

FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH 2, 2009

Financial Update from Jean Regan YTD January 31st: Clinical revenue is up \$3.2 Million (9%) with overall expenses down. Projections show that we will bring the net loss, by end of FY (June 30), to \$500-\$550,000 (which is 70% better than last year).

Update on University Health System Issues: Dr. Nevin Wilson reported that a number of steps have been taken to improve controlling expenses. Collection rates are a problem. Las Vegas is only at 20+% while Reno is at 53% on their collection rate; collection letters are sent after 30, 90 and 120 days as well as collection agencies being used; there is a definite process in place. Suggestions to improve collections included: 1) use of only cash, credit card or check; 2) have a sliding fee scale instituted for those you know will not/cannot pay or also offer cash discounts; 3) have a \$50 advance cash charge become mandatory for self-pay patients.

The practice plan board has approved a general definition that clinical faculty should consider their responsibilities to be 80% clinical (8 half-day clinics) and 20% educational/administrative/scholarly work. Significant administrative responsibilities will adjust that percentage. In the past, 20% of state funding has gone to support clinical, but there are many people who are not getting state dollars. In terms of reward for clinical productivity, the new compensation policy will address this.

Update from the Dean: Dr. Thienhaus commented on the legislation; largely the representation of NSHE is through Dr. Maurizio Trevisan, and they will ask for our help if they need it. This is not a time to look for enhancements and additional funding. This will not be the year we will increase school size.

There was one legislator who stated that the med school is a business and should be treated as such; however, once the students came on with their tales, it was apparent that you couldn't treat it like a business. People were actually in tears and their stories were very touching.

Health Sciences Division, By-laws: Dr. Larson reported that Division is determining if the School of Medicine should keep its own bylaws and committees especially for P&T.

Emerging Faculty Issues:

Conflict of Interest: Dr. Piasecki presented the proposed one page Conflict of Interest Policy to council for their input. It was explained that this is more of a broad statement that umbrellas over other specific policies set within the school.

LCME: Professionalism survey was well received with approximately 316 respondents.

Faculty Development: April 7: Promotion & Tenure workshop in Reno with pictel to LV
April 9: "50 Ways to Leave Your Lecture" by Dr. Trudy Larson in Reno with pictel to LV

Women in Medicine: Next meeting scheduled for April 27, Brown Bag, 12n-1:30pm

New Business:

Committee's Deliberations on Valuing Education Activities: We want to make sure people can get promoted for their clinical work. A committee is working to define teaching and how to value it in terms of percentage of time and effort.

Election: The 2009 self-nominating ballot was given to the council and received their approval to be sent out to all faculty.