

**THE M.D. ANDERSON ALUMNI AND FACULTY ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Thursday, August 9, 2007**  
**Clark Clinic Building, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Wiess Conference Room, R11.1659**  
**11:00 a.m.**

**PRESENT:**

Yvonne Bazunu (ex-officio)  
Anne Bettinger  
Dr. Bloom  
Dr. Chandra  
Ivone Bruno  
Dr. Freedman (ex-officio)  
Dr. Matney  
Jakmica McKinney (ex-officio)  
Sharon Pepper  
Jennifer Price (ex-officio)  
Dr. Rios  
Dr. Strong

**ABSENT:**

Dr. Bibb  
Marcela Bridger  
Keith Britton  
Dr. Candelari (ex-officio)  
Jennifer Collins (ex-officio)  
Dr. Deavers  
Dr. Fanning  
Dr. Freireich  
Dr. Gallick  
Patrick Gibney  
Dr. Handy  
Dr. Haynie  
Dr. Kanojia  
Dr. Khalifeh  
Dr. Komanduri  
Dr. Kumar  
Lorraine Reitzel  
Dr. Tomasovic (ex-officio)  
Dr. Ueno  
Dr. Walter

**A. OPENING OF MEETING**

Dr. Chandra opened the meeting at 11:15 a.m. She requested that the Steering Committee members review the minutes of the last meeting, and the minutes were approved.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

Farewell to Dr. Joya Chandra – Sharon Pepper

Sharon Pepper addressed Dr. Chandra by thanking her for her service as Chair and wishing her well in her future endeavors on behalf of Dr. Tomasovic, Dr. Candelari and the rest of the Steering Committee.

Dr. Chandra expressed her appreciation and thanks for being allowed the opportunity to serve as Chair of the Alumni and Faculty Association. She extended well wishes to Dr. Elizabeth Bloom as she steps in as the new Chair.

## C. OLD BUSINESS

### Award mechanism for former MDACC faculty – Dr. Ralph Freedman

As a follow-up to his presentation of the previous meeting, Dr. Freedman informed the Committee that he had spoken with Dr. Tomasovic and fellow faculty members about the Former Faculty Award and its name, criteria and goal.

- The suggested name was the “Distinguished Former Faculty Award,” or it could be named after the individual or foundation that funds the program.
- The suggested criteria included:
  - Candidate must have served at least five years as a faculty member
  - Candidate must have been away from the institution for a minimum of three years
  - Candidate must have made seminal contributions to his/her field after leaving MDACC
  - Awardee must deliver a lecture in conjunction with the award
  - Frequency will be alternate years in the beginning until the award is established
  - Trainees who have become faculty members are ineligible [Trainees are recognized through Distinguished Alumnus Award]
  - Once approved by the Committee, the nomination will be submitted to Administration for final approval. [‘Administration’ was not defined]
- Goal is to award a former faculty member at the peak of his/her career.

Clarification was requested on one of the criteria. Is the individual being awarded for accomplishments made **after leaving** MDACC? Dr. Freedman responded that any work initiated at MDACC will also be considered. He then concluded his presentation with the reminder that the next step is to approach Administration or the Office of Development for funding of this new program.

Dr. Strong suggested we name the award “Distinguished Faculty Alumnus Award” instead of “Distinguished Former Faculty Award.”

The Committee voted and unanimously approved of the criteria and name of the new award.

### Houston Anderson Alumni Dinner – Dr. Rios

Dr. Rios provided an update on the upcoming Alumni Dinner that is scheduled on Saturday, October 27. He informed the Committee that the speaker for the dinner will be Brian Greene, CEO of the Houston Food Bank who will speak briefly about his organization. He also stated that a silent auction facilitated by the Houston Food Bank will take place during the dinner.

Dr. Chandra suggested inviting a cancer survivor to speak in addition to Brian Greene during the dinner. Dr. Rios stated that he had a candidate in mind and would extend the invitation.

## D. OTHER

### Monograph Series – Dr. Ralph Freedman

Dr. Freedman announced that a new monograph in the Cancer Care Series, *Tumors of the Brain and Spine* had been published. He reminded the Committee that there are now six books in the series and he would like to see more departments using them. Dr. Freedman suggested we ask Academic Affairs and the Physicians Relations Department to help promote the series. Sharon Pepper reminded the Committee that the monographs are promoted (with ordering instructions) on the alumni website and that the newest edition was being further promoted in the upcoming alumni newsletter.

#### E. ADJOURN

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.