I. Welcome

Dr. Todd Larabee, President of the Faculty Senate for 2012-13, called the meeting to order.

II. Approval of Minutes from April 9, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes from the April 9, 2012 Faculty Senate Meeting were unanimously approved.

III. Dean’s Comments – Dean Krugman

The Dean said there is an ongoing search for the Ethics position. Lisa Lehman from Harvard is the leading candidate. Deans from the other schools are in line. There is a plan to have her back out in June for another visit. There still work being done on the financial details. Additionally the Dean mentioned that the Strategic Planning efforts are coming along.

IV. Open Discussion with Provost Rod Nairn, Chancellor Don Elliman, and Executive Vice Chancellor Lilly Marks

Provost Nairn, Chancellor Elliman, and Executive Vice Chancellor Marks made themselves available for an open discussion on any topic the Faculty Senate was interested in hearing about. The following is a summary of the discussion which occurred.

Provost Nairn: Today we will update on the clinical practice track – a lot of progress has been made in the last 4 weeks, it is currently working through subcommittees, and is now at the Faculty Council. It will then go the Regent Laws and Policy Committee then to the full Board of Regents. It will either be in front of the Board in June or more likely in September.

Dr. Lowenstein: The hardest thing has been for the nonclinical schools to understand how an exclusive clinical service could use the term “professor” and have expressed concern that it would dilute the term “professor”. We explained that the promotion matrix is complex, rigorous, and will be monitored. And we emphasized that clinical service is a mission of the School of Medicine.

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: There are many things happening on campus and we can have an informal discussion on the following:

1) Budget issues and process this spring
2) Branding  
3) Master Plan for campus  
4) Health System  
5) Sequestration  
6) Reorganization of the Foundation  
7) Support for the research enterprise

Chancellor Elliman: Regarding research, we put out an RFQ for consulting help setting up a clinical trials office. We hired Deloitte Touche for this. How will we manage our research enterprise going forward? It will be system wide but will be split by campus. We expect to hear from several consulting firms for this.

Regarding the Foundation, fundraising on this campus has been felt to be inadequate. We hired a consulting firm to help, and they recommended a new structure. There will now be a senior fundraising officer on this campus. They will report to Executive Vice Chancellor Marks and Chancellor Elliman. They will also interact with departments.

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: Really we are transferring the fundraising to a more local level on this campus. How do we increase fundraising given the decrease in state and federal funding and expected decrease in clinical reimbursement? This is an exciting reorganization.

Chancellor Elliman: We have been to silent to the community, legislature, and others about what we have on this campus. We need to have a more dedicated funding campaign for this campus. We will need to work together with Children’s Hospital Colorado and University of Colorado Hospital, and we have not worked well with them thus far.

Question from a Senator: What steps are you taking to increase funding from state legislature?

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: We have had several legislators visit this campus. They appreciate what we have but have limited revenue to fund higher education the way it needs to be. Should we become a separate line item on the state budget? Are there other initiatives that could be a ballot issue? What a tobacco tax help?

Chancellor Elliman: We have not been as aggressive with the legislature as we should have been, and we need to do more.

Question from a Senator: So how can individual Faculty Senators help?

Chancellor Elliman: We are meeting with our lobbyists next week. We need to come back to you for help after meeting with them.
**Executive Vice Chancellor Marks:** We need to make our visits from legislators be more effective. We need to focus on our program strengths, not just give a tour of our wonderful facilities. That would help tremendously. One thing the faculty can do is help to identify compelling stories and be able to present these well.

**Provost Nairn:** We can all talk to friends and family about what we do so that ballot issues can have a better chance to pass the public scrutiny. We need to explain what we do, tell our stories, and explain why public education is helpful to the public as a whole.

**Executive Vice Chancellor Marks:** We all need to be ambassadors for this place. We have become not the place you have to go for healthcare, but a place you want to go.

**Question from a Senator:** Regarding fundraising and the Foundation, how have the hospitals done with fundraising, and why would they want to share their successful tactics with us?

**Chancellor Elliman:** “A rising tide lifts all boats” is a good way to say it. We need to build trust between all three foundations (CU, CHCO, UCH).

**Executive Vice Chancellor Marks:** We haven’t explained where the university programs fit into this campus. There’s an important role the faculty place in fundraising. The CU Foundation needs to work well with faculty to increase trust and work as a team.

**Comment from a Senator:** One thing Children's Hospital Colorado has done well is to run a program called “Children's 101” where philanthropists spend a day walking around to see directly what “a day in the life” is.

**Chancellor Elliman:** We need to learn from them.

**Question from a Senator:** How will the reorganization of the CU Foundation affect the faculty's ability to get funding for research from the Foundation?

**Executive Vice Chancellor Marks:** We can do better on this as well. We need to be able to filter and vet the different requests for funding.

**Question from Dr. Lowenstein:** Would this be a good time to provide FTE support to a small number of clinicians, scientists, etc. to focus on this endeavor? Many are simply too busy to help.

**Executive Vice Chancellor Marks:** The allocation of resources on this campus needs to be explored to look at things like this. Fundraising will work differently for each School and Department.

**Question from a Senator:** Any lobbying efforts to directly repeal TABOR?
Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: TABOR is eroding infrastructure in this state. But the University won’t be supporting a repeal.

Dean Krugman: It’s been attempted in the past, unsuccessfully.

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: Last year almost every bond issue passed. I do think the public may now feel TABOR has gone too far. We have done polling, and in the abstract the public has supported tax increases, but when asked for specific increases, the support isn’t there. TABOR doesn’t allow you to keep excess revenue; it has to go back to the public. In good economic years you have to invest in infrastructure. I think without a repeal of TABOR this state’s financial mess won’t improve substantially.

Dean Krugman: I think the Anschutz campus needs to be its own line in the budget.

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: Right now the legislature like this campus, now is the time to press for increasing our funding.

Question from a Senator: Is there a grand plan for developing Fitzsimons biotech?

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: The Fitzsimmons Redevelopment Authority has had trouble since 1996 with organization and leadership. It got better late last decade then the recession hit. There now needs to be seed money to help develop that biotech part of campus. Other states are outcompeting Colorado. The public needs to be on board for us to be more competitive.

Question from a Senator: There is a lot of concern about support for basic sciences. Do you have any comments on that?

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: In the absence of state general funds, we have been forced to be more creative. The issues with NIH compound this. Where we can be more successful may be with philanthropy and biotech development.

Dean Krugman: We have to fix the Grants and Contracts infrastructure (Deloitte Touche hired for this). We also need to increase-based funding from UC Health for what contribution they give to the research enterprise. We are very far below the national mean for base funding per student.

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: It will be a multitude of solutions; there is no “grand slam” fix.

Question from a Senator: A recent report about differing charges for different hospitals for procedures exists. Will that affect us?
Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: We are doing pretty good job of maximizing reimbursements. We have worked through UPI to get these payments. We see increasing pressure to get health care costs under control. Some of these costs have shifted to the consumer and healthcare is being treated as a commodity where price supersedes quality. I think we will see downward pressure on reimbursements, and we will need to be more efficient, show the value for our service, and focus on cost-effective delivery of healthcare. We are actually being quite cost-effective with our CU Health Plan.

Question from a Senator: Can medical schools be better lobbyists?

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: The AAMC would be our avenue for that. We have to approach Congress better than we have.

Dean Krugman: One of the problems for healthcare is that we don’t have a single voice. We have the AMA, AHA, ACS, AAMC, etc. who all lobby independently and sometimes serve to neutralize each other.

Executive Vice Chancellor Marks: Hospital reimbursement lobbying has a big effect in Congress. They are more effective than physicians. They have a single voice. I think it is important for faculty to be involved in professional organizations, rise to leadership positions, and get a seat at the table. A good example of this working well was Meaningful Use money for physicians, not just for hospitals. The CU School of Medicine stands to gain up to $47 million for Meaningful Use.

Dean Krugman: The UPI Board will discuss how to best use that money. We may think about using it to improve data warehousing and bioinformatics.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Landeck, MD
Faculty Senate Secretary