

Minutes of the ASEF-PSOM Executive Council Meeting
12-1:40 pm March 22, 2016
John Morgan Wood Room

Present: Peter Bloch, Jonathan Epstein, (by invitation) Howard Goldfine, Joel Greenberg, Susan Heyner, Sue Kramer, Virginia LiVolsi, Rob MacGregor, Anna Meadows, Jeanne Myers, Vicki Mulhern (FAPD), Kayvon Nikoo (FAPD), Brian Salzberg, Marvin Steinberg, Anita Summers (PASEF), Jamie Wheeler, Peter Wilding
Absent: Stanley Baum, Fred Henretig, Yvonne Paterson, Jim Saunders and Donald Young

The meeting was called to order by Myers at 12:05.

Jonathan Epstein's Visit with Council: Myers introduced Jonathan Epstein MD, Executive Vice Dean and Chief Scientific Officer of PSOM. Dr. Epstein said he has been at Penn for 20 years; he started in Cardiology and has alternated between research and clinical studies. He described his professional life, beginning with a Cardiology fellowship and subsequently a post-doctoral fellowship in Genetics. He was interested in stem cells and studied the eye as a model organ. When he came to Penn it was as an Assistant Professor in Cardiology. Ten years ago, Dean Rubinstein asked if he would Chair the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology with a focus to build expertise in Stem Cell biology and Epigenetics. Last July, he was appointed Chief Scientific Officer of the School of Medicine, taking over Glen Gaulton's position. He worked in tandem with Gaulton for six months to ease the transition. He told the group that he has had a slightly different focus than Gaulton's, and is trying to align budgetary considerations with the whole Medical enterprise, getting people together so that responsibilities can be shared and operations streamlined. He is working closely with the new Financial Officer, and stated that Medical School needs strong administrative skills, already evident in the hospital.

Epstein also said the Department of Psychiatry has a new chair, and three candidates for the Chair in Biochemistry and Biophysics are all top notch. He emphasized that progress in Translational Medicine all rests on the basic sciences, and Biochemistry is critical. He recently spoke to the Trustees and related the story of how penicillin was discovered but could not be made available until the chemists found a way to purify it. He then discussed the new technology of Cryo-EM; this is extraordinarily powerful, but also extremely expensive. Penn is debating whether or not to obtain it. NIH has suggested setting up regional centers, but Epstein suggested to them that such centers could be related to a University.

Meadows asked Epstein to comment on the Academic Clinical track, and how it impacts the Professorial track. He responded by asking what is a great academic

medical center? Penn's progress depends upon the basic sciences. He then gave an example of collaboration with Industry, citing the cancer immunotherapy program and collaboration with Novartis. But a clinical program that works is essential; he cited Cardiology, where 80% of the faculty is purely clinical, allowing 20% free to carry out basic research. He emphasized that the prime mission of the Medical School is Medical Education.

Wilding asked Epstein to comment on Intellectual Property, and reported that Rubinstein had asked him to chair a committee to review and evaluate this. The committee ran into much difficulty with the offices of the President and Provost and was disbanded. Epstein acknowledged that there is a significant need to re-establish such a committee and that the President and Provost's offices should be willing to be more flexible. He would like to have an Advisory Board made up of industry leaders and others from outside; he gave an example; there is a blood test for pancreatic cancer, but it needs significant outside support to get it to market. Similarly, we have the ability to grow and transplant pancreatic beta cells, but need support to scale up the system for commercial availability, where it would save millions of dollars a year.

Myers asked Epstein if we could provide an overview of ASEF activities and referred to the handout outlining our 2015-16 programs. Steinberg also explained that ASEF is invaluable to faculty entering retirement, citing the Hitchhiker's Guide to Retirement among others, and Myers said we had just organized a financial presentation by TIAA-CREF that was oversubscribed. She also stated that our events are always offered to the senior and emeritus faculty of all the university in addition to the medical school. He asked if ASEF works with the Development Office. Myers replied that there was a conversation with the head of the development office (Brett Davidson) and it had been determined ASEF membership contributed \$35.7 million to PSOM in the first 10 years since the association was founded. Goldfine told Epstein that ASEF had collected \$25,000.00 to name a room in the renovated area of the PSOM, but it fell through. Myers stated that we had a recent productive meeting with Dean Jameson and resolved our budget proposal for upcoming year programs, but space remains was an essential ongoing concern. Last year, our temporary space in AC, and then presumably in JM, had been discussed extensively at a meeting with Gaulton in which Goldfine, Steinberg and Myers were present, and it was our understanding these small room arrangements were temporary until renovations of Hamilton Walk buildings were completed. Renovations of Richards are already advanced and those in Stemmler well underway, and certainly this space is committed immediately. Epstein then commented that the Biomedical Library could be a great space for ASEF, and asked for time to look into this possibility and Myers said she had just been informed of these new ideas in the last few days by Dorothy Leung who is continuing to help oversee the evolving plans for ASEF.

President's Report: Myers summarized the March 7th yearly meeting with Dean Jameson in which all 8 ASEF officers attended. We briefly reviewed the ASEF 2015-16 programs, and the Dean was specifically glad to hear that there was interaction of ASEF with all university S & E faculty, who are always invited to our events. The itemized 14.2 K budget submitted in advance for consideration, was agreed to by the Dean who approved an increase from 11K (the original budget from 2004) to 15K. Space is an ongoing issue, and although ASEF was supposed to move from AC236 to JM195 soon, there apparently is a change in this plan to pursue space in the medical school library on Hamilton Walk. Goldfine commented that the move to the library might take three to four years. Macgregor pointed out to the Dean some of the ways emeriti are contributing their time and experience to the school and individual departments.

The TIAA-CREF program had been very successful, as was the Berger research lecture, both in BRB 200 level popular rooms. ASEF supplied lunch at both, there were many PASEF attendees as well as emeriti coming to campus specifically for these talks.

The ASEF Spring Distinguished Lecture is April 27th, given by Jean Bennett, is being advertised more widely than in previous years by taking advantage of all resources. May 24th is the Spring/End of Academic year party, which will be held in the Wood Room for the first time.

Art Exhibit Outing at SEI in Oaks, PA: Greenberg said everything is in place for the outing to SEI Investments in Oaks for the art exhibit, which is shown throughout a number of their buildings. A van will collect the Center City individuals and the others will drive directly from their homes. He has arranged for a tour at 11 AM, which is expected to last at least 90 minutes. The guide said the maximal number of people is ~23. Afterwards, the group will have lunch in the company cafeteria. Originally there had been \$20. requested per person but it was decided to waive this charge since many people were driving, the lunch would be less than \$10/person, there was no charge for the tour, and the amount spent was in line with our budget for this event.

Parking for Emeriti to Attend ASEF events: Previously we had discussed offering lunch for noontime seminars (which was implemented), and to explore parking as an incentive for emeriti to return more often to campus. This had also been mentioned at the meeting with the Dean and even he admitted that parking was not easy. Bloch researched some options and described possibilities for parking, i.e., ASEF can buy cards at \$15.00 each for the lots on 34th and Chestnut, and 38th and 40th on Walnut. The lot at 34th is sometimes full however. There is also hospital parking near Perelman but even the Dean said this was unwieldy in midday hours. Myers wants

to check on the parking on Curie Blvd. in lot 44; it is never close to full any longer and is adjacent to BRB, the site for many of our events. There had been parking spots paid there by ASEF several years ago for the musicians at the Emeritus Celebration so it is possible. Discussion ensued and it was decided to continue following ideas. Myers mentioned that she wished she had thought of offering parking last year in her invitations to the new emeriti and suggested it be considered at this event in the future. Goldfine told the group that parking at the Civic Center is \$5.00 if a patient, otherwise \$20.00. So we tell people to say 'Patient'!!

New Council Members: Meadows, who as past president is chair of new council nominations, asked for names of possible new Council members to be sent to her. There are 2 slots to be filled for 2016-17 for the 3 year at large term. There will also be a meeting of the subcommittee directly after this council meeting.

PASEF Report: Summers said the outing to Brandywine is on April 28.

On Thursday March 28, Jeremy Siegel will speak in the Hourglass room on 'Stock Markets, what's next?' The Speaker's Bureau is on the website and letters will go out to the Philadelphia Metropolitan area describing it. A survey of emeritus faculty organizations across the US shows that most individuals pay a modest charge. Their activities are usually combined with other organizations. PASEF had three meetings with Human Resources in order to track deceased faculty. They were unable to do so, and will check with the Provost's office.

Other Agenda Items: The other items tentatively on the agenda (Vicki's report on Emeritus organizations and recaps of recent ASEF events) will be postponed for lack of time and be taken up at the next meetings, since the important part of today was intended for the discussion with Dr. Epstein.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Heyner, Ph.D.

Amended by Jeanne Myers