The minutes from the April 13, 2010 meeting were approved.

Dean Krugman provided an update on Department Chair searches that are still underway:

• Pharmacology – interviews continue for both internal and external candidates.

• Medicine – the committee recently conducted airport interviews of 12 candidates, and they recommended 5 of those candidates for 2nd visits.

• Linda Crnic Center – One of the two of the candidates, Dr. Ed McCabe, the Pediatrics Chair from UCLA, will be offered the position.

Dean Krugman provided an update on Status of the Department of Pediatric Surgical Subspecialties Proposal:

The Committee assigned to evaluate the proposal did a fabulous job. They did not recommend a Pediatric Surgical Subspecialties Division but instead recommended a Center for these subspecialties. The other issue that came up is the lack of an academic culture and the resources to grow these academic programs. The CEO and the Board have not signed off on this project as of now.

Budget Update: Dean Krugman advocated to allow increases in salaries within the departments and the divisions without the inclusion of state funding. He mentioned that this is why BSI was created. The Regents were not on board, but the Dean made a convincing argument that 98% of the money is not from the State. We will receive $10.3 million dollars from the state next year and we will be paying $18 million in state taxes. Thus, the increase in salaries will actually stimulate the economy and departments can offer whatever increases they can afford, as long as the funds for the increases are not from State funds.

Promotions: A suggestion to create a task force to evaluate and address promotion criteria was raised.

The other item on the agenda was a Question and Answer Session with Roy Wilson, the Chancellor of the University of Colorado Denver, and Roderick Nairn, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Colorado Denver.

There were no specific agenda items but the following were discussed by the Chancellor:

The Budget: The State March forecast was better than expected and the one year projection could optimistically be at $300 million. The 2011 budget looks OK.
concern is with the 2010 budget when the stimulus money dries up. The worst case scenario could be a significant deficit, and the best case scenario would be a positive for the downtown campus and a ‘barely positive’ for the Anschutz Medical Campus as there are not enough students in the latter. The budget shortfall is helped by a significant transfer of funds from the downtown to the Anschutz Medical Campus.

The Chancellor noted that he is very sensitive to the issue of freezing salary increases, and the Board of Regents approved a 0.3% salary increase. As well, he mentioned that most faculty are on BSI. BSI allows salary increases based on the source of funding, which is usually clinical. Administrators who are not on BSI will be compensated with incentives up to 10% of their salaries.

Strategic Plan for the University: With respect to diversity in the B.A., B.S., and M.D. programs, an initiative was put into place to accept the top 10 students from diverse backgrounds and offer them a scholarship, and they all accepted the positions offered to them. In addition, another six students accepted positions without financial support.

Other items that were discussed related to continuing building projects despite the economy, the search for a Graduate School Dean, and the professional accreditation that is scheduled in April of 2011.

In the Q&A session, the following items were brought up:

Shea Properties could not close on buying the 9th Avenue building even after extensions were granted. The agreement is being redrafted to alter the relationship between the two parties. As well, there is an interest from a donor to buy the building and change it to public offices in order to leave a legacy.

The Colorado Biosciences Park: The development is slow. Forest City was going to build Building T. However, the FRA board was divided on the issue since the prospective building is only 50% leased out. Thus, the board voted against the construction.

Fundraising: By the end of June, at least $40 million was raised this year.

Concealed weapons: The decision not to allow concealed weapons on campus that is the Regents’ policy has been overturned by the lower court. The SOM will file an appeal by claiming that this is a Regents’ issue and not a State issue.

On another topic, Officer nominations are open till the end of May for the President-Elect and secretary positions.

The meeting concluded at 5:30pm.

Fadi Nasrallah, MD
Faculty Senate Secretary