Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Renate Rosenthal, at 12:12 PM on September 10, 2007, in the Hyman building, Room 101.

Attendance

The following members were present:

Jack Buchanan, MD, Martin A. Croce, MD, Maggie DeBon, PhD, Allen S. Edmonson, MD, Art Geller, PhD, Elias A. Giraldo, MD, Stanley Kaplan, MD, Leonard Lothstein, PhD, E. Haavi Morreim, PhD, William R. Morris, MD, Linda K. Myers, MD, A.P. Naren, PhD, Renate Rosenthal, PhD, Claudette Shephard, MD, Robert S. Waters, PhD

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

Margaret (Peg) Hartig, PhD

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. Minutes had previously been distributed by electronic means. A hard copy of the minutes was available for review by the members.

Old Business

Pres. Rosenthal noted that Alumni Weekend is October 12 and that, as with last year, the DFAC's Dean's Symposium will be held separately in the Spring of 2008. Nevertheless, the DFAC plans to host a poster session as part of the alumni's CME activities, to update the alumni on the scholarly activities of faculty, fellows, and house staff. A recent request for posters has elicited three responses thus far. The poster session will be held at the Peabody Hotel, in an area where the Alumni Meeting attendees are circulating during break periods. The final number of posters will depend on space available.

Pres. Rosenthal indicated that the Dean's Symposium has tentative dates. To avoid conflicts with other events at UT, the optimal potential dates would be April 4, 11, or 18 at the public library. The time will be 3:00pm - 5:45pm.

Dean Schwab has indicated that he fully supports the symposium idea, as a vehicle for showcasing the assets of the College of Medicine. Drs. Bob Waters, Len Lothstein, Maggie DeBon, and Martin Croce volunteered to form the planning subcommittee.

New Business
Pres. Rosenthal introduced a new member, Dr. A.P. Naren, who is replacing Dr. Chris Waters in Physiology. She indicated that Dr. Mildred Randolph, from Comparative Medicine, has left UT and that positions for Neurosurgery and Family Medicine likewise need to be filled.

Pres. Rosenthal noted that George Cook recently transmitted an email describing his work on the United Faculty Council for the UT system (which includes, from each campus, the faculty senate president and one other faculty member). He has indicated 5 issues that some UT faculty have expressed concerns about:

- faculty evaluations;
- policies regarding faculty and administrative appointments;
- inter-campus transportation;
- inter-campus communication and videoconferencing;
- IRB (e.g., whether to require investigators to use UT's IRB, or to use central IRBs).

Ensuing DFAC discussion focused on the question whether UT's Knoxville-based administration is adequately aware of, and concerned about, the needs of the Memphis campus and other UT campuses. This is an old concern that has been brought to the foreground by publicity about a Mission Statement that was recently issued from the Knoxville campus, apparently with minimal consultation with the various UT campuses.

Other issues on the above list, such as IRB questions (e.g., whether investigators should use UT's IRB, or to use central IRBs) will be discussed when Dr. Schwab is in attendance and can clarify the position of the COM.

Pres. Rosenthal and Pres-Elect Geller met with Dean Schwab recently. Dr. Schwab indicated that the Chancellor's search is proceeding, with the first interviews upcoming in October, and a final decision anticipated by March or April. The sale of TLC has not been completely finalized, but Dr. Schwab indicated that the sale should bring significant revenue in to UTMG, which can be used for new faculty recruitment and other important uses. Further discussion about this sale focused on its potential impact on UT physicians and faculty.

Additionally, the DFAC discussed ways to enhance its role and effectiveness in the College of Medicine. The members want to serve as a liaison to their Departments, address faculty concerns by providing valid information, and bring faculty concerns to Dr. Schwab's attention for discussion. The members expressed a hope and desire to have Dr. Schwab attend as many meetings as his schedule allows, and asked Dr. Rosenthal to invite him to the October meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on October 1, 2007, at 12:00 Noon in the Hyman building, Room 101.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:07 PM.
Respectfully submitted,

E. Haavi Morreim, PhD
Secretary