

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

**Meeting No. 166
February 3, 2009**

The Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences met on February 3, 2009, at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, 4301 Jones Bridge Road, Bethesda, Maryland. The meeting date and agenda were published in the Federal Register and each Regent was duly notified prior to the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Members and advisors listed below were in attendance:

Board Members

Ronald R. Blanck, D.O., Chair
Colleen Conway-Welch, Ph.D., MSN, Vice Chair
Otis W. Brawley, M.D., Member
Haile T. Debas, M.D., Member
Michael M.E. Johns, M.D., Member
Lawrence C. Mohr, M.D., Member
Kenneth P. Moritsugu, M.D., M.P.H., Member
Charles L. Rice, M.D., President, USU
Stephen L. Jones, DHA, representing the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
RADM Steven K. Galson, USPHS, Acting Surgeon General of the United States
RADM Thomas R. Cullison, MC, USN, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Navy
Maj Gen Kimberly A. Siniscalchi, USAF, NC, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force
COL Jonathan H. Jaffin, MC, USA, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Army

Advisors to the Board

Gen Thomas R. Morgan, USMC (Ret), Military Advisor to the Board
VADM John M. Mateczun, MC, USN, Commander, Joint Task Force, National Capital Region Medical
Larry W. Laughlin, M.D., Ph.D., Dean, F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, USU
Ada Sue Hinshaw, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, Dean, Graduate School of Nursing, USU
COL Donald E. Hall, MSC, USA, for the Director, Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute
Col John P. Mitchell, USAF, MC, Commander, Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute
COL Norvell V. Coots, MC, USA, Commander, Walter Reed Army Health Care System
CAPT Daniel J. Zinder, MC, USN, representing the Commander, National Naval Medical Center
Col Grant R. Hartup, USAF, DC, representing the Commander, 79th Medical Wing
John E. Baker, J.D., General Counsel, USU

COMMEMORATION

Following a tribute to the Honorable Robert E. Anderson, who died unexpectedly in January 2009, Dr. Blanck asked for a moment of silence and remembrance. Dr. Anderson served the university as a Regent from 1996-2002 and during his term contributed hundreds of hours preparing the Board's annual reports to the Secretary of Defense.

MATTERS OF GENERAL CONSENT

After welcoming remarks and introductions, Dr. Blanck presented the matters of general consent listed below:

- Meeting dates for the coming year
- Minutes of the November 18, 2008, Board of Regents Meeting
- Notice of electronic approval of the Distinguished Service Medal to the Honorable Everett Alvarez, Jr., the Distinguished Service Medal to the Honorable Linda J. Stierle, and the University Medal to Ms. Carol R. Scheman. These awards were approved in October 2008.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To approve the matters of general consent as presented.

BOARD ACTIONS

Degree Granting – Graduate Education

Dr. Metcalf presented for certification two candidates to receive the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, one candidate to receive the degree of Master of Science and one candidate to receive the degree of Master of Science in Public Health. One candidate to receive the degree of Master of Public Health and one candidate to receive the degree of Master of Tropical Health and Hygiene were also presented to the Board.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendations as presented by Dr. Metcalf and to recommend that the President confer the degrees as stated.

Faculty Appointments and Promotions – School of Medicine

Dr. Laughlin presented the recommendations made by the School of Medicine Committee of Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at a meeting on December 17, 2008. Eight individuals were recommended for faculty appointments, promotions or tenure.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To approve the recommendations of the Committee as presented by Dr. Laughlin and to recommend that the President implement the actions as stated.

New Graduate Program – School of Medicine

Dr. Laughlin presented for approval the Masters Degree in Healthcare Administration. This new degree program from the Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics was unanimously approved by the school's Graduate Education Committee on January 21, 2009. Additionally, it was reviewed and discussed by the Board of Regents Academics Committee on February 2, 2009. Discussion concerning current program interest and the timing of student applications led to the following action.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To waive Article IV, G. of the Bylaws of the Board of Regents which states that recommendations for new programs are "read into the minutes" when first presented and acted upon "at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting."

The Board then considered the establishment of the new degree program.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To approve the Masters Degree in Healthcare Administration, a new graduate program within the Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics.

Faculty Appointments and Promotions – Graduate School of Nursing

Dr. Hinshaw presented the recommendations made by the Graduate School of Nursing Committee of Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at a meeting on December 8, 2008. Two individuals were recommended for promotions.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To approve the recommendations of the Committee as presented by Dr. Hinshaw and to recommend that the President implement the actions as stated.

Awards and Honors

Dr. Bauer presented a recommendation that the USUHS Exceptional Service Medal be awarded to Captain Gerald Denton for his exemplary service to the Faculty Senate from 2005-2008.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendation as presented by Dr. Bauer.

Dr. Bauer presented the Faculty Senate's nomination for the Carol J. Johns, M.D. Medal for Outstanding USUHS Faculty Member. The senate requests approval of Brian M. Cox, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacology, as the 2009 recipient.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To approve the nomination as presented by Dr. Bauer.

Dr. Rice presented a recommendation that Robert J.T. Joy, M.D., receive the degree of Doctor of Military Medicine Honoris Causa. Dr. Joy's nomination for this honorary degree was approved by the Committee for Names and Honors on January 27, 2009.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendation as presented by Dr. Rice.

Dr. Rice presented a recommendation to name Classroom F in Building E the Faye G. Abdellah Auditorium. Dr. Abdellah was the first dean of the Graduate School of Nursing. The Committee for Names and Honors approved this nomination on January 27, 2009.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendation as presented by Dr. Rice.

PRESENTATION: ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Following a break, the Board reconvened at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI) located at 8901 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland. COL Hall presented an overview of the institute and its work. His remarks emphasized the following points:

- AFRRI is the only medical nuclear/radiological defense research and development institute in the Department of Defense.
- The institute conducts radiobiology research and develops medical countermeasures, trains medical personnel in radiation threats and medical countermeasures, advises Commands within the Department on radiological matters and provides subject matter experts to other federal agencies, as well as international organizations.
- AFRRI operates a TRIGA reactor to generate radiation for experiments
 - It has been used at the institute since 1962
 - It is unique because it operates in both steady-state and pulse modes and includes various exposure facilities
 - It is inherently safe
- The institute's integration into the university, along with the renewed realization of the importance of its work, has resulted in much needed infrastructure upgrades and renovations since 2006.

Board members toured the facility before returning to the university.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Rice briefly reviewed many of the efforts to date concerning increased compensation for USU faculty and reported that proposed amounts in the Department's budget plans for FY 2010 – FY 2015 adequately address comparability with other medical schools. In response to ensuing discussion, Dr. Rice also said the dean of the School of Medicine and the dean of the Graduate School of Nursing have each established a working group for salary planning and review. Other items in the President's Report included the following:

- An update by Ms. Mary Dix on the proposed construction of Building F. Her remarks emphasized the importance of the extensive documentation process used to identify current and future space requirements as well as a commitment to an inclusive and open process.
- Progress on the integration of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center continues and the university remains actively involved in the process. COL Jeffrey Longacre, MC, USA (Ret) is the university's liaison officer to the Joint Task Force National Capital Region Medical.
- The establishment of a branch campus in San Antonio, Texas, to support undergraduate medical education, advanced practice nursing education and an expanded clinical psychology program remains feasible. Personnel requirements are currently being considered.
- The Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education recently appointed USU's Ms. Sylvia Scherr to its Accreditation Review Committee.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academics Committee

Dr. Johns reported that the committee heard briefs from the Dean, School of Medicine; Dean, Graduate School of Nursing; Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education; and President, Faculty Senate. From these reports and the committee's ensuing discussion, Dr. Johns highlighted the possibility that some graduate medical education programs in the National Capital Area may have accreditation concerns due to the effects of the war on patient mix in certain specialties. In response to these concerns, the committee suggested Board action on the following resolution:

The Board expresses its serious concern over the paucity of the over 65 year old patient population within our Military Treatment Facilities and notes the negative impact on graduate and undergraduate medical education and on advanced practice nursing education. The Board urges the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to seek to take positive steps towards a remedy.

Discussion of the issue included the following points:

- The resolution's purpose is to highlight the issue as one that is not only in the National Capital Area but rather system-wide.
- The current system seems to lack a primary care structure.
- The development of an organized referral system from civilian to military health care providers and facilities is needed.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To approve the resolution as presented by Dr. Johns.

Finance and Administration Committee

Dr. Brawley summarized the reports heard by the Finance and Administration Committee:

- USU's Vice President for Finance and Administration presented alternative methods of reporting the university's financial information. Dr. Brawley said the committee is interested in a strategic, rather than operational, view of the budget, which probably means a change from past reports to the Board.
- The USU Brigade is experiencing a significant amount of personnel turnover in many of its offices.
- The relationship between the university and the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine is excellent. The foundation was created by Congress in 1983 to facilitate university activities. In FY 2008, endowments managed for USU by the foundation were valued at \$50 million.

Development and External Affairs Committee

Dr. Moritsugu reviewed the primary discussion points raised during the meeting:

- The committee's emphasis is twofold
 - Raising the university's profile both within the Department of Defense and in the general public

- Engaging in a robust development program
- Approaches to development include traditional avenues, such as those used by the military academies, and non-traditional activities, which involve private funding.
- The consensus of the committee is that development is good and the university should be engaged in these types of activities.
- It would be helpful to develop a “case statement” to define the university’s public image, and, in close coordination, to also develop a strategic plan for external affairs.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Blanck adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

SUBMITTED:



William T. Bester
Acting Executive Secretary, Board of Regents

APPROVED:



Ronald R. Blanck
Chair, Board of Regents

Prepared by Janet S. Taylor