

**THE M.D. ANDERSON ALUMNI AND FACULTY ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES of STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Thursday, October 9, 2008**  
**ACB Conference Room, 8.1281 A & B**  
**11:00 a.m.**

**PRESENT:**

Cassie Ballard (ex-officio)  
Michelle Barton, PhD  
Yvonne Bazunu, BA (ex-officio)  
Anne Bettinger, MS  
Dr. Elizabeth Bloom  
Oliver Bogler, PhD  
Michael Businelle, PhD  
Toya Candelari, DrPH (ex-officio)  
Chyi Chou, MHA  
Charlotte Fuselier, BS (ex-officio)  
Leigh Greathouse, MS (via teleconference)  
Dr. Beverly Handy  
Peter Hu, PhD  
Dr. Mahesh Kanojia  
Dr. Thomas Matney  
Sharon Pepper  
Dr. Tomasovic (ex-officio)  
Dr. Naoto Ueno  
Dr. Charles Walter

**ABSENT:**

Dr. Diane Bodurka  
Dr. Joya Chandra  
Brett Chiquet  
Dr. Michael Deavers  
Dr. Tina Fanning  
Dr. J Freireich  
Dr. Gary Gallick  
Dr. Thomas Haynie  
Dr. Rakesh Kumar  
Dr. Adan Rios  
Dr. Louise Strong

**A. Review and approval of Minutes of previous meeting**

Dr. Bloom opened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. She requested that the Steering Committee review the minutes of the last meeting and the minutes were approved.

**B. New Business**

New members of the Steering Committee – Dr. Elizabeth Bloom

Dr. Bloom introduced the new Steering Committee members. New regular members are Michelle Barton, PhD from the department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Oliver Bogler, PhD of Neurosurgery-Research and Peter Hu, PhD from the School of Health Sciences. New trainee representatives are Michael Businelle, PhD president, Postdoctoral Association and Leigh Greathouse, MS Graduate Research Assistant (GSBS). New ex-officio (non-voting) members are Chyi Chou, MHA from the department of Physician Relations (International) and Charlotte Fuselier, BS from Trainee and Alumni Affairs.

#### Review of the By-Laws – Dr. Elizabeth Bloom

Dr. Bloom opened the discussion of the By-Laws; Article Four, which Organization section of the bylaws which states that the committee will be organized and exist to review the activities of the Association and make recommendations. The first revision identified was to change Dr. Tomasovic's title to include Sr. VP President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Bloom wondered if the roles of the Sr. VP and the Assoc VP were downplayed in the text of the By-Laws and should be changed. Dr. Tomasovic said the wording may stay the same. After much discussion, the Committee agreed to the following changes: reducing the number of voting members from exactly twenty-two voting members to 'a minimum of twenty'; doing away with 'selecting six new members annually'; and changing the service period to 'a minimum of' three (3) years. The question of instituting a maximum number of years of service was also raised, but the discussion was not conclusive.

#### Subcommittees - Dr. Elizabeth Bloom

Committee members were given a table of existing Subcommittees and their members to review. It was suggested that we add a new Membership and By-Laws Subcommittee. The purpose for the Membership/By-Laws subcommittee is to define membership criteria, select new members and to maintain the By-Laws. The motivation for adding new members to the Steering Committee is to enhance subcommittee participation and to generate fresh ideas and new perspectives with new members. Due to an increased interest in membership, the first order of business for the Membership and By-Laws subcommittee will be to determine the number of new members to add to the Committee roster and then to identify which nominees to accept. Selection criteria should take into consideration gender, junior/senior faculty, location, all trainee populations, and departmental representation. Once the subcommittee has a chance to meet and review the By-Laws, they will establish a selection process for new members. The Committee will vote on this at the steering committee meeting in January.

Drs. Candelari, Handy and Walter volunteered to serve on this subcommittee.

Dr. Ueno suggested that since there is not a large representation of clinical faculty and trainees on the Committee, a 'Clinical Subcommittee' should be considered. Dr. Bloom suggested we determine what our needs are in the Association, what populations exist in the institution, determine who we are missing on the Committee and be sure that

those populations are pursued for representation. She said that the new Membership and By-Laws subcommittee, when they make their recommendations at the January steering committee meeting, should take this into consideration.

#### Chair-elect nominations and Subcommittee membership – Dr. Elizabeth Bloom

Dr. Bloom announced a call for nominations for chair-elect for each of the subcommittees. The chair-elect position for subcommittees was instated to reduce the burden on the existing subcommittee chairs and to enhance the work and activity produced by the subcommittee. The Committee suggested that the existing chair remain in place until September 1, 2009, for a period of transition. When the chair-elect becomes chair, the former chair will remain on the subcommittee for another year to provide additional guidance. The chairs of the subcommittees will serve for two years. This new proposed process will commence on a trial basis, with the Committee re-evaluating it to determine if the term limits make sense within the activity of the subcommittees. The option of an individual remaining the chair of the subcommittee will be made available to those who have the unanimous approval of the subcommittee members. Dr. Bloom requested that the Committee send her or Sharon Pepper email if they wish to volunteer for the chair-elect position.

Although not present, Dr. Strong had mention to Sharon Pepper that she would like to be chair-elect for the Mike Hogg Award subcommittee. Dr. Peter Hu said he would like to be considered for the Trainee Excellence Award subcommittee chair-elect position.

#### Review Rosters and Contact List – Charlotte Fuselier:

Committee members were instructed to review their contact information and update it as necessary.

#### Mike Hogg Award – Dr. Elizabeth Bloom

Dr. Bloom announced that the Mike Hogg subcommittee received nearly 30 nominations from which they selected 3 nominees for award years 2009 – 2011 to be presented to the Committee for approval. The subcommittee also wished to present to the Committee a change in the criteria in restricting nominees to Nobel Prize awardees. The subcommittee believes that restricting the award limits the numbers of nominations and further limits the numbers of females that can be nominated.

The Committee agreed with all three nominations but requested more clarification from the subcommittee on the criteria for the award. Since a subcommittee member was not present, the issue will be brought up at the next steering committee meeting.

### **C. Old Business**

**D. Other**

Dr. Bloom announced that in order to align efforts and resources to benefit the Alumni Association's goal of developing international alumni chapters, as well as the institution's goal of extending its reach globally, the following guest speakers have been invited and have agreed to give an overview of their different areas:

November 13, 2008 Steering Committee meeting:

**Mitch Latinkic** – Vice President  
Global Business Development

**Amy C. Hay** – Associate Vice President  
Global Business Development

**Eduardo Diaz, MD** - Vice President  
Global Clinical Programs

January 08, 2009 Steering Committee Meeting

**Karen Fields, MD** – Vice President  
Global Academic Programs

**E. Adjourn**

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