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

October 4, 2010  

Call to Order  

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, at 12:10 PM on October 4, 2010, in the Coleman building, Room B227.  

Attendance  

The following members were present:  

Denis DiAngelo, PhD, Allen S. Edmonson, MD, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, PhD, Bob Foehring, PhD, Scott Jackson, DVM, Stephen King, MD, E. Haavi Morreim, PhD, William R. Morris, MD, Linda K. Myers, MD, A.P. Naren, PhD, Edwards Park, PhD, Renate Rosenthal, PhD, Laura Sprabery, MD, Richard Nollan, MLS, MA  

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

Dr. Lacey Smith, Dean CoM  
Dr. Polly Hofmann  

Approval of minutes  

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

Business  

Pres. Fitzpatrick introduced new member, Scott Jackson, DVM, of Comparative Medicine.  

Pres. Fitzpatrick then turned to the draft DFAC Recommendations for the Executive Dean and for the Vice-Chancellor for Research, a document intended to identify the attributes that faculty members deem most important in the candidates who might fill these two positions.  

One major question concerned what is the purpose of the Vice-Chancellor for Research. Many other institutions do not have such a position. It was noted that UTHSC's V-C for Research currently oversees a number of compliance issues, such as for the IRB and the IACUC. In another function the occupant of that office might be a high-end researcher who helps to drive research at the campus as a whole. Discussion also focused on the need to ensure that bridge-funding is available, perhaps through that office, e.g. for a research program that is near to landing a substantial grant, but needs a limited amount of funding to keep personnel in place until the next grant is awarded. The position is campus-wide because, although the CoM has the largest component of research, other schools such as the College of Pharmacy and the Graduate School also do substantial amounts of research.
Dr. Smith said that in the next year there will be some return of F&A funds, although not to individual investigators. The question where the money should go is obviously important, and one role for the V-C of Research is to participate in directing those funds.

A further question was how the V-C for Research will interact with UT Research Foundation. Currently the two entities are quite independent, but the hiring of a new V-C for Research could bring new opportunities to enhance the relationship and collaboration.

Further discussion attempted to lend greater specificity to the DFAC's recommendations for these two positions. Pres. Fitzpatrick will take those recommendations and, after coordinating them with the existing job descriptions for each position, produce the final set of recommendations.

A final topic concerned the fact that UTHSC does not provide the option of sabbatical leave, unlike many universities. There is an option of taking leave, sometimes with a measure of salary compensation. However, it is not well-known and is not generally as broadly available as at some other institutions.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on November 1, 2010, at 12:00 Noon in the Coleman building, Room A101 (or alternate location depending on Coleman renovation contingencies).

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

E. Haavi Morreim, JD, PhD
Secretary