

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

**Meeting No. 185  
October 23, 2013**

The Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences met on October 23, 2013, at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, 4301 Jones Bridge Road, Bethesda, Maryland. The meeting date and agenda items were published in the Federal Register and each Regent was duly notified prior to the meeting. The Board Executive Secretary, Jeffrey L. Longacre, M.D., was present during the meeting along with the Designated Federal Officer, Mrs. S. Leeann Ori and the Alternate Designated Federal Officer, Mrs. Jennifer K. Nuetzi James. 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  
Sheila P. Burke, M.P.A., Member  
GEN Ronald H. Griffith, USA (Ret), Member  
Michael M.E. Johns, M.D., Member  
Kenneth P. Moritsugu, M.D., Member  
Gail R. Wilensky, Ph.D., Member  
Jonathan Woodson, M.D., Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs  
Charles L. Rice, M.D., President, USU  
MG M. Ted Wong, DC, USA, Representing the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army  
RADM William M. Roberts, MC, USN, Representing the Surgeon General of the U.S. Navy  
Lt Gen Thomas W. Travis, USAF, MC, Surgeon General of the U.S. Air Force  
RADM Boris D. Lushniak, USPHS, Acting Surgeon General of the U.S.

Advisors to the Board

Gen Thomas R. Morgan, USMC (Ret), Military Advisor to the Board  
Arthur L. Kellermann, M.D., M.P.H., Dean, F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, USU  
Ada Sue Hinshaw, Ph.D., R.N., Dean, Graduate School of Nursing, USU  
Patrick D. Sculley, D.D.S., M.A., Executive Dean, Postgraduate Dental College, USU  
Col L. Andrew Huff, USAF, MC, Director, Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute, USU  
RDML Raquel C. Bono, MC, USN, Commander, Defense Health Agency National Capital  
Region Medical Directorate  
BG Jeffrey B. Clark, MC, USA, Director, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center  
Joshua Girton, J.D., Legal Advisor to the Board of Regents, USU

**OPENING COMMENTS**

In his opening comments, Dr. Blanck welcomed RADM William Roberts, the Commandant of the Medical Education and Training Campus and representative for the U.S.

Navy Surgeon General, RDML Raquel Bono, the new Commander, Defense Health Agency National Capital Region Medical Directorate, and BG Jeffrey Clark, the new Director of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. In addition, Dr. Blanck introduced Dr. Kellermann who was attending the meeting for the first time as the Dean of the School of Medicine. The following points were also included in Dr. Blanck's opening remarks:

- The Board's annual assessment of the USU President was submitted to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs on September 6<sup>th</sup>. As the discussion contained information protected by the privacy act, the assessment was held during the closed session of the July 30, 2013 meeting.
- A closed session was scheduled to occur following the open meeting to discuss personnel actions and active investigations.
- On October 22, 2013 an announcement was published in the Federal Register to report a change of location for the fall meeting. Due to the government shutdown, the announcement was released less than 15 days in advance of the meeting; however, the public was duly notified by the Board of Regents website and members of the University were informed by e-mail.
- The Board was invited to attend two upcoming events at the University: the Graduate School of Nursing 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Renaming Ceremony on October 29, 2013 and the Simulation Center Ribbon Cutting and Renaming Ceremony, which is scheduled for November 18, 2013.

#### **MATTERS OF GENERAL CONSENT**

Dr. Blanck presented the matters of general consent listed below.

- The meeting dates for the next two years
  - Dr. Blanck noted that the February 2014 meeting will be held at the USU Simulation Center at the request of the Board.
- Minutes of the July 30, 2013 meeting
- Electronic approval by the Board of the following actions:
  - The granting of seven biomedical sciences and public health degrees within the School of Medicine Graduate Programs. This includes five Doctor of Philosophy degrees, one Master of Science degree and one Master of Public Health degree.
  - The granting of Master of Science in Nursing degrees to 29 nurse anesthesia students within the Graduate School of Nursing.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice vote:** Approved the matters of general consent as presented.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Rice opened his report to the Board with an overview of the events surrounding the recent government shutdown. The University's primary mission, the education of students, was preserved through support from many active duty service members who were exempted from the closure. Col Kevin Glasz, the Brigade Commander, served as the Acting President and added

that the most significant casualty of the shutdown was the cancellation of the Bushmaster exercises. Dr. Eleanor Metcalf, Associate Dean of the School of Medicine Graduate Programs, reported that because the graduate students are not government employees, they were able to attend classes during the shutdown. In addition, civilian faculty members were excepted from the furlough while teaching active duty students, which further reduced the effect on the education mission.

The summarized points below were also included in Dr. Rice's report.

- The full-time equivalent (FTE) limit on the University continues to impact the hiring process. Dr. Rice explained the ceiling created for the University does not include additional missions assigned by Program Objective Memorandum (POM) provisions.
- The Enlisted to Medical Degree Preparatory Program (EMDP2) continues to make significant progress and is receiving enormous interest from potential candidates. While the Air Force has signed up fully, the Army legal counsel is raising questions about USU's authority to create such a program. Dr. Rice is confident that this concern will be resolved favorably. In the coming months the services will screen candidates, which will then be evaluated by the University, and a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be released for civilian institutions to provide the additional education requirements.
- USU alumni have recently made a number of notable achievements, to include School of Medicine alumnus Bruce Gillingham, who was just selected for the rank of Rear Admiral (lower half).
- A Town Hall meeting will be held on October 24, 2013 to provide the University with an update on the shutdown and recent actions within the University. Slides for the meeting were provided to the Board.

## **BOARD ACTIONS**

### **Faculty Appointments and Promotions – Postgraduate Dental College**

Dr. Sculley presented the recommendations made by the Postgraduate Dental College Committee on Appointments and Promotion at a meeting held on September 4, 2013. Three individuals were recommended for faculty appointments or promotion.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice voted:** Concurred with the recommendations as presented by Dr. Sculley and recommended that the President implement the actions.

### **Faculty Appointments and Promotions – Graduate School of Nursing**

Dr. Hinshaw presented the recommendations made by the Graduate School of Nursing Committee on Appointments, Promotion and Tenure. Two individuals were recommended for faculty appointments or promotion.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice voted:** Concurred with the recommendations as presented by Dr. Hinshaw and recommended that the President implement the actions.

### **Faculty Appointments and Promotions – School of Medicine**

Dr. Kellermann presented the recommendations made by the School of Medicine Committee on Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at a meeting held on August 28, 2013. Twenty individuals were recommended for faculty appointments or promotion.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice voted:** Concurred with the recommendations as presented by Dr. Kellermann and recommended that the President implement the actions.

### **EXECUTIVE DEAN’S REPORT ON THE POSTGRADUATE DENTAL COLLEGE**

Dr. Sculley provided a report to the Board on recent actions within the Southern Region Office and the Postgraduate Dental College. The items below summarize Dr. Sculley’s report.

- On December 1, 2013 the Southern Region Office will relocate to their new building at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.
- The Air Force Postgraduate Dental School endodontics programs at Keesler Air Force Base and Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland matriculated their first class on July 1, 2013. Additionally, Dr. Sculley added that the substantive change packet to include the Fort Gordon endodontics, periodontics and prosthodontics programs within the Army Postgraduate Dental School was submitted to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.
- At the July 2013 meeting, the Board proposed that a working group be established by Dr. Woodson to further explore the potential affiliation between USU and the Medical Education and Training Campus (METC). Dr. Woodson informed the Board that with the creation of the Defense Health Agency, RADM Roberts has been appointed as the Director of Military Medical Education and Training. In this position RADM Roberts will provide a report to Dr. Woodson that will include a plan for further exploring the relationship.
- MAJ Christopher Bowen, a comprehensive dentistry resident in the Army Postgraduate Dental School, participated in a cooperative health engagement in Thanh Hoa Province, Vietnam. Pictures from MAJ Bowen’s visit were provided to the Board.

### **DEAN’S REPORT ON THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NURSING**

In the Graduate School of Nursing report, Dr. Hinshaw included the points below.

- On October 29, 2013 the Graduate School of Nursing will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and renaming of the school in honor of Senator Daniel Inouye.
- The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program has admitted its second class. By May 2014 all students will convert to doctoral degrees, with the exception of the Clinical Nurse Specialists students.
- The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) site visit is complete and the DNP program excelled in all of the established standards. Dr. Hinshaw acknowledged Dr. Carol Romano who successfully led three accreditation visits in three years.

- The Jonas Center has invited doctoral students within the Graduate School of Nursing to apply for monetary awards to fund their research projects.

## **DEAN'S REPORT ON THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

In the School of Medicine report, Dr. Kellermann provided the Board with an overview of recent actions within the school. These items are summarized below.

- The Department of Psychology and the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress (CSTS) provided support and subject matter expertise following the recent Navy Yard shooting.
- Dr. Paul Pasquina, Chair of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, is working with the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Alfred Mann Foundation developing implantable electronic sensors for robotic prostheses.
- The University has partnered with the National Library of Medicine (NLM) to collaborate in the field of biomedical informatics. Dr. Kellermann mentioned there is interest in establishing a graduate degree program to create experts in this discipline.
- Curriculum reform continues to progress as the school creates the capstone or finishing experience.
- The Master in Public Health program received a seven-year reaccreditation, while the Health Administration and Policy program has been accepted for candidacy by the Commission on Accreditation Healthcare Management.

In his first report to the Board as the Dean of the School of Medicine, Dr. Kellermann also provided a list of goals and areas he perceived as significant for the future of the school.

- Curriculum reform - Dr. Kellermann emphasized his commitment to the success of curriculum reform, which will require continued dedication from the faculty and students.
- Diversity - Increasing diversity within the student body in regards to gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and background should be a continual focus for the school.
- Collaboration - With limited resources, strengthening the relationship between USU and the clinical sites will allow USU to continue its current level of instruction with relatively few billeted faculty members.
- Research - Research, especially in areas of military health, should grow and can be achieved through partnerships with external organizations.
- Value - By supporting the military medical system, the University can provide value to the services by making healthcare more affordable and effective.
- Service - In all areas, Dr. Kellermann expressed his dedication to service. He explained that the focus should always be on what value the University can provide to stakeholders and partners.
- Leadership - As the military's medical school, Dr. Kellermann envisioned the University as the leadership academy for medicine.

General Griffith added that in regards to leadership, Dr. Kellermann should utilize current models developed by the services, rather than reinvent the ideas. Dr. Blanck also noted that partnering with the Veterans Administration for training students is another area of opportunity for the school.

## **ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE REPORT**

Col Huff opened his report to the Board with an update on the radiobiology doctoral track, which has been halted due to funding uncertainty. Other items included in the AFRRRI report are summarized below.

- Dr. Mark Whitnall has been named the Scientific Advisor for AFRRRI. In this position he will advise the Director on scientific research, oversee research quality and direction, enhance collaboration with the School of Medicine and organize large team projects.
- The modernization and renovation of AFRRRI, to include several projects scheduled for FY14 such as roof repair and shielding for the cesium-137 lab, continue.
- AFRRRI welcomed a new head of military medical operations, COL Neil Page, MC, USA.
- Scientific research on radiation countermeasures at AFRRRI have moved into the advanced development stage and through the Food and Drug Administration's certification process. This has the potential to save tens of thousands of lives after a nuclear detonation.

## **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

On behalf of Mr. Stephen Rice, the Vice President for Finance and Administration, Mr. Walter Tinling provided the Board with an overview of the financial standing of the University. Sequestration, the furlough, lack of overtime and the hiring freeze have all affected operations at USU and have decreased efficiency. As a result available funds were not spent throughout the year and were used for year-end requests and additional projects, such as the AFRRRI renovations. Mr. Tinling also notified the Board that of the \$30 million reduced through sequestration, the University was able to mitigate \$15 million. The resulting sequestration effect on many of the research programs, such as the Center for Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine, was lessened.

Though a FY14 appropriations bill was approved, the University is waiting for formal documentation for funding allocation. The first quarter of FY14 is expected to be very difficult as the allocation is based on multiple years of continuing resolutions. Dr. Rice added that he expects the core mission to be preserved, however funding will be austere.

Dr. Kellermann also addressed his concern that as active duty faculty members retire, the ability of the University to maintain these individuals as civilians will be challenged. Future reductions in the services' medical forces were also discussed. Lt Gen Travis assured the University that he will protect the military faculty assignments as reductions in force take place. Dr. Hinshaw added that the Doctoral Nursing Practice program requires that the school add faculty members to support the additional year of curriculum.

Dr. Rice closed the report on finance and administration by praising the work of the finance and contracting offices who have worked vigorously, often without overtime, so that the year-end finances were completed.

## **ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION**

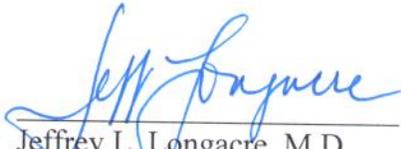
In reference to the humanitarian mission conducted by the student of the Army Postgraduate Dental School, GEN Griffith presented a final question on the relationship between the U.S. services and international operations. RDML Bono explained these missions have

significant benefits and enhance international engagements. Dr. Longacre furthered that the University is leading the effort with many countries by partnering in education. The Board requested that a future presentation be provided on international affiliations at USU.

**ADJOURNMENT**

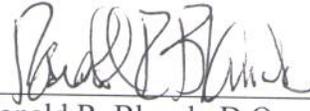
There being no further business on the agenda, Dr. Blanck adjourned the open portion of the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

SUBMITTED:



Jeffrey L. Longacre, M.D.  
Executive Secretary, Board of Regents

APPROVED:



Ronald R. Blanck, D.O.  
Chair, Board of Regents

Prepared by S. Leeann Ori, Designated Federal Officer