

THE M.D. ANDERSON ALUMNI AND FACULTY ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, July 12, 2007

Clark Clinic Building, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Wiess Conference Room, R11.1659

11:00 a.m.

**PRESENT:**

Anne Bettinger  
Marcela Bridger  
Keith Britton  
Dr. Chandra  
Jennifer Collins (ex-officio)  
Dr. Fanning  
Dr. Freedman (ex-officio)  
Dr. Freireich  
Patrick Gibney  
Dr. Handy  
Dr. Haynie  
Dr. Kanojia  
Dr. Matney  
Jakmica McKinney (ex-officio)  
Sharon Pepper  
Jennifer Price (ex-officio)  
Lorraine Reitzel  
Dr. Rios  
Dr. Strong

**ABSENT:**

Yvonne Bazunu (ex-officio)  
Dr. Bibb  
Dr. Bloom  
Ivone Bruno  
Dr. Candelari (ex-officio)  
Dr. Deavers  
Dr. Gallick  
Dr. Khalifeh  
Dr. Komanduri  
Dr. Kumar  
Dr. Tomasovic (ex-officio)  
Dr. Ueno  
Dr. Walter

**A. OPENING OF MEETING**

Dr. Chandra opened the meeting at 11:05 a.m. She requested that the Steering Committee members review the minutes of the last meeting, and the minutes were approved.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

Award Mechanism for former MDACC Faculty – Dr. Ralph Freedman

Dr. Freedman presented the idea of acknowledging and awarding former faculty in the same manner as trainees are through the Distinguished Alumnus Award (DAA).

After discussion of the possibility, it was agreed that the eligibility and criteria would mirror that of the DAA. For example, the former faculty member must have worked at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC) for at least six months and his or her service must have been at least five years from the date of the award.

Dr. Freedman suggested that we create a separate award with separate funding for this Distinguished Former Faculty Award to keep the competition fair. He also noted that we

currently receive about 5-7 nominations annually for the DAA and that at least two nominations are for former faculty members (and are thus considered ineligible for the DAA).

The Committee voted to conceptually pursue the award for former faculty members. Dr. Freedman will create more specific guidelines to present to the Committee.

#### Recruiting Mechanism on Alumni Website – Sharon Pepper

Sharon Pepper informed the Committee that an alumni member had suggested we include a Job Board on the alumni website. The Committee asked questions, such as Who could post to it? and Who would be allowed to access it?

Dr. Chandra suggested hosting a web 'blog' instead of an actual web page that would require maintenance. A reminder was made that we should consult departments like Legal Services to ensure we comply with institutional policy regarding web blogs.

Sharon Pepper reminded the Committee that the alumni website had hosted a blog for two years (that was within institutional policy compliance) and that it was removed from the web site due to inactivity. Sharon Pepper will pursue information on what might be necessary to host a Job Board.

### **C. OLD BUSINESS**

#### Current Topics in Cancer Medicine and Research (Community Seminar Series) – Joya Chandra

The Current Topics in Cancer Medicine and Research Seminar (Community Seminar Series) "Complementary and Integrated Medicine" will not be held this Fall, but rather will be moved to the Spring 2008, due to conflicts with other institutional and outside conferences. Dr. Bloom, Dr. Matney and the subcommittee members will discuss the proposed date and will begin plans for inviting speakers.

#### Houston Anderson Alumni Dinner – Dr. Rios

Dr. Adan Rios provided an update to the Committee on the upcoming Alumni Dinner. He informed the Committee that the hotel has been secured and the band has been selected. This year, we will have a Cuban band called "Havana Energy". The Houston Food Bank will provide donation cards that will be included in our invitations. Dr. Rios asked if we could do a Save the Date E-mail to get the word out to everyone, as well as market publicly via radio and television stations. The Houston Food Bank is selecting and inviting a speaker for the dinner. Once the speaker is selected, Dr. Rios will forward the name to Sharon Pepper who will inform the Committee.

### **D. OTHER**

#### Hospitality Apartments – Dr. Matney

Dr. Matney updated the Committee on the Hospitality Apartments project. He raised over \$3.9M toward the completion of the project and is working on the balance to reach the goal of \$4M. Donations by the Steering Committee can be made the Sr. Alice Potts fund.

First Ethics and Compliance Oncology Research Conference – Dr. Freedman

Dr. Freedman provided information on the first Ethics and Compliance in Oncology Research Conference that will be held in Houston on April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> 2008. Dr. Freedman will keep the Committee informed of more specific details of the conference (such as venue) as the date draws near.

Library Access

Dr. Rios asked if alumni members have access to library journals from our personal computers. Sharon Pepper reminded the Committee that the question had been raised and that due to an access issue, members are not able to access journals from their personal computers.

**E. ADJOURN**

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.