Dr. Simmons welcomed the Committee to the first meeting of the year. After introductions, Dr. Simmons reminded the Committee about the review of the reappointment of Dr. Jameson as Dean. She reported that she is a member of the Consultative Review Committee and reminded the MFSSC that the reappointment process encourages feedback from multiple sources. She encouraged the members to provide feedback and to remind their colleagues and to also attend the open meeting led by Steven J. Fluharty, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences who is chairing the Committee.

Dr. Bellini presented a number of updates regarding teaching initiatives and the Academic Clinician track.

She reminded the Committee that there were three committees related to teaching, Definition of Teaching Activities, Quantifying Teaching Effort and Evaluating Teaching. The goal of the committee to define teaching activities was to redefine what is teaching. Teaching is broadly defined as “teaching provided to any group affiliated with the University of Pennsylvania and any activities sponsored by Penn.” The annual expectations for teaching has not changed but will move from a system of hours to credits.

The committee to quantify teaching effort received and supported feedback from the department chairs that teaching activities throughout PSOM should count the same and not be department-based. Dr. Bellini commented that clinical teaching was the area that was most difficult to get consensus across departments. Categories have been broadly expanded and include lecture, facilitated learning activities, clinical teaching, supervised scholarship, longitudinal mentorship, lab rotations/pre-thesis research and short-term research related teaching, masters programs, assessment activities and educational leadership.

The committee to evaluate teaching is continuing its work and is charged with identifying categories of teaching to be evaluated and tools to do so.

Dr. Bellini also announced that the absolute standards set for teaching and implemented some years ago were recently reviewed and revealed that the mean scores increased substantially. The standards were updated and will be applicable for actions after July, 2017. She also reported that a pilot will be conducted for peer assessment of teaching through a workplace assessment following a 7 x 7 matrix, 7 evaluations in 7 different encounters. It will likely be piloted for promotion to professor on the Academic Clinician track.

Updates to the Academic Clinician track include a revision of the research definition for Academic Clinicians. While maintaining the need for distinction between the academic activities of Academic Clinician and Clinician-Educator faculty, clarification of the role of Academic Clinicians became necessary. Effective 9/1/16, the definition for research was revised as follows:
• AC Faculty may serve as PI/co-PI/sub-investigator and accept role specific support for non-federally sponsored clinical research and cooperative group trials.
• Generally, may not be PI or have a leadership role on federally sponsored research.
• Total research activity on NIH awards or equivalent is limited to 10%.
• Referring patients for enrollment in clinical trials can be counted towards “other activities”.

The academic plan templates have been updated to allow for the changes.

Dr. Bellini’s last update was to report that a committee has been assembled to review the current criteria for promotion on the Academic Clinician track.

The next meeting is November 8, 2016. Drs. Jonathan Epstein and Bryan Wolf are the scheduled presenters.

Respectfully submitted,

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