The School of Dentistry Faculty Council was called to order by Chair Torsten Wittmann on Thursday, September 20, 2012 at 8:10 a.m. in room U-506. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes from the July 19, 2012 Meeting
Council members approved the minutes.

Chair’s Report
Chair Wittmann welcomed the Council and led introductions. He also introduced Artemio Cardenas, the new analyst that will staff the Faculty Council.

Chair Wittmann gave an update on the upcoming Faculty Retreat: The retreat is scheduled for Saturday, September 29, 2012 from 9am-1pm at Fort Mason. The program is now finalized and invitations have been sent out to department chairs and faculty. So far the number of confirmed attendees remains low. Chair Wittmann will send out additional reminders in hopes that this will increase turnout. Council members confirmed their attendance and acknowledged that they will encourage others to attend.

Chair Wittmann then reviewed the agenda for the Retreat. Items on the agenda include:
- A presentation on the state of the School of Dentistry
- Presentation on Recent Innovations in Education. Joe Castro, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, will give a presentation on online education. Chair Wittmann noted that this presentation is important since education technology and online instruction will be part of the School of Dentistry’s future.
- The Faculty Development Initiative
- Science Talks – Several Science presentations will be a part of the retreat. Chair Wittmann would like this to be a part of future retreats.

Dean’s Report
Dean Featherstone reported on the follow items:

Recent Attendance of the International Dental Federation Conference: The International Dental Federation is the international version of the American Dental Association. At the conference Dean Featherstone contributed to several presentations. Each of the presentations involving the UCSF Dental
School were well received and well attended. Overall, Dean Featherstone believes the presentations were a success and the event helped to promote UCSF in a positive way.

Financial Report: Dean Featherstone gave a report to the Council on the financial state of the school. This year the school will be digging using reserves to balance the budget. He noted that all of the schools are doing the same this year. The problem is that retirement and health benefits are increasing, all while revenues are remaining stagnant. Next year’s budget is based on the assumption that Proposition 30 passes. If Proposition 30 does not pass, the School would sustain a significant cut.

Communication with the School Community: Dean Featherstone gave an overview of his continued efforts to strengthen communication lines with faculty. He has held several town hall events and has encouraged the use of email updates. After all of the efforts to communicate, he was surprised to find out from a recent survey that the top faculty concern is a perceived lack of communication from the administration. To address this issue, Dean Featherstone will be working to find new ways to reach faculty who feel they are not being informed. The Dean also encouraged Faculty Council members to help disseminate information to the faculty. Council member Mehran Hossaini suggested that a survey should go out to the faculty asking them what mode of communication faculty members feel would be best.

Business Consultant Study and Report: Recently contracted business consultants are nearing the completion of a final report of recommendations for the Dean. A presentation will be made at the September 29 Faculty Retreat. The full report will be released on October 10.

Dean Featherstone stated that he is satisfied with the work of the consultants. Once the report is released the consultants will meet with working groups to help find ways to implement recommendations. The report includes five recommendations that school leadership should consider to increase revenue. Most of these recommendations relate to clinical areas. Basic sciences also has revenue generating opportunities. These include the potential of licensing high-quality educational materials that could be sold to schools around the world. To make this happen the school needs to make investments and forge new partnerships.

The consultants have projected that implementation of the recommendations could lead to significant increase in revenues. Dean Featherstone remains cautiously optimistic and expressed that he would be very happy with even just a moderate increase in revenue.

Student Representative Report
None

Update on the Admission Interview Process

James Betbeze, Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management and Outreach, gave the Council an overview of the latest admissions numbers. After presenting the numbers, he thanked the Faculty Council for offering their support in the admission interview process last year. He encouraged them to be supportive in the coming year as well. Member Stefan Habelitz noted that last year the Faculty Council sent out a letter the department chairs and faculty reminding them of the importance of faculty participation in the interview process. The Council agreed that if participation is low this year, a similar letter should go out.

Assistant Dean Betbeze then suggested several ideas for improving the admissions process. One of these ideas is to add recent alums to the interview panel. He noted that some of the other schools at UCSF allow alums and students to participate on admissions committees. Assistant Dean Betbeze cautioned that there are some potential risks with having alumni members on admissions committees, but he would like to investigate the idea further in the future. Faculty Council acknowledged that this was a good idea and recommended specific alums and students that would be willing to serve.
Operational Excellence Update

Chair Wittmann noted that the Schools of Medicine and Nursing are working on surveys to assess faculty satisfaction and program costs associated with the Operational Excellence initiative. The Council agreed to wait until a later date to review drafts of these surveys. Once the surveys have been reviewed, the Council will then think of ways it could be implemented in the School of Dentistry.

Department Representative Reports

Cell and Tissue Biology - None
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery – There is an active search for a new chair. The process is moving along fairly quickly.
Preventative and Restorative Dental Sciences – None
Orofacial Science – None

Chair Wittmann adjourned the meeting at 9:02 am.

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