HSC FACULTY ASSEMBLY
University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center
Minutes – February 28, 2006

Attendees 9th Avenue: Dennis Lezotte, Colleen Conry, Elizabeth D’Antonio-Gan, Vicki Erickson, Marie Hastings-Tolsma, Judy Igoe, Leslie Jameson, Marilyn Krajicek, David Port, Laurie Shroyer, Donna Stach, Kathleen Stringer, Clyde Tucker, Sheryl Follin Vondracek, Jay Gershen (Executive Vice Chancellor)

Attendees Fitzsimons: Claire Collins, Mike Glode, Donna Stach, and Daniel Wilson

Excused Absences: Greg Stiegmann, Dick Bakemeier, Carlos Catalano, Sue Hagedorn, Jeff Holt, Madeline Kane, Lew Pizer, John Sbarbaro, John Sladek

Guests: At Fitzsimons, Tonya Ewers graciously attended on behalf of the Public Relations. Angela Wishon, Rick Forsman, Mary Catherine Gaisbauer, Kim Huber and Pam Jones attended as guest presenters. Moreover, Vicky Starbuck graciously coordinated the meeting and attended related to assuring the meeting’s success.

I. Call to Order
Dr. Lezotte called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m., as well as thanked all participants for coming. The Minutes from January 26, 2005 were approved.

II. Library Discussion
Per the proposal distributed in advance of the meeting, the mission of the proposed library advisory committee was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Forsman provided the update that this coordination and liaison with the faculty was critical to ensure the long-term success of the library. The HSC Faculty Assembly moved and approved coordinating a Library Advisory Committee, which for the time being would be the Faculty Assembly (as an interim measure). A thank you note, on behalf of Faculty Assembly, would be sent to Rick for his outstanding leadership of the Denison Library. The entire committee expressed their sincere appreciate for his professionalism, vision and dedicated service to maintaining this critical research and educational resource on the HSC campus. Mr. Jerry Perry will be interim director while Rick will remain involved half time to facilitate moving the Library to the Fitzsimons campus.

III. Chancellor’s Search Committee Report
Dr. Glode provided a brief update on the Chancellor’s Search Committee. This committee had been meeting actively, with the plan to provide a report to President Brown in a final meeting later today.

IV. Gift Management Account
Mary Catherine Gaisbauer provided an update on the new recommendations from the state audit that will impact members of the faculty. By attendance at this session, the faculty in attendance fulfilled their training requirement. <A copy of Ms. Gaisbauer’s PowerPoint presentation is enclosed for reference.> Endowments are controlled by the donor’s wishes – and no flexibility is available. Board actions are related to quasi-endowments, which may be used at the CU Board’s goals. She clarified a new one-to-one relationship between the CU Foundation with a special purpose code on University Fund speedtype must be compatible. There are different types of codes related to the appropriate use of funds, with certification required based on the fiscal role of the faculty member. At the HSC-campuses, the donations go to Pam Jones’ office (not the controller’s office). As a fiscal principal, faculty and administrators are fully responsible – to assure expenditures are compatible with gift purpose codes. A web-link for “gift training” is on-line at http://www.cusys.edu/controller/gifts.html. All faculty and administrators are required to complete the training by May 31, 2006.

V. Update Grants.gov
Dr. Pam Jones provided an overview of “grants.gov electronic submissions”. Dr Port raised a concern regarding the compatibility of Apple computers. Eventually there will be an option provided for MAC users. A pilot test of the electronic grant’s routing process is currently proceeding forward. Dr Jones noted
that the “OGC web site” and a new web site that list grant awards by topic and/or by PI is being developed by the office of Associate VC for Research and will be available soon. Online PER (personnel effort reporting) is a new initiative to allow reporting of quarterly personnel time and effort. Faculty reporting will be coordinated via a system web-portal for all four campuses. This new system will remove the hardcopy reporting requirement and the act of submitting online is verification of the faculty’s signature. The PER system will be available soon after the end of this semester. Mandatory training is required for all faculty and will be available online.

Dr. Shroyer noted that Ms. Christine Ahearn has done an outstanding job orienting faculty and students related to grants.gov. She has developed an excellent PowerPoint presentation that could be distributed to faculty if requested. To coordinate a presentation to your department please contact Christine at Christine.Ahearn@uchsc.edu to schedule a time. Dr. Shroyer suggested that Ms. Ahearn’s slides with voice IP overlap be added as a HSC-campus link related to routing new grants planned for submission electronically.

Dr. Jones noted the May, October, and January submissions were becoming a concern, as there will be large volume of grant submissions at these times which will present challenges and scheduling/workload issues. The Grants.gov and NIH eRA commons are not user friendly. Consequently, additional time and coordination will be required for electronic submission. She noted that the 15 day deadline for routing electronic grants must be strictly enforced – this is the ROCK BOTTOM deadline for completing the review and routing before the Grant deadline. Given there will be NO FLEXIBILITY and NO ABILITY TO FINALIZE CHANGES. Dr. Jones noted that the post-awards grants management reporting was delayed, due to PERS implementation. In the interim, the OGC is moving forward with campus-specific programming for both pre-awards and post-awards. Put your proposal in FINAL format for routing – as the GRANT is submitted by the OGC team (not the PI). The process is formidable and time consuming. Dr. Port noted that there needed to be a lobby on behalf the PI's.

VI. Overview of Regulatory Compliance

Ms. Angela Wishon was introduced as the new Assistant Vice Chancellor for Regulatory Compliance. Within her new organizational structure there would be included Environmental Health and Safety, which includes the Institutional Biosafety Committee, Committee on Ionizing Radiation, Radioactive Drug Research Committee and Environmental Health & Safety Committee; COMIRB; IACUC; and the HIPAA Compliance Office, with a future focus on conflict of interest. She came from the UT Medical Branch, with the goal of having research compliance state-of-the-art. She wanted to proactively prevent adverse audit findings and/or shut-downs. She noted that she is currently working on a proposal where multi-center trials will be evaluated to coordinate a structure similar to the Western IRB, which is due in early April. Thus, she will keep the Faculty Assembly updated on the latest changes for either COMIRB changes or use of an outside IRB (such as the Western IRB) that is accredited. AAHRP is the accreditation body, with 5/50 independent IRBs are accredited. Ms. Wishon noted that her focus was electronic submission to COMIRB, as well as challenges for pre-review and turn-around time. The faculty commended her on this emphasis and wished her the best towards these goals. For future questions, she could be contacted at Angela.Wishon@uchsc.edu at (303) 724-0982.

V. Chancellor's Update

Dr. Gershen shared his concern that this is the lowest NIH funding increase provided by Congress in the last 30 years. Dr. Gershen noted that Research!America will sponsor a panel with business and industry representatives at Fitzsimons to identify the economic impact of medical research. Tentatively, this panel presentation is scheduled for Fall 2006.

Dr. Gershen provided an update on the ground-breaking activities that will occur on April 10th at 4 pm. The ground-breaking for the COPs buildings (the new campus Library, faculty office buildings, and Education buildings) will take place at 4:00 pm followed by a reception. The Governor, legislators, and congressional members will be present, as well as the business community representatives to assist in this celebration. All faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend.
The Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority (FRA) is negotiating with Forrest City to determine if they will be the land developer for the Bio-park.

The VA hospital would be moving to a free-standing facility which would be located behind the UPI building (near Potomac and Colfax). There is a land transaction being worked out with the FRA. If this land deal is approved by the City of Aurora, then both the UPI and the Fitzsimons Credit Union will need to acquire new space, since the VA will occupy their current space. Congress would then have to appropriate dollars for the new facility.

Dr. Gershen noted that there are several companies being evaluated to provide a proton-beam facility at Fitzsimons.

The Post/News Colorado/Colfax marathon is scheduled for Sunday, May 21, 2006. All faculty were encouraged to attend. More information is available at www.coloradocolfaxmarathon.org web site.

The current bill related to tenure and tenure review was discussed. Dr. Lezotte will keep the Faculty Assembly updated as appropriate if/when this bill moves forward.

VI. School Reports

Due to the late hour, no school reports were coordinated at this meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectively submitted by
Dennis Lezotte, PhD
President, UCHSC Faculty Assembly