Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee  
University of Tennessee, College of Medicine  

January 8, 2008  

Call to Order  

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Renate Rosenthal, at 12:04 PM on January 7, 2008, in the Hyman building, Room 101.  

Attendance  

The following members were present:  

Art Geller, PhD, Elias A. Giraldo, M.D., Stanley Kaplan, MD, Leonard Lothstein, PhD, E. Haavi Morreim, PhD, William R. Morris, MD, Renate Rosenthal, PhD, Robert S. Waters, PhD, Thad Wilson, PhD, Peg Hartig, PhD  

The following guest(s) was (were) present:  

Approval of minutes  

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. Minutes had previously been distributed by electronic means.  

Old Business  

Bob Waters provided a handout regarding the goals, purpose, and history of the Dean's Symposium. One of the original--and still central--goals is to bring together the basic science faculty with the clinical faculty, to highlight the achievements of each and to encourage further collaboration. Over the years the Symposium has taken varying forms and has met with greater and sometimes lesser degrees of acceptance. Discussion touched on whether to hold the event on- or off-campus. One challenge for holding it on campus is that facilities like the SAC and the Coleman auditoria are not good facilities. The Dean's Symposium is supposed to be a nice, catered event that people would enjoy, not "just another lecture to attend." The group expressed concern that the hoped-for renovations of the Coleman North Auditorium may not be ready by April 4th. In its current state, the Coleman Building would not be an acceptable venue. If the renovation and clean-up is complete, the Coleman North Auditorium and its adjacent lobby (the former Planetree Center area) would be the most obvious venue because of proximity and quality of AV equipment. The group agreed to plan the event for the renovated Coleman building, but to check availability of the SAC and the Hamilton Eye Institute Auditorium as other possible on-campus venues, and not to cancel the Public Library reservation quite yet. An off-campus location like the public library requires that the event be open to the public, which was noted to have its pluses and minuses.
In terms of format, one proposal was to present a panel discussion instead of a pair of lectures. This sort of format would require a good moderator who would keep the initial presentations appropriately brief, and who would then be able to engage the panelists in a lively conversation. The question was raised if it was necessary for the basic scientist and the clinician to be actual collaborators, or if we should just go for two really excellent speakers who can engage the audience and "tell the story" of their academic career and scientific contributions.

Various potential invitees were identified, as was the potential for continuing to incorporate poster sessions. The group agreed that the poster sessions will need to be staffed by the PI and collaborator(s), and that their interactions with the attendees will be an important part of the event.

The Committee decided that the appropriate on-campus venue would be the North Auditorium (if refurbished in time) or the large room in the SAC Building. The Public Library date will be held until a final decision is made. It was also decided that the previous two-person format would be continued for this year's meeting. An goal of the Symposium would be building relationships between basic scientists and clinicians for future collaborations.

A list of possible speakers will be sent to the members of the committee for expressing their opinions. The Executive Dean will also be consulted.

New Business

Members of the committee expressed interest in discussing the following items at future meetings:

- Faculty career development program
- Recruitment and retention of faculty
- The relationship between UTHSC and Bioworks
- CTSI

Initial discussions for the May General Meeting were begun.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on February 4, 2008, at 12:00 Noon in the Hyman building, Room 101.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Haavi Morreim, PhD
Secretary