Present:  Judy Igoe, Chair; Richard Bakemeier, Carter Ballinger, Rob Berg, JoAnn Congdon, Anna Drews, Cathy Jarvis, Dennis Lezotte, Marilyn Manco-Johnson, John McDowell, Madeline Kane, Paula Nelson-Marten, Lewis Pizer, John Sbarbaro, Norman Weiner

Guests: Dr. James Shore, UCHSC Chancellor; Randy Kluender, SOD; Beverly Brunson, SOP; Pat Nelson, UCHSC Faculty Council representative; Jeff Kuntzman, Denison Library

I. Call to order
The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. in Room 302 of the School of Pharmacy.

II. Announcements & updates – Judy Igoe

The scheduled agenda item, Update on Diversity Conference and Final Survey Report by Assistant Vice Chancellor Raul Armendariz is postponed because the qualitative study has not been completed.

The meeting minutes for November, December and January were approved.

III. Reports from Committees

- Presidential Search Committee – Richard Bakemeier
  The vacancy will be announced in the Chronicle for Higher Education for the first two weeks of February. The search committee has met weekly, with the President, the Chancellors and Vice Chancellors. A recent discussion item concerned the relocation of the office of the President and Regents to a location nearer to the state capitol.

- EPUS
  The EPUS committee has announced a new web page on the Faculty Council web site set up for discussion of current faculty issues. The address is http://web.uccs.edu/facforum/

  EPUS has a motion before the Faculty Council recommending that information made available for the CCHE survey on faculty activity should not be utilized for promotion and tenure considerations.

- CU Faculty Council
  Faculty Council Chairman, Mike Martin presented the Faculty Council position regarding health benefits for gay and lesbian partners for consideration at a recent Regents meeting in Colorado Springs.

- Personnel Committee
  The Personnel committee would like to expand the number of companies that can be utilized for benefits investments.

- Budget committee – Marilyn Manco-Johnson
A proposal concerning compensation based on “unit merit” is being discussed all four CU campuses. The School of Medicine is excluded from the proposal but other UCHSC units will be affected.

The new CU Budget includes a 4.8 % increase. There are ongoing concerns about the way the legislature looks at the university system and higher education. They do not appear to make a distinction between the State University system and the community college system.

IV. Student Counseling – Rob Berg

Dr. Berg introduced Randy Kluender, Associate Dean for Student Affairs at SOD and Beverly Brunson, Director of Student Affairs at SOP. They presented an overview of the student mental health system from their perspective. Although the system appears to work well for the students with student health insurance, it may be less effective for students with other health plans. The student perspective will be presented at a future Faculty Assembly meeting.

V. Sabin/Sewell Awards – Judy Igoe

Ms. Igoe has received two letters of nomination for the Sewell Award. Both nominations name Dr. Richard Bakemeier. The faculty assembly expressed formal support for this nomination with the following motion:

MOTION: UCHSC Faculty Assembly enthusiastically supports the nomination of Dr. Richard Bakemeier for the Sewell award.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

VI. Fitzsimons update and Chancellors Report – James Shore

Dr. Shore distributed and discussed the Fitzsimons projects status report prepared by Wayne Henderson. The report includes the site name, status of plan, design date, construction date, total budget and current status of new building construction & expansion, existing buildings renovation, existing buildings demolition, infrastructure development, agreements and financing plans. It will be updated every two months.

Dr. Shore reported an active dialog with AMC Cancer Research Center which he will discuss at the upcoming meeting of the Regent’s Audit and Finance Committee. He also announced that the next Regents meeting which will be on the UCHSC campus on March 16.

He reported that the campus budget process is beginning and recommended that the faculty assembly invite Judy Van Gordon, University treasurer to provide an orientation regarding the CU debt capacity.

In response to a question about library funding, he maintained that the presence of MargueriteChilds on the Executive Committee ensures that the library is not forgotten in the budget process. He said that additional funding for the library is high on the campus priority list for TLE funds.

The proposed budget for the next fiscal year will include enough funding to carry out most of the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel by the end of the summer. A national search for the new vice Chancellor for Research may be undertaken now with the understanding that filling the position is contingent on budget approval in May.
Dr. Shore will appoint an interim Clinical Advisory Committee to help him identify ways to improve communication between UCH and the clinical leaders. He will ask the committee to compile a list of issues that need special attention by end of June.

The Chancellor met with the SOM Dean and Faculty Senate this morning. He would like to hold similar meetings with other campus deans and governing bodies.

VII. Faculty Infrastructure Report & Blue Ribbon panel – Dennis Lezotte

The Research Infrastructure Committee (RIC) has been meeting with Chip Ridgeway and the COMIRB staff to strengthening communication between the two groups. Dr. Lezotte reported that the proposal review process is much improved. He reported on the status of proposal review and demonstrated the web report where that information can be found (http://www.uchsc.edu/sm/senate/communik.html). He said that COMIRB is not taking phone calls but prefers to communicate by email at the following address: comirb@uchsc.edu. They will respond within 24 hours. They are also committed to a protocol review turnaround within 3 days. The RIC has received and is reviewing five applications for funding through the mitigation fund.

VIII. Faculty Assembly web site – Sandi Parker, Jeff Kuntzman, Denison Library

Ms. Parker introduced Jeff Kuntzman who has completed the design of a Faculty Assembly web page prototype, which he demonstrated for the Faculty Assembly. http://www.uchsc.edu/faculty/governance/facassembly.htm. It will be linked from the UCHSC Faculty Governance web page and will in turn lead to the web pages for the governing bodies of the schools.

IX. Reports from the schools

- School of dentistry – John McDowell
  There are no current issues to report. Discussions are taking place concerning the place of the Faculty Dental Practice within the CIGNA health plan and a report will be forthcoming next month.
- Retired Faculty – Carter Ballinger
  Dr. Ballinger asked that the Retired Faculty Association be notified of retiring faculty within a year of their retirement. Notification may be via email at retfac@uchsc.edu
- School of Nursing – Paula Nelson-Marten
  The SON Dean has appointed a task force to determine future direction of the nursing doctoral program. Dr. Nelson-Marten serves on the Elizabeth Gee lectureship committee; she announced that this year there are two winners, one from UCD and the other from UCB. Increased lead-time for nominations is promised for next year.
- School of Pharmacy - Cathy Jarvis
  No report this month
- Denison Library report – Sandi Parker
  Ms. Parker encouraged attendance at the upcoming Technology Fair to be held March 8 and 9.
- School of Medicine – Dr. John Sbarbaro
  Dr. Sbarbaro said that he reviews all requests for exceptions to the formulary under the new health plan in order to encourage practitioners to use formulary drugs to minimize patient costs and to keep overall plan costs down.

X. Other Business

- Nurse practitioners in the Boulder Clinic
Ms. Igoe invited faculty assembly comment regarding the elimination of nurse practitioners in the Boulder Clinic, as she would like to prepare a response to a letter from the Boulder Faculty Assembly.

Dr. Sbarbaro responded that it was a business decision by the University of Colorado Hospital, over which the Faculty Assembly has no control. However, it was noted that the decision impacts not only the clinic patients, but also the UCHSC School of Nursing, who lost clinical practice sites as a result. Ms. Igoe will work with Dr. Sbarbaro to draft a response to the Boulder Faculty Assembly letter.

- Report on Diversity Conference planning – Marilyn Manco-Johnson
  Ms. Manco-Johnson gave an update on plans for the CU Diversity Conference, which will take place on all four campuses the week of April 10th.

- Fitzsimmons visitors
  Ms. Igoe announced a visit to the Fitzsimons campus this week by two distinguished visitors from the Health Resource and Services Administration, Drs. Vince Rogers and Earl Fox. Vice Chancellor Jay Gershen is organizing the visit and the meetings.

- Next meeting
  Ms. Igoe will invite Judy Van Gordon, University Treasurer, to the March Faculty Assembly meeting to discuss issues related to the university debt capacity. The meeting will be open to the campus and other interested parties.

XI. Adjournment - Judy Igoe
  The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.