



Faculty of Medicine

Faculty Council Minutes

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

4:30pm (via WebEx)

Attendees: Sohaib Al-Asaad, Janna Andronowski, Michael Bautista, Ann Dorward, Norah Duggan, Regina Edwards (Recording Secretary), Alison Farrell, Michael Grant, Melanie Greene, Taryn Hearn, Kathy Hodgkinson, Brian Kerr, Ed Kendall, Eden Kinzel, Victor Maddalena, Pam Morgan, Bolu Ogunyemi, Danielle O’Keefe, Matthew Parsons, Michael Parsons, Amanda Pendergast, Michelle Ploughman, Patricia Power, Rachel Prowse, Greg Radu, Kristen Roome, Rod Russell, Margaret Steele (chair), Michelle Swab, Reza Tabrizchi, Paul Tucker, Cathy Vardy, Peter Wang, Mary Wells, Brenda Wilson, George Zahariadis.

Regrets: Tanis Adey, Janet Bangma, Jane Barron, Susan MacDonald, Tracey Pittman, Peter Rogers.

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. 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">Dr. Cathy Vardy moved approval of the agenda; seconded by Dr. Norah Duggan.COI - none noted; agenda approved.	
Review and approval of prior minutes of May 18, 2021	Approval of the minutes moved by Dr. Norah Duggan and seconded by Dr. Danielle O’Keefe - Minutes approved.	
Dean’s Updates	The Dean reported on the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The UGME Graduation was held June 2, facilitated by the LWS Office. The President brought greetings and the event was emceed by Dr. Natalie Bridger. The valedictorian, Jessica Guy, gave a very moving speech. Dr. Pryse-Phillips was in attendance. The Dean recognized the grad students and post-	

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	<p>graduate students as well, and noted videos were being organized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Vice-Dean, Education and Faculty Affairs appointment was confirmed for Dr. Dolores McKeen for September 1, and she will be appointed as a full professor with tenure to Discipline of Anesthesia. • The Dean thanked Dr. Cathy Vardy who extended her leave more than once, during the search process. Dr. Steele expressed her gratitude for Dr. Vardy's enthusiasm for the Medical School and its learners, faculty and staff. Dr. Vardy's activities for the Medical School will continue in a leadership role with UPEI. A celebration to recognize her contributions will be planned. • Dr. Andrew Hunt, Assistant Dean of Distributed Medical Education (DME), Ms. Sandi Badcock, and others are conducting Listening and Learning Tours in the Province, and gaining recommendations to improve the DME program. • The Physician Recruitment and Retention in NL Retreat in June had approximately 90 attendees. There will be an action plan sent to Karen Stone, Deputy Minister of Health and Community Services. • CBC released an article on the funding of the Medical School, with scrutiny on the financial efficiency and effectiveness of funding. There will be a \$260,000 cutback, but rather than focus on cutbacks, we are also looking for new revenue opportunities. • It was noted National Aboriginal Day will be June 21. • The new Provost and VPA, Dr. Florentine Strzelczyk, begins her role on August 16 and we will invite her to a Faculty Council meeting this Fall. • There is a new Vice-President of Advancement and External Affairs, Lisa Browne, who is an alumni. • Health Accord NL is hosting virtual Town Halls to gather input on how we can re-imagine health and health care in NL. An announcement will be sent out. • The Strategic Plan has Dr. Sohaib Al-Asaad and Cindy Whitten who will co-chair the International Project Team. • The Equity, Diversion and Inequity Project Team, with Dr. Cathy Vardy and Tracey Pittman, will have a request for members sent out soon. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are starting an Equity Lecture Series (recommendation from the Unit Assessment) and the inaugural speaker will be Dr. Sheryl Heron, an emergency physician from Emory University who is their Vice-Chair of Faculty Equity, Engagement and Empowerment. • The Dean then asked for any questions, comments, or other announcements. • Dr. Michael Parsons noted that Dr. Gena Bugden was named Physician of the Year at the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians National Conference, and Dr. Gillian Sheppard received the Richard Kohn Memorial Award for Mentorship. • Dr. Rod Russell asked for an update on the Course Equivalency Committee. Dr. Steele replied there were no communications since the Medicine presentation to the Committee. Dr. Russell added the meeting did not leave a positive impression regarding their deliberations and the fact it is unknown how this will be applied, and if it will be ratified during the next Collective Agreement negotiations. The Dean noted it was not discussed during Deans' Council Meeting. • Dr. Michael Grant added that Dr. Michelle Ploughman received the 2021 President's Award for outstanding graduate and postgraduate supervision. Dr. Ann Dorward noted that Dr. Ploughman also received the SGS Rockstar Supervisor Award. • Dr. Michael Parsons noted that an EDI Series was started in the Discipline of Emergency Medicine and four lectures have been held to date. The Dean noted this was a great initiative, and there would be a follow-up story. • Dr. Brenda Wilson noted Dr. Shree Mulay received the Canadian Association of University Teachers Equity Award as one of eight women who filed a human rights complaint on the inequity of Canada Research Chairs Program. • The Dean thanked everyone for the updates. 	
Dr. Taryn Hearn, Faculty Undergraduate Accreditation Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Hearn advised that the Accreditation Visit would be two virtual visits (April, and May for the follow-up). She noted that it would not be known in advance who is needed in May, so everyone will need to be ready. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly Accreditation Moment: Blood Borne Pathogens Policy (Needle Stick Injury). Link: https://www.med.mun.ca/Accreditation/Accreditation-Moments.aspx 	
	<p>Reports from COVID-19 Task Force Committee</p>	
<p>Dr. Greg Radu, Associate Dean, Office of Learner Well Being and Success</p>	<p>Dr. Radu reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Virtual Shingles and Graduation for the Class of 2021 was held on June 2, emceed by Dr. Natalie Bridger and attended by Drs. Timmons, Steele, and Adey. Dr. Pryse-Phillips led the recitation of the Hippocratic Oath. Dr. Radu thanked those involved, especially behind the scenes. Orientation for the class of 2025 will be held during August 23-27, and updates will be made to the LWS website on registration, orientation, and other policies and procedures. The <i>On Being Human</i> Seminar is scheduled for June 17 to engage participants in a conversation on the human side of imparting difficult news to patients and their families. Registration is over 50 attendees, and registration information is on the LWS website. Thank you to those participating. The Failing Safely in Medicine Session is scheduled for June 23 for medical students to engage in a conversation about failing safely in medical education, as well as more generally in the field of medicine. It will be moderated by Dr. Peter Czaplinski, Psychodynamic Psychiatrist with the University Of Manitoba Faculty Of Medicine. Registration information is on the LWS website. The fundraiser with East Coast Trail and the Canadian Mental Health Association needs team members. The hikes continue until September 6. Registration information is on the LWS website. The Career Advising Program conducted a Phase 4 preparatory session with the UGME learners. The Well-Being Program had their third invited presentation and dialogue with the Discipline of Pediatrics, and thanks were extended to all those 	

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	<p>involved. The next invited presentation will be with the Discipline of Laboratory Medicine later in June.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inaugural meeting of the Wellness and Wellbeing Advisory Committee was held on June 1 and will include interpretations and implementation of the recommendations of the survey conducted by the Destination Excellence Wellness Project team. • LWS was present for the Listening and Learning Sessions, and it was well attended by various important key stakeholders in our province. 	
<p>Dr. Norah Duggan for Dr. Tanis Adey, Associate Dean, UGME</p>	<p>Dr. Duggan reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall 2021 Planning – As per recommendations from Memorial University’s Chief Risk Office, the UGME team is planning for large group learning in the Fall of 2021, at full room capacities. Contingent upon public health and university recommendations at the time, physical distancing will not be required, provided all occupants are wearing non-medical masks. • MD Program Accreditation - the CACMS MD Program Accreditation site visit will be a two-step virtual site visit on April 3-6, 2022, with a follow-up virtual visit in May 2022 (date TBD). Please review the Accreditation website. https://www.med.mun.ca/Accreditation/Home.aspx and • Alert Level 4 at Central Health - Faculty and learners quickly modified learning in response to a shift to COVID-19 Alert Level 4 in Central Newfoundland on May 19. Learners who were transitioning into the Central region at that time were provided private housing accommodations. No new learners were introduced to pre-established housing accommodation “bubbles”. • Class Updates - Class of 2021 celebrated on June 2, with Jessica Guy as valedictorian. The Class of 2022 Learners will complete the Core Experience course which comprises the third year of the MD program in the coming weeks and will commence fourth year electives and selectives in August 2021. Classes of 2023 and 2024 Learners will complete the academic year on June 25, 2021. 	

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Dr. Sohaib Al-Asaad, Associate Dean, PGME	<p>Dr. Al-Asaad reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks were extended to DME and Dr. Andrew Hunt for helping to navigate the Central Health shutdown in response to the COVID-19 outbreaks. • Results from the CARMS Match and transfer, with compressed timelines, and several areas to improve were noted for the transfer from one postgraduate program to another. • They are actively planning for a potential Fourth Wave, in the event curriculum delivery has to be changed again. 	
Dr. Ann Dorward, Associate Dean, RGS	<p>Dr. Dorward reported the following for Graduate Studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipating the easing of interprovincial travel for Memorial students, but are waiting on federal announcements for international student travel (with vaccination records). • Last day for self-isolation housing in MacPherson residence on campus is July 1, so will be losing this housing to regular student residence use. • Anticipating an ongoing need for self-isolation housing for students (short or long term), the Internationalization Office are working with Public Health to identify a new location. • Please advise your international and domestic students to stay in touch with the Internationalization Office and self-isolation manager, and to watch for their Facebook live events for current information and advice on study permits and travel: https://www.facebook.com/InternationalizationOfficeMUN/. • For Fall teaching, they are waiting for the density limits to determine if booked rooms are suitable. Graduate Program instructors can anticipate some students participating remotely, and the need to prepare for a blended classroom. Instructional assistance is available. • A reminder that COVID-19 impact statements for thesis program students who are negatively impacted by research stoppages are still accepted: https://www.mun.ca/sgs/go/guid_policies/Thesis_Impact_Statement.pdf) 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On June 22, SGS is hosting a town hall for graduate students https://www.mun.ca/sgs/current/townhall.php • The Chief Risk Office has given MGSS the go-ahead for off-campus activities. MGSS has a fundraiser to help graduate student community involvement scholarships, and graduate student travel award, and will be selling St. John's soap works products. https://www.facebook.com/groups/munmgss • MGSS received the 2020 Society of the Year from the Student Volunteer board, and the story is featured on the Faculty of Medicine webpage (https://www.med.mun.ca/Medicine/Communications/News-at-Medicine/June-2021/Medical-Graduate-Student-Society-recognized-for-award-winning-activities.aspx) • RGS staff will advise of their return to work plan after July 13, and are currently accessible remotely. • The Faculty of Medicine has three PhD students participating in the virtual Canadian Student Health Research Forum: Lisa Fang (BMS), Tonye Omoluabi (BMS), and Lisa Blundell (CHH) https://umanitoba.ca/outreach/conferences/research_days/dates_info.html • Regular activities are continuing, such as comprehensive exams and thesis examinations, new admissions, new programs under discussion, and all graduate programs are undergoing academic unit planning review. 	
Dr. Reza Tabrizchi, Vice Dean, RGS	Dr. Tabrizchi noted to those planning to submit grant applications, it would be helpful to know in advance if a grant application is being planned.	
Mr. Paul Tucker, Chief Operating Officer	Mr. Tucker reported that staff would be returning to campus on July 13. He added that he is waiting on information regarding building access and parking passes, and to monitor Newsline for updates. He noted that Managers are continuing their work on the Business Continuity plans.	

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Dr. Cathy Vardy for Ms. Tracey Pittman, Manager of Academic Affairs	<p>Dr. Vardy reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Director, NLCAHR competition did not receive any applications. The Dean will be reviewing the position with some key stakeholders to decide on the next step. • The competition for the Assistant Dean of Clinical Research closes July 15. • PGME has circulated an expression of interest for a new Critical Care Postgraduate Training Lead, with an application deadline of June 18. • The Office of the Dean and OPED will host Promotion and Tenure Workshops for Clinical Faculty on June 15, 24, and 30. The Dean recommended attending a workshop, even if not planning to apply this year. 	
Health Research Ethics Board (HREB), Dr. Margaret Steele	The Dean noted that she, Dr. Tabrizchi, and Paul Tucker meet quarterly with leadership. HREB are always looking for new reviewers to serve on the board, in particular cardiology and clinical trial work.	
Faculty Council By-laws, Ms. Melanie Green, Policy Analyst	Ms. Melanie Green thanked everyone for the feedback on the by-laws. She noted that the suggestions are being reviewed, so the motion to vote will be deferred until the new draft is ready.	
Any Other Business – Dr. Margaret Steele	There was no other business. The Dean reminded everyone that there would not be a July meeting for Faculty Council, and that the COVID-19 Task Force would meet weekly to the end of June and monthly over the summer. She is looking forward to being able to move more freely when the second vaccine doses are completed.	
	Adjournment at 5:18 p.m. Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 17, 2021	