

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

**Meeting No. 155
May 19, 2006**

The Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences met on May 19, 2006, 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 9:00 a.m. The following members and advisors were in attendance:

Board Members

Everett Alvarez, Jr., J.D., Chair
Otis W. Brawley, M.D., Member
Sharon A. Falkenheimer, M.D., M.P.H., Member
Lawrence C. Mohr, M.D., Member
Charles L. Rice, M.D., President, USU
Stephen L. Jones, Ph.D., representing the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs
David N. Tornberg, M.D., representing the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs
MG Kenneth L. Farmer, Jr., representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Army
CAPT Robert M. Taft, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Navy
Col Arnyce R. Pock, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force

Advisors to the Board

Larry W. Laughlin, M.D., Ph.D., Dean, F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, USU
Patricia Hinton Walker, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, Dean, Graduate School of Nursing, USU
COL Virgil T. Deal, Commander, Walter Reed Army Health Care System
CDR Martha K. Girz, representing the Commander, National Naval Medical Center
John E. Baker, J.D., General Counsel, USU

AWARDS

Mr. Alvarez and Dr. Denes Agoston, President, Faculty Senate, presented the Carol J. Johns, M.D., Medal to Alison O'Brien, Ph.D., a world-renowned microbiologist and Chair, Department of Microbiology and Immunology. The Carol Johns Medal honors a faculty member whose accomplishments emulate Doctor Johns' spirit by furthering the welfare of the USU faculty, promoting outstanding educational programs for students, and advancing the reputation of the University.

Following his welcome and introductory remarks, Mr. Alvarez announced that COL Richard Ricciardi, AN, USA, is the recipient of the 2006 Board of Regents Award. The award, which recognizes a graduating student of the highest caliber, will be presented at the USU Commencement on May 20, 2006. COL Ricciardi is an inaugural doctoral student in the Graduate School of Nursing.

MATTERS OF GENERAL CONSENT

Dates for upcoming Board of Regents Meetings have changed. The new date for each Meeting of Record is listed below:

- Summer Meeting – Monday, July 31, 2006
- Fall Meeting – Monday, November 13, 2006
- Winter Meeting – Monday, February 5, 2007

Mr. Alvarez presented the Consent Calendar following a reminder to Regents that any item of consent can be extracted for clarification or discussion:

- Tab 7 Minutes, Committee of the Whole, February 6, 2006
- Tab 8 Minutes, Board of Regents Meeting, February 7, 2006
- Tab 31 Report to the Board, Student Affairs
- Tab 32 Report to the Board, External Affairs
- Tab 33 Report to the Board, Office of Review and Evaluation
- Tabs 34-35 Reports to the Board, Teaching and Research Support
- Tab 36 Report to the Board, Graduate Medical Education
- Tabs 37-40 Reports to the Board, Continuing Education for Health Professionals

The Board, upon motion duly made and seconded,

Voted by voice vote: To approve the minutes of both aforementioned meetings and accept, as submitted, reports presented to the Board for information.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Rice acknowledged Dr. Steven Kaminsky, Vice President for Research; the Research Day Planning Committee; and the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Inc. for their important contributions to a successful Research Week 2006 which concluded yesterday, May 18. The President's Report also included the following:

- A description of the administrative reorganization at USU, which consolidates some activities formerly existing in each of the University's programs and expands other functions across the University which formerly were centered in the School of Medicine
- A report from Dr. Schinski, Special Assistant for Integration, regarding the University's involvement as plans progress for the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. USU will host a retreat at the end of May 2006 involving senior staff in military medicine throughout the National Capital Area. The purpose is to share decisions to date and initiate broad plans for the next few years. The present plan has four stages:
 - To bring the two medical centers together with USU
 - To bring in other bedded facilities
 - To bring in clinics and related activities
 - To bring in the network

MG Farmer added that the University is indeed stepping into a new role within the Military Healthcare System in the National Capital Area.

- A new DoD Instruction has been signed which clarifies the relationship between the Armed Forces Radiobiological Research Institute and USU
- A review of the University's centers and institutes has begun. A committee chaired by Dr. Dale Smith is evaluating the use of the terms and comparing USU's policies with those of other universities
- A review of increasing collaborations with the United States Public Health Service, including its commitment to sponsor additional students at the University
- A summary of current space issues, including the possibility of moving some administrative functions off campus

DEANS' AND DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Graduate School of Nursing

Dr. Hinton Walker announced the retirement of Dr. Barbara Sylvia, Professor and Chair, Department of Health, Injury, and Disease Management. Other items in her report to the Board included:

- Admissions for 2006 stand at 53 for the school's masters programs. Enrollment in the Nurse Anesthesia Program has more than doubled in the past two years
- Current searches for a vice dean; department chair; and two faculty members
- An update on the status of research grant submissions

In response to a question from Dr. Mohr, Dr. Hinton Walker clarified the three Ph.D. program options—full time, part time, or on-line part time.

School of Medicine

Dr. Laughlin announced with pride that Dr. Alison O'Brien has been named co-principal investigator for the Middle Atlantic Regional Centers of Excellence, a consortium of 18 institutions funded for research in biodefense and emerging infectious diseases. Other points in Dr. Laughlin's report included:

- An overview of the School of Medicine's re-accreditation process by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)
 - USU's institutional self-study begins in May 2006 and will be submitted to the LCME in July 2007
 - The LCME site visit will occur in October 2007
- The Association of American Medical Colleges predicts a physician shortage and is recommending that medical schools substantially increase enrollment
- The increased enrollment of Public Health Service students is due to the efforts of many, including Dr. Rice, Mr. Stavish, and Dr. and RADM Haffner.
- Current chair searches are ongoing in the departments of dermatology, pathology and biochemistry

Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI)

COL Jarrett presented the AFRRI report:

- In conjunction with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, AFRRI maintains three teams available for worldwide deployment and consultation in medical radiological defense. Due to loss of active duty billets, preservation of these teams, each consisting of a physician and health physicist, may not remain tenable

- 5-Androstenediol remains the pharmaceutical furthest advanced in development as a treatment for radiation injury. Progress continues on this drug, primarily in the private sector
- AFRRI offered 14 training courses this year on the medical effects of ionizing radiation (MEIR), with the customer bearing the majority of the costs. The course was forwarded as an FY 2006 Unfinanced Requirement to the Tricare Management Activity as part of the USU mid-year review
- The new DoD Instruction defining AFRRI establishes a Board of Governors for the Institute. Members include the Principal Deputy ASD(HA); the Surgeons General of the Army, Navy and Air Force; the Deputy Chiefs of Staff for Operations of the Army, Navy and Air Force; the Joint Staff Surgeon; the President, USU; a representative of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Defense Programs, and the Director, AFRRI. The purpose of the Board is to advise the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs on policies relevant to medical radiological defense and to facilitate broad DoD participation in supporting the AFRRI mission
- The Board of Governors is scheduled to meet on June 16, 2006

MG Farmer stressed the importance of reassigning resources in conjunction with program realignment. Mr. Walter Tinling, Assistant Vice President, Resource Management, assured the Board this was indeed the case. AFRRI's resources are now completely incorporated into USU's accounting system.

STANDING RULES OF ORDER

Questions regarding the presence of a quorum prior to the meeting led to an examination of the Bylaws of the Board of Regents vis-à-vis 10 U.S.C. §2112 *et seq*, which establishes the University. Mr. Baker explained to the Board that these documents are inconsistent concerning the voting privileges of those who attend meetings as designees of the Surgeons General. Revised bylaws will be brought to the Board following further review.

BOARD ACTIONS

Degree Granting – School of Medicine

Dr. Laughlin presented for certification the Class of 2006. Each of the 159 students therein has completed the requirements necessary to be awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine and to enter graduate medical education.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To confer the degree of Doctor of Medicine on each member of the Class of 2006 as presented by Dr. Laughlin and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

Degree Granting – Graduate School of Nursing

Dr. Hinton Walker presented for certification 26 graduate nurses having successfully completed requirements for the Master of Science in Nursing degree.

Seventeen students have completed the Graduate School of Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Program and nine have completed the Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist Program.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To confer the degrees as presented by Dr. Hinton Walker and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

Degree Granting – Graduate Education

Dr. Laughlin presented for certification 35 candidates to receive graduate degrees in the biomedical sciences: five to receive a Doctor of Philosophy; two, a Master of Comparative Medicine; four, a Master of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene; and 24 a Master of Public Health.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To confer the degrees as presented by Dr. Laughlin and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

Faculty Appointments and Promotions

Dr. Hinton Walker presented a recommendation made by the Graduate School of Nursing Committee of Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at a meeting on April 6, 2006. It was recommended that Gloria Ramsey, J.D., R.N., be appointed to the rank of associate professor.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendation of the Committee as presented by Dr. Hinton Walker and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

Dr. Laughlin presented the recommendations made by the School of Medicine Committee of Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at a meeting on April 3, 2006. Seventeen individuals were recommended for faculty appointments, promotions or tenure.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendations of the Committee as presented by Dr. Laughlin and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the actions.

PRESENTATION: USU AND THE OUTSIDE WORLD

Ms. Scheman described four initiatives the Office of External Affairs has begun in support of the University's new communication plan:

- Implementing a "branding" effort, which includes adopting an easily recognizable consistent image. To this end, a crisp USU logo has been created to be used on

presentations, business cards, press releases, the website and items in the University bookstore. The University seal remains in use on official documents and for formal occasions.

- Publishing a bi-weekly newsletter, which can be used for external audiences as well as increasing communication within the University
- Improving USU's website, which includes making it more attractive, more informative, easier to navigate and current
- Creating an annual report, tentatively named *Profiles*, which can be used for many audiences including prospective students and faculty, other Government agencies, the media and the general public

PRESENTATION: USU BRIGADE

CAPT Rumbaugh described the USU Brigade, which provides military relevance to the University. His report included the following information:

- The Brigade comprises 270 officers and enlisted service members and includes faculty members, scientists, administrators, and support personnel
- The Brigade supports the University's mission. Examples include:
 - Providing administrative support and military specific information to faculty, staff and students
 - Contributing to military unique field training such as Operation Bushmaster, combat medical skills and basic field skills
 - Supporting missions including those in Iraq and Afghanistan
 - Emphasizing personal development, including off duty education especially among enlisted personnel
 - Conducting Physical Readiness Testing and enforcing standards of protocol
 - Providing ceremonial support for University events and appropriate military recognition for individual performance
- Recent initiatives include standardizing policies, expanding the emphasis of operational support University-wide and emphasizing USU's unity of purpose

REPORTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Budget

Mr. Tinling presented the quarterly budget report for Mr. Rice, who is currently detailed to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, U.S. Navy. The following items were included:

- The overall Operations and Maintenance budget is currently \$99,500,000 and Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation funds currently stand at \$17,300,000
- USU has completed the Tricare Management Activity FY 2006 Mid-year Review and is competing well for funds should they become available

Recruitment and Admissions, School of Medicine

Dr. Laughlin reported that the admissions cycle for the Class of 2010 is nearing completion. Candidates accepted at more than one medical school were obligated to declare their choice on May 15, 2006. Usually about one-third of the University's offers

are declined, which means alternates are then offered slots. The class will be officially filled in early July, and will be described in detail at the Summer Meeting.

United States Military Cancer Institute (USMCI)

Dr. Potter summarized significant Institute events since his last report:

- Dr. Rice has designated Col Gary Crouch, MC, USAF, as the Chair, USMCI Institutional Review Board (IRB). The Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Madigan Army Medical Center and the National Cancer Institute have all expressed an interest in using the Institute’s IRB as a model for protocol review
- There is interest in an Inter-agency Agreement between the USMCI and the National Cancer Institute
- The Institute has submitted a proposal to the Base Realignment and Closure Steering Committee for establishing a Cancer Center of Excellence on the Bethesda campus in conjunction with the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative Oversight

Dr. Mohr reviewed the committee’s work to date on two current issues:

- Defining the processes involved in the annual evaluation of the University President and their coordination with Health Affairs
- Clarifying the criteria and procedures concerning all honorary awards approved by the Board of Regents

Annual Report to the Secretary of Defense

Mr. Alvarez requested that additional time be allotted to review the final draft of the 2006 Annual Report. He added, however, that there were no objections to those present signing the report’s opening letter to the Secretary of Defense.

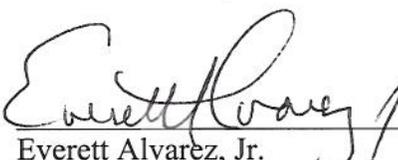
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Alvarez adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

SUBMITTED:


CAPT Jane E. Mead, NC, USN
Executive Secretary, Board of Regents

APPROVED:


Everett Alvarez, Jr.
Chair, Board of Regents

Prepared by Janet S. Taylor