

**Minutes of the Board of Regents  
of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences**

**Meeting No. 134  
February 6, 2001**

The Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences met on February 6, 2001, at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, 4301 Jones Bridge Road, Bethesda, Maryland. Prior notice of the meeting date and agenda was published in the Federal Register. Lonnie R. Bristow, M.D., Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The following members and advisors were in attendance:

Board Members

Lonnie R. Bristow, M.D., Chair  
Robert E. Anderson, M.D., Vice Chair  
John E. Connolly, M.D., Member  
Ikram U. Khan, M.D., Member  
RADM J. Michael Cowan, Representing the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)  
James A. Zimble, M.D., President, USU  
CAPT David S. Wade, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Navy  
MG Harold L. Timboe, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Army  
RADM Richard G. Wyatt, representing the Surgeon General of the United States  
MajGen Leonard M. Randolph, Jr. representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force

Advisors to the Board

Val G. Hemming, M.D., Dean, School of Medicine  
Faye G. Abdellah, Ed.D., Sc.D., RN, Dean, Graduate School of Nursing  
RADM Kathy L. Martin, Commander, National Naval Medical Center  
COL Michael A. Dunn, Commander, Walter Reed Army Health Care Systems  
COL Johnie S. Tillman, Commander, Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute  
COL John E. Baker, General Counsel, USU

**AWARD PRESENTATION**

Dr. Zimble and Dr. Bristow presented the University's Distinguished Service Medal to Professor Merrily Poth, M.D. who served as President of the Faculty Senate during the 1999-2000 academic year.

## **THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

Following a reminder that any item can be extracted for clarification or discussion, Dr. Bristow presented the Consent Calendar, which included the following:

- Tab 1 Notice of Open Meeting, Federal Register
- Tab 2 Members, Board of Regents
- Tab 3 Charter, Board of Regents
- Tab 4 Strategic Plan
- Tab 5 Minutes from Work Group/Executive Committee, November 19, 2000
- Tab 6 Minutes, Board Meeting, November 20, 2000
- Tab 18 Minutes, USU Executive Committee, December 18, 2000

Dr. Bristow removed the minutes from the combined Work Group I/Executive Committee meeting held on November 19, 2000 (Tab 5), from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to accept and approve the remaining items submitted.

## **BOARD ACTIONS**

### **Amendments to Minutes**

Dr. Bristow recommended a change in the language of the Work Group I/Executive Committee minutes regarding future Boards Assisting with USU Metrics.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to concur with the recommendation of Dr. Bristow to amend the minutes of Work Group/Executive Committee.

### **Amendments to Bylaws**

Dr. Bristow presented the amended Bylaws of the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences Board of Regents for approval.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to concur with the amendments to the Bylaws.

### **Appointments and Promotions**

Dr. Hemming presented 14 recommendations for faculty appointments and promotions made on December 15, 2000, by the Committee of Appointments, Promotion and Tenure. Dr. Hemming described the promotion process and the committee membership at promotion committees.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to concur with the recommendations of the Committee and the Dean, School of Medicine,

and to recommend to the President and to the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the actions.

Dr. Hemming recommended LTC Paul Mongan, USA for the new Chair, Department of Anesthesia.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to approve the nomination as presented by Dr. Hemming and recommend to the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

### **Degree Granting**

Dr. Hemming, Dean, School of Medicine, presented for certification seven individuals to receive graduate degrees in their respective programs.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to confer the degrees as presented by Dr. Hemming and recommend to the President and to the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the actions.

Dr. Hemming informed the Board of the recently announced retirement of Dr. Michael Sheridan, Associate Dean, Graduate Education, and Acting Vice President, Office of Research. The Board agreed that Dr. Sheridan's service would be greatly missed.

Dr. Abdellah recommended Lt Col Paul Austin, USAF for the Department Chair of Anesthesia and Director, Nurse Anesthesia Program.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to approve the nomination as presented by Dr. Abdellah and recommend to the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

### **Award Nominations**

Dr. Zimble presented to the Board a recommendation that the first Carol Johns Medal be awarded to Dr. Louis Pangaro, Department of Medicine. Dr. Pangaro will receive the medal at Graduation on May 19, 2001.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to approve the award as presented by Dr. Zimble and recommend to the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

Dr. Zimble presented to the Board for ratification the Distinguished Service Award for Colonel N. Emmanuel G. Cassimatis. Colonel Cassimatis has served as Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs since January 1995.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, ratified by voice vote to confer the award as presented by Dr. Zimble and recommend to the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

Dr. Zimble requested approval of the awards that will be given at Graduation:

- University Medal  
Gerald W. Fischer, MD, COL, MC, USA (Ret)  
RADM Eleanor C. Mariano, MC, USN
- Honorary Degree - Doctor of Medical Jurisprudence  
The Honorable Ted Stevens  
The Honorable Bob Dole

Dr. Zimble informed the Board that RADM Mariano will be speaking at Graduation. She is the first woman graduate from USUHS to be promoted to Flag Rank.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to confer the awards as presented, and recommend to the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

Dr. Bristow presented for ratification the Exceptional Service Award for Ms. Florence Elizabeth Bowden. Ms. Bowden served as Deputy Vice President for Research and Director of Research Administration.

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted by voice vote to ratify the award as presented and recommend to the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

#### **PRESENTATION: MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM**

On behalf of Dr. Clinton, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, CAPT Richard Welton, USN, TRICARE Management Chief of Staff, presented a report to the Board on the National Defense Authorization Act of 2001.

#### **SEMIANNUAL REPORT:**

##### **Faculty Affairs**

Dr. Marks reported that the University is in the process of adding an honorific academic title to Instruction 1100, which governs titles and faculty appointments. The title, "International Professor of..." is time limited and would be conferred following a department's nomination and thorough review.

#### **REPORT: WORK GROUP II**

Dr. Bristow reminded the Board that this year's annual report to the Secretary of Defense is scheduled to focus on research. The Board discussed the fact that Secretary Rumsfeld was the Secretary of Defense when the first class entered the University. Dr. Anderson suggested postponing research and producing a report on the success of the University for the benefit of the new administration. He added that the committee for

research should continue its work for next year's report. It was decided that a new outline be produced and distributed.

### **REPORT: WORK GROUP I**

Dr. Connolly explained the purpose of Work Group I and reported on the progress made since the work group's last meeting. Dr. Zimble and Dr. Bristow suggested that parts of the findings should be published.

Dr. Connolly suggested that the University conduct a study every three years. Dr. Bristow suggested a five-year cycle. The Board agreed that a first replication of the Metrics Project would occur in three years and after that it should be done every five years. Dr. Khan stated that the most difficult part is collecting data and creating a new database.

### **AWARD PRESENTATION**

An award ceremony started the afternoon portion of the meeting. Dr. Zimble and Dr. Bristow presented the University's Exceptional Service Medal to Ms. Elizabeth Bowden, who served as Deputy Vice President for Research and Director of Research Administration.

### **CORE REPORTS:**

#### **President's Report**

Dr. Zimble updated the Board on several issues:

- Dr. Steven Kaminsky will be joining the University in March as the Vice President of Research.
- The University sent a letter to the Secretary of Defense through VADM Nelson on January 22, 2001, that contained nine prospective Board members.
- On January 22, Senator Feingold introduced S. 114, a bill to close the University. Dr. Zimble suggested that Dr. Bristow send a letter from the Board of Regents to Senator Feingold.
- The University received a Meritorious Unit Citation from the Department of Defense signed by Secretary Cohen. Military and civilian faculty and staff, including Board of Regents members, are eligible to wear the citation.
- Dr. Zimble received a letter from Dr. Etter regarding AFRRRI budget cuts. The University will put together a scientific review board to review Dr. Etter's concerns and make recommendations.

Dr. Bristow stated the importance of increasing public awareness about the University. He suggested that the Office of Public Affairs forward publicity items to Board members in order to facilitate publication in their local newspapers.

Dr. Abdellah informed the Board that the Graduate School of Nursing (GSN) is preparing for three accreditations. She also extended an invitation to the May 15, 2001, Virtual Graduation of the Distance Learning Program's second class. This program is a cooperative effort between DoD and the Department of Veterans' Affairs to prepare adult nurse practitioners. Dr. Abdellah stated there has been steady growth in the program.

Mrs. Ahern reported on the University's progress in fundraising. She solicited suggestions from Board members.

### **Budget**

Mr. Rice informed the Board that the University's budget is on track for the year. Areas of concern include TRICARE management activities and continuing funds for facility maintenance.

Dr. Zimble raised a concern about rising utility costs. Mr. Rice said next year rates would probably double.

### **Dean, School of Medicine**

Dr. Hemming reported on turnover of faculty and staff due to military tours as well as positions funded through research grants. He also described the University's program that requires all departments to undergo a self-study every five years or at the change of the department's chair. Dr. Hemming added that teaching space is the biggest problem at the University.

### **Vice President, Recruitment and Diversity Affairs**

LtCol Miller presented a report on diversity and the Post-baccalaureate Program. Colonel Miller asked the Board to help contact minority applicants. She also mentioned that the University would like to create a preparatory school for USUHS.

Dr. Bristow suggested the University approach the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Kellogg Foundation for financial assistance. Dr. Hemming replied that attempts have been made, but without success.

### **Assistant Dean, Admissions and Academic Records**

Mr. Stavish reported the statistics to date describing the incoming class.

### **Associate Dean, Graduate Education**

Dr. Sheridan informed the Board that this year the University has 210 applications for the Graduate Program. Sixty are for the Master's in Public Health. A new program, Immerging Infectious Diseases, has 60 applications this year. At last year's open house the Special Dean Scholarships attracted three students that would have otherwise attended graduate school elsewhere.

### **Student Management**

Dr. Hemming stated that the University has a good safety net that helps students succeed. None of the students at the lower end of the class failed the Board examination because they were identified early and were given assistance. Some students in the middle of the class failed because they did not have obvious problems.

LCDR Erickson informed the Board that 125 students are working to obtain the German Troop Proficiency Badge.

## **SEMIANNUAL REPORTS:**

### **Research**

Dr. Sheridan informed the Board of the Graduate Student Colloquium on April 10-11. Dr. Roy Curtis from Washington University in St. Louis will be the keynote speaker. The theme for this year's colloquium is Emerging Research Technologies.

Dr. Sheridan updated the Board on the current status of funding for research at the University. The \$76 million program is divided into four categories: in-house funding of intramural research continuation, new in-house funding for the fiscal year, extramural funding continuation, and new extramural funding for the fiscal year. AFRRRI research is separate but will be included next year.

### **Medical Education**

Dr. Waechter reported on University preparations for the up-coming Middle States Association accreditation. Preparation for the Spring 2003 site visit will begin 18 months prior to the visit. Dr. Elizabeth Sibolski, the new Middle States Association liaison, plans to meet with the members of the Board on May 18, 2001.

### **Faculty Senate**

Dr. Conran reported on the Faculty Senate Clinicopathologic Correlation (CPC). The seminars occur during the lunch period so West Coast military sites can participate. The CPC brings department and clinical faculty together and educates both students and faculty.

Senator John Warner, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, has been invited by the Faculty Senate to give the Packard Lecture this year.

### **Henry M. Jackson Foundation**

Mr. John Lowe, President, described recent Foundation activities:

- A Council of Directors meeting was held on December 15, 2000.
- A Joint Office of Technology Transfer (JOTT) has been established between the University and the Foundation.
- Key business processes and communications are being transferred online.

### **VIDEO PRESENTATION: MEDICAL ERRORS**

Following the presentation, Dr. Bristow noted that the solution to medical errors lies in identifying and constructively changing flawed systems rather than blaming individuals.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Following compliments for the presentations heard and there being no further business, a motion was made, seconded, and duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:



Bobby D. Anderson  
Executive Secretary, Board of Regents



Lonnie R. Bristow  
Chair, Board of Regents

Prepared by Jeannie Robins  
Staff, Board of Regents