.ca). • Congratulations were given to grant recipients: MRF Cox Grant: Dr. Ken Hirasawa; MRF Research and Development Grants: Drs. Janna Andronowski, Fraser Clift, and Ann Dorward; Ovarian Cancer Grant: Dr. Jules Dore; Dean of Medicine Collaborative Clinical and non-Clinical Grant: Dr. Craig Moore (NPI), Dr. Fraser Clift (Co-PI), Dr. Mark Stefanelli (Co-PI). Thanks were extended to Dr. Laura Gillespie who chaired the MRF Board, and to reviewers and the MRF Board. • Graduation Celebration – The Dean and Carolyn Sturge Sparkes attended the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada’s (IPAC) annual graduation 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<p>ceremony, with Dr. Nel Weiman and Melanie Osmack from the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada (IPAC), along with Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown Indigenous Relations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The graduating class of 2021 will have a virtual celebration on June 2. To attend, please email lwsevents@mun.ca. On June 3, the university wide virtual graduation will be held. To watch, visit the university’s Facebook page (or www.mun.ca) at 7:00 p.m. NT. The Dean congratulated all graduates on their perseverance, resilience and stamina in achieving their goals despite a global pandemic, and wished all our graduates much success as they start a new chapter in their lives. • Provincial Reports - On April 29, 2021, the Postsecondary Review was released, and is available online https://www.gov.nl.ca/education/files/All-Hands-on-Deck.pdf. Key items specific to our Faculty included: Recommendation #27: Increase the number and variety of inter-professional and interdisciplinary experiential learning opportunities within the university and the college; Recommendation #32: Review faculty /campus representation at the senior level of the university (in the body of the document it mentions how the Faculty of Medicine is larger than the Marine Institute and Grenfell campus put together) and Recommendation #35: Move the management and funding of three primary health care clinics to the Eastern Health Regional Health Authority. These are recommendations at this time. In the Provincial Economic Recovery Task Force (also known as the Greene Report), one specific recommendation for the Faculty of Medicine indicated the University should review our administrative functions. . • The Dean then asked for any questions, or other announcements. 	
Dr. Brian Kerr, Curriculum and Accreditation Advisor	<p>Monthly Accreditation Moment: Today’s Moment is a reminder about Protected time. Link to slides:https://www.med.mun.ca/Accreditation/Accreditation-Moments.aspx</p>	
	Reports from COVID-19 Task Force Committee	

Our Vision: Through excellence, we will integrate education, research and social accountability to advance the health of the people and communities we serve.

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
<p>Dr. Teri Stuckless for Dr. Greg Radu, Associate Dean, Office of Learner Well-Being and Success</p>	<p>Dr. Stuckless reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation – a WebEx ceremony is scheduled for June 2 at 7:00 p.m., emceed by Dr. Natalie Bridger, and the class valedictorian is Jessica Guy. • Orientation planning is ongoing with plans for a virtual event from August 23 to 27, along with a WebEx Meet and Greet in July. • Mentorship is ongoing, and uptake increasing over time. The evaluation of data is planned for this summer. • Outdoor events, such as hikes on the East Coast Trail, are being planned. • A seminar on Being Human is scheduled for June 17 at 7:00 p.m. Thanks to participating faculty. 	
<p>Dr. Margaret Steele for Dr. Tanis Adey, Associate Dean, UGME</p>	<p>The Dean reported the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class of 2021 - As the Student Promotions Committee is a standing committee of Faculty Council, the MD students recommended by the Committee for Convocation was circulated to Faculty Council. Congratulations! • Fall 2021 Contingency Planning - The UGME team is meeting with key players to develop contingency plans for learning for Fall 2021. • Vaccinations for Learners - Clinical and preclinical learners who have patient contact can schedule an appointment to receive the COVID-19 vaccination, and remaining learners should be invited next week. 	
<p>Dr. Sohaib Al-Asaad, Associate Dean, PGME</p>	<p>Dr. Al-Asaad reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second iteration of CaRMS is on May 20, 2021, and we have six residency spots open currently. 	
<p>Dr. Ann Dorward, Associate Dean, RGS</p>	<p>Dr. Dorward reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges for incoming international students – The Federal deadline for study permit applications (IRCC) has resulted in long processing delays for students; IRCC recently announced a mid-May deadline for a guaranteed response, to a study permit application, by August 6 (there is no guarantee for those without complete applications at that date). As a result, we may see late deferrals for fall program starts. • Mandatory 14-day isolation for new international students – This requirement fit with a strategy for on-campus housing and food at reasonable cost; however, this option will be unavailable for this 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<p>summer and a new off-site venue is under negotiation with Public Health. It is anticipated that there will be a queue for housing once set up, as well as an increased expense for new students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MUN Emergency student funding is always open for donations: https://www.mun.ca/give/COVID_EmergencyStudentFunds.php • Challenges for Fall course planning – While we await university decisions for fall course planning, we can anticipate a blend of online, remote participation with in-person teaching based on public health guidelines. A meeting was held with HSIMS, and all education deans to work on plans for learning room and lab needs, and technical support plans for course delivery. The Registrar is awaiting course codes to be entered. A reminder of the difference between the definitions of an "online" course is and a "remote" course was given. • <i>Remote Courses</i> are face-to-face courses that have been adapted to be delivered at a distance in times of disruption when students and instructors cannot meet on campus. The instructor may decide to use online tools, including Brightspace, to replace face-to-face instruction; course activities and materials may also be modified accordingly. Students may be asked to join the instructor and classmates online at specific points in the term as a replacement for face-to-face meetings and discussions. • <i>Online Courses</i> have been carefully designed to be delivered entirely over the Internet using course sites in Brightspace. The course sites often include high quality, customized videos, interactive components and resources that help with learning the course content. Online courses are not self-paced; instructors post deadlines for work and expect students to keep up on reading and other activities required to successfully complete the course. Students may be asked to join the instructor and classmates online at specific points in the term. Students need to consider the technical requirements needed to fully participate in an online course. 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring 2021 Convocation – Twenty-three graduates were confirmed from the Faculty’s graduate programs for the May 2021 Graduation. Ten Diploma graduates (Clin-Epi or CHH diploma programs); one Master of Health Ethics graduate; two Master of Public Health graduates; eight Master of Science in Medicine graduates (one from cardiovascular and renal science, four from clinical epidemiology, two from community health and humanities, and one from human genetics); two PhD graduates (Dr. Devonne Ryan; Dr. Atefeh Ghorbani). • Thanks were extended to Drs. Vianne Timmons, Aimee Surprenant, Margaret Steele, Anna Walsh and Alicia Blackmore (MGSS president and VP) for participating in the congratulations video. Also thanks to RGS and HSIMS staff for coordinating and editing. (https://www.mun.ca/convocation/celebration/) • Two University convocation medals have been awarded thus far: University Medal of Excellence for a Master’s student in a course-based program to Asia Holloway - Master of Public Health; and University Medal of Excellence for a Master’s student in a thesis-based program to Emily Norton - Master of Science in Medicine, Community Health and Humanities. From the Faculty of Medicine: the Dr. Sharon Buehler Community Health and Humanities Convocation Award to Dr. Peggy Rauman (Graduated in Feb 2021). 	
<p>Dr. Margaret Steele for Dr. Reza Tabrizchi, Vice Dean, RGS</p>	<p>Dr. Steele reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) Town Hall virtual meeting was held May 18 with Dr. Timmons, and Dr. Michael Strong, CIHR President, for researchers, research administrators, and postdocs to hear updates from CIHR and the 2021-2031 strategic plan. Thanks to all who attended. A recording of the meeting is available: https://www.mun.ca/research/news.php?id=14315&type=news • Dr. Dorward added thanks to those who attended the Gairdner lecture with Dr. Connie Jean Eaves. The academic lecture was well attended and the small 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
	group meeting was also well attended by senior graduate students.	
Mr. Paul Tucker, Chief Operating Officer	<p>Mr. Tucker reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are continuing to work remotely where possible. • A central university team is reviewing on-campus capacities for the Fall. They are reviewing options and would provide further guidance in the coming months. 	
Dr. Margaret Steele, <i>for Ms. Tracey Pittman, Academic Affairs Manager</i>	<p>Dr. Steele gave the academic search update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The President’s decisions on the promotion and tenure applications should be received in the next four to six weeks. • There is a call for nominations to fill one vacancy on the Non-bargaining Unit, Promotion and Tenure Committee for next year. As per the guidelines, we need a full professor from the clinical ranks. • Applications are being accepted for the Director of NLCAHR position, and for the Assistant Dean of Clinical Research. • The Review of Dr. Greg Radu as Associate Dean of Learner Well-Being and Success will be held on May 28; and the Review of the Dr. Sean W. Murphy as Chair o the Discipline of Medicine will be held on June 3. 	
Ms. Melanie Greene, Policy Analyst	Ms. Melanie Greene reviewed the proposed changes for sections 4.3, 4.5, and 6.2.1. Ms. Greene noted that the additional changes from the discussion would be included for review at the next Faculty Council meeting.	
Presentation - Hyperbaric Medicine Program and Royal College AFC Program Dr. Ken LeDez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dean introduced Dr. Ken LeDez and Geoff Zbitnew. Due to technical issues with the meeting and using screen-share, the meeting moved to Dr. Dorward’s room for the presentation. • Dr. LeDez reviewed the treatments and results experienced by cancer patients, along with other amazing results such as initial treatments with COVID-19 patients that were showing positive outcomes. • The Dean congratulated Drs. LeDez and Zbitnew on being national leaders in this field. Dr. LeDez reported on the approvals process for AFC Program and the application was online as of May 1. Dr. Al-Asaaed offered assistance from PGME. 	

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
Any Other Business – Dr. Margaret Steele	There was no other business. The Dean thanked everyone who was able to stay for the presentation.	
	Adjournment at 5:50 p.m. Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 15, 2021	