This is a brief update as background to my report for Friday’s meeting. Several items that I’ll mention will be taken up separately as noted on the agenda. The one major discussion item relates to the OE issue noted below (Item 9).

1. First on the agenda, however, is a very warm welcome to our new Dean, Dr. David Vlahov. Great timing; he immediately gets to participate in a Committee meeting.

2. One item that is currently not on this agenda but is essential to deal with relates to selecting faculty to serve on the various committees next year. This is a process that always takes time and is often not finalized until the fall quarter because of changes in faculty responsibilities and other Committee and Task Force assignments that get made at the campus wide level. Your assistance with this process would be appreciated. Included in this discussion should be consideration of who will serve as Vice Chair next year.

3. As you know, the SON Future of Nursing Task Force completed its initial work and submitted a report for review and consideration. The report recommends a number of follow-up Task Forces to deal with specific issues that will assist us accomplish our goals hear at UCSF. However, there is also the recommendation that faculty be actively engaged in the various work groups at the State level and that this involvement needs to be coordinated so that UCSF SON is consistent in its message and work.

4. The Senate Membership Task Force, our SON Faculty Merit System review Task Force, and the Succession Planning Task Force have been active and updates will be provided at the meeting.

5. There are plans for a new Campus wide Dependent Care Subscription program. Paul Green will discuss this further at our May Full Faculty meeting. It will provide emergency coverage for individuals who need access to care for their children or dependent adults because of illness or other issues that arise suddenly (such as a routine care provider calling in sick last minute).

6. There is also a new joint UCSF and UC Berkeley SciQuest E-procurement System (way of buying things the Campus needs) program that is designed to save the University money. More detail may be provided on this at the May Full Faculty meeting as well.

7. AP&B finalized the proposal recommending changes to APM 670 which addresses the guidelines for occasional outside professional activities and this has been submitted for consideration. The idea was to broaden or expand opportunities at this time when salaries remain of concern and the overall budget picture looks less than promising.

8. At AP&B, there was also a presentation on the on-going UCSF Sustainability Activities and Accomplishments. This relates to building design and other activities to make the Campus “greener”. If we want more information or would like a presentation at another meeting, please let me know.
9. An issue that we will discuss relates to one we’ve considered in the past – the Operational Efficiencies groups, especially the one related to research administration. Although we did have a report on this during one of our last meetings, concerns were expressed during the Coordinating Committee about faculty involvement, what the actual cost savings will be, and how the savings (if achieved) will be apportioned. Concerns were raised about how effective service would be achieved, what would be lost to a given department, and whether this would have a more destabilizing effect. Faculty noted that a metric was needed to both specify clearly the objectives/goals and facilitate determination of whether the objectives were achieved. The recommendation was that the Faculty Councils work with their Departments to see how changes might be accomplished and/or what would be affected. We need to consider if we need to have additional discussion regarding this or whether a small group needs to get additional SON specific data on perceived impact.

10. This last item relates to the issues raised by the Faculty Welfare Committee related to Health Care coverage. I sent that out to faculty for feedback, given the very short deadline for feedback. If you have obtained feedback from the faculty in your Departments, please let me know.

I believe that’s it for now. Please let me know if you have any questions or if there are other issues that need to be addressed.

Meg