MINUTES
Tuesday, November 26, 2013

PRESENT: Marcelle Cedars (Vice Chair), Robert Baron, Renee Binder, Susannah Cornes, Teresa De Marco, Judith Ford, Ruth Goldstein, Celia Kaplan, Tim Kelly, Dana Rohde, Phil Rosenthal, Lydia Zablotska

ABSENT: Ellen Weber (Chair), Cynthia Curry, Sam Hawgood, Catherine Lucey, Jack Resneck Jr., Joseph Sullivan

GUESTS: Josh Adler, Chief Medical Officer of UCSF Medical Center; Sandra Weiss, UCSF Representative on UC’s Academic Advisory Committee

Vice Chair Marcelle Cedars called the Faculty Council meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. in room S-336.

Approval of Minutes from September 17, 2013
Council members approved the minutes (Attachment 1).

Vice Chair’s Report
Vice Chair Marcelle Cedars reported on the following:
• November School of Medicine Chairs and Directors Meeting
  It was announced that the School of Medicine will soon be implementing a new finance system. The upgrade will improve reporting mechanisms and develop a new data warehouse. A timeline for faculty training on the new system has not been established. Finally, two departments provided general reports, Radiology and Human Genetics.

Report on Gift Fee Proposal
Council member Susannah Cornes reported on the Gift Fee proposal presentation given at the October Chairs and Directors meeting (Attachment 2). At the meeting, Senior Vice Chancellor of Finance, John Plotts and several Development Office representatives provided an overview of UCSF’s plans to increase the percentage assessed to gift spending, from the current 1%, to 6%. Member Cornes explained that the increase is to fund the development office and the costs associated with the administration of donor gifts and endowments. Faculty were informed that if the increase did not take effect, UCSF would have to make up for the revenue from its dwindling reserves.

After discussion, Council members agreed that they were concerned with the proposal to retroactively assess the fee. This means that many of the faculty will have to go back to donors and inform them that their money will be doing less, or that the donors will have to provide more for overhead costs. Council agreed that they did not approve of the increased fees on retroactive gifts. Members also requested that either a member of the finance department or the development department should attend to provide more details.
Approval of Academic Standards Committee 2013-2014 Membership
Vice Chair Marcelle Cedars called the Council to vote on whether to approve of the Academic Standards Committee 2013-2014 Membership (Attachment 3). Council members reviewed and approved with the comment that next year the committee must make an effort to ensure rotation of membership to allow new members to serve. The concern arose from the fact that the 2013-2014 membership remained the same from the previous year.

International Student and Researcher Visas
Vice Chair Cedars informed the council that due to changes in federal immigration policies, some foreign-nationals participating in research at UCSF would not be able to continue. Council members requested more information on the topic.

Overview of Funds Flow Model Changes
UCSF Medical Center’s Chief Medical Officer, Josh Adler, presented to the Council on the Medical Center’s plans to reform the model used to allocate resources across the School of Medicine and the Medical Center. He informed the Council that the need for change is necessary to compensate for recent health care reforms, dwindling financial resources and increased competition. Furthermore, the current model is complex and lacks necessary financial transparency.

To address the issue, Dean Sam Hawgood and Medical Center CEO Mark Laret commissioned a group to review the current funds flow process and to propose alternatives that might be a better fit the school. The group researched models used around the country, both from academic and non-academic settings. After review, the model that the group decided best fit UCSF was the RVU (Relative Value Unit) system. In this model, all money from patient care flows into one entity, deemed “the health system,” and all costs are then burdened by the “health system.” The hope is to implement this new system by July 2014. An oversight committee has recently been assembled to ensure a smooth transition process. Over the course of the next few months, this committee will review all of the unique circumstances some departments and units may face.

Council members noted that under the new model faculty will be given disincentive to engage in teaching, as their funding will depend on the number of patients served. Council member Baron suggested that a certain set of funds be allocated by the health system to compensate for the disincentive to teach. Council members also asked about the composition of the committee that proposed the new funds flow model, and whether this group included educators or researchers? Dr. Adler informed the Council that the recommendation group consisted of relevant department chairs that are tasked with representing the interests of all faculty members.

Academic Senate’s Involvement in the Selection of UC President Napolitano
Dr. Sandra Weiss, the UCSF representative that served on the UC Academic Advisory Committee, reported to the Council on the Academic Senate’s involvement in the selection of UC President Napolitano. She informed the group that faculty where involved throughout the process in reviewing and narrowing down the group of highly qualified applicants.

Old Business.
None

New Business
Council member Diana Rhodes requested that the group discuss the topic of revising the undergraduate medical education time-to-degree from four years to three years. She shared an article with the council on the subject (Attachment 4). Members requested that Vice Dean Catherine Lucey be invited to discuss the issue. Member Baron shared a link to articles where faculty could get a resident’s perspective (Link).

Vice Chair Cedars adjourned the committee at 5:02pm.