Opportunities for Emeriti Participation in PSOM Departments: Chair Responses

At a recent meeting of the Executive Council of the Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty (ASEF-PSOM) there was a discussion about the types of opportunities that Emeritus faculty may have in the different departments of the school of medicine. Many of the faculty would like to stay involved but do not know which activities would be welcomed by the Chairs. Some retired faculty have lectured and supervised residents/students, served on school and departmental committees, reviewed and edited papers and grants, conducted clinical and basic research, interviewed candidates for faculty, residency and post-doctoral positions, continued contact with former patients, mentored younger faculty, etc.

The present Chairs of the Basic Science and Clinical Departments were surveyed and asked if they had interest in having retired faculty participate in activities of their department. The following is a summary of the Chair’s responses. Those retired faculty who want to pursue the opportunities listed should contact the respective department chair directly. ASEF-PSOM (Stanley.Baum@uphs.upenn.edu) would be very interested in hearing from you about your experience.

Biochemistry and Biophysics
Mitchell Lewis; Kristen Lynch
lewis@mail.med.upenn.edu; klync@mail.med.upenn.edu
Emeritus faculty with particular expertise could be useful in departmental mock study sections or joining mentoring teams for junior faculty with closely related interests. They are also welcome to attend the weekly faculty lunch, and participate in departmental seminar series where their expertise would benefit younger trainees. Further, clinicians could contribute by teaching small group sessions for first year medical students.

Cell and Developmental Biology
Nancy Speck
nancyas@exchange.upenn.edu
I’d be delighted to consider participation in reviewing grants, especially with junior faculty, before submission, and also in providing mentoring to postdoctoral fellows and career advice to junior faculty. Many postdocs are worried about careers and don’t know about some possible options. Help and guidance in this area would be terrific. Also, attending departmental seminars and activities, and asking good questions, is valued.

Dermatology
George Cotsarelis
cotsarel@mail.med.upenn.edu
Areas of possible interactions in resident’s clinic include:
Rheumatology—we could use someone interested in rheum to comment on patients in our general dermatology clinic
Endocrine—we could use someone with expertise in endocrinology in our acne clinic
Gynecology—we see a fair number of patients with genital dermatology problems and one of our residents may be interested in this area.
We do have guest lecturers for the residents and the above topics would be good.
On the research side, having additional mentors who are familiar with the promotion process and also emeritus faculty to read drafts of grants or manuscripts would be helpful.
Emergency Medicine
Stephanie Abbuhl, Vice Chair
abbuhls@uphs.upenn.edu
There is an exciting opportunity here to develop ways for our medical school and health system to take advantage of the talent and wisdom that ASEF faculty have to offer.

Medicine
Michael Parmacek
Michael.parmacek@uphs.upenn.edu
We would welcome Senior and Emeritus Faculty to participate in the Department.
Areas of interest:
Mentoring of Junior Faculty
Resident teaching
Grant and manuscript review prior to submission

Neurology
Frances Jensen
frances.jensen@uphs.upenn.edu
I have found that they have been invaluable running awards committees and also incredibly helpful with development efforts.
They are also great at mentoring faculty members in certain situations.

Neuroscience
John Dani
johndani@mail.med.upenn.edu
Yes. I think participation of retired Faculty is a great idea. I will be very happy to discuss details with anyone interested.

Neurosurgery
M. Sean Grady
Michael.Grady@uphs.upenn.edu
We would definitely be interested in having senior faculty help with grant critiques. Further, they might be interested in serving on mentoring committees that review junior faculty progress and give advice on opportunities for the faculty to insure success in promotion.

Obstetrics & Gynecology Orthopedic Surgery
Deborah Driscoll
DDriscoll@obgyn.upenn.edu
In past several retired faculty staffed resident clinics and taught students.
I really like the idea of having faculty available to review papers and grants – it is so important these days.

Orthopaedic Surgery
L. Scott Levin
lawrence.levin2@uphs.upenn.edu
The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery would be delighted to have Senior and Emeritus faculty participate in our department activities. Marvin Steinberg is the role model for such engagement. He attends grand rounds, teaches medical students, advises the chair and helps with development efforts. If we could clone him, I would be delighted. The most valuable role of our Emeritus faculty is reaching out to our alumni and encouraging them to watch the progress of the department from afar, and to engage in activities that preserve our legacy. Those that are involved with Overseas volunteer work would be asked to travel with our residents if possible.
Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
Bert O’Malley
bert.omalley@uphs.upenn.edu
We have one Emeritus faculty, Dr. Jim Saunders who works with our faculty and mentors them in their manuscript and grant writing and career development. We have been very pleased with his continued role and participation in the Dept. Overall, I think that having Emeritus faculty actively participate is a good thing for all.

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
David Roth
David.Roth2@uphs.upenn.edu
I would welcome participation.
Educational activities, grant advice as you mention would be of interest. We are also developing leadership development opportunities for our faculty, and I am sure some emeritus faculty have insights to share.

Pharmacology
Garret FitzGerald
garret@exchange.upenn.edu
A resounding Yes for them to participate in department activities. The faculty suggested the following in order of times suggested:
Help students/post docs/junior faculty develop manuscripts and grant applications
Lecturing on areas of expertise
Serve on candidacy exam committees
Teach in area of expertise

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Timothy Dillingham
Timothy.Dillingham@uphs.upenn.edu
Mentorship of junior faculty in their career in their career development would be very useful.
Also internal critical review of grants and manuscripts before submission.

Physiology
J. Kevin Foskett
foskett@mail.med.upenn.edu
I will soon be implementing a mandatory internal grant review process, for which I will need faculty to participate as reviewers. This might be something that particular emeritus professors could contribute to.
I would like to develop a detailed history of the Department. Someone could take this on.
There could be a possibility of helping to identify and develop content for our Departmental web site.
If there is an interest in continuing to do science, as I suspect is likely to be true for many basic scientists, as Chair I could try to identify appropriate labs, where the PI would work with the retired professor to define the scope of the interaction.
Good teaching is always welcome...lectures in courses; provide oversight for junior faculty teaching dossier during the tenure-track period (first 6-7 years); etc.
The right person might be able to serve as the/a departmental go-to person for shared equipment issues.

Psychiatry
Dwight Evans
dlevans@mail.med.upenn.edu
We are very interested in this. Supervision of residents is a natural for us, but other activities are clearly possible depending on the interests of the individual faculty. I will copy my Education Office to bring them into the conversation.
Radiation Oncology
James Metz
James.Metz@uphs.upenn.edu
I would definitely have interest and a couple of thoughts come to mind: mentoring junior faculty, educational activities for residents and junior faculty, service on search committees, service on department COAP. In particular, because we are a small department, the majority of our faculty is junior, and we rotate senior faculty on and off our COAP, we could use full professor representation.

Radiology
Mitchell Schnall
mitchell.schnall@uphs.upenn.edu
Retired Faculty can be very useful to Radiology.
We welcome them to participate in our Resident teaching program
Mentoring of young faculty
Attend and participate in our Grand Rounds and Research Meeting.

Surgery
Jeffrey Drebin
jeffrey.drebin@uphs.upenn.edu
Senior and Emeritus faculty could be very helpful to surgery.
Some of the things that come to mind are:
Mentor young faculty
Resident education
Participation in Morbidity and Mortality conferences held by the Department
Attend and contribute to Surgical Grand Rounds
Attend and contribute to Surgical Research Rounds