

**Minutes of a
Medical Faculty Executive Committee Meeting
May 9, 2005**

Present: E. Adashi, B. Bock, A. Brem, J. Diaz, B. Greenberg, E. Harrington, C. Jackson, K. McGarry, J. Murphy, M. Phipps, W. Rakowski, J. Rich, S. Rounds, R. Smith, S. Suner

Dr. Jody Rich chaired the meeting which convened at 8:10 a.m. Minutes of the 4/11/05 meeting were approved with one amendment. Dr. Suner gave a presentation of the MFEC overview to the Department of Emergency Medicine and not the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Rich noted that at the May 3rd faculty meeting the faculty voted to recommend to the President and Board of Fellows the establishment of a Center for Children at Risk proposed by Dr. Barry Lester. The proposal was vetted through the Academic Priorities Committee (APC) and the FEC before going to the faculty for a vote. Should the MFEC be involved in future approvals of new Centers involving the Medical School? It would certainly raise the profile of the MFEC if they could be more involved with such issues.

The Brown University Community Council chaired by President Simmons held an open forum recently to discuss issues relative to the Brown Community. Provost Zimmer also attended. The Committee listens to the voices of the Community and responds to issues as they arise, especially those related to diversity.

Dr. Brem reported that the FEC discussed the draft of the proposed Intellectual Property Policy again which was finally passed at the May 3 faculty meeting. The FEC has also been discussing the process by which the Provost can overturn a decision made by the Tenure, Promotion and Appointments Committee. It was determined that the process for appeals needs to be clarified. Dean Rounds noted that the Provost overturned CMFA's decision only once in its history. The MFEC is the body that handles appeals from medical faculty about academic issues but is not the proper venue for employment issues. Perhaps it is something the MFEC might want to consider adding to their by-laws.

There was discussion about appeals and grievances processes and how they need to be streamlined and clarified. It was suggested a small task force be formed that would include one MFEC member to investigate and report back to the MFEC.

Dean Adashi gave a progress report on Medical School issues. An associate dean's position is being created in the Sciences that will oversee graduate students and postdocs. Gary Wessel will be coming up with a set of recommendations to identify a specific set of skills for that position. It will be a partnership position which will be brought to the hospitals because "we are one", a signal Dean Adashi is sending every step of the way. He has just started to work on the educational part of the Medical School which will be discussed at a later date.

Dean Adashi spoke about the expansion of the Medical School class which he proposes to increase from 70 to 100 students per year. He is working now to improve the amount and quality of space and has been involved in intense meetings to generally improve the quality of life in the Medical School. A new building for the Medical School is a top priority of the Campaign as presented in the Table of Needs, and it may be located downtown near the hospitals. Dean Adashi is very optimistic that eventually it will become a reality.

Dean Rounds gave the CMFA annual report. The CMFA is a standing committee of the Brown faculty which increased its membership last year by doubling the amount of clinical faculty members. Dean Rounds chairs the CMFA but does not vote. The committee is a hard-working group and does an outstanding job. Dean Rounds reviewed the charge and composition of the committee, data for faculty promotions and appointments for 2003-04 and 2004-05 (preliminary report), and trends in faculty appointments at Brown. There were 53 actions considered in 03-04 and 60 in 04-05 to date. Dean Rounds will discuss gender in relationship to tracks with the MFEC in the near future.

A revised draft of the Faculty Status document was reviewed by the MFEC who made some suggestions for further revisions. They were particularly concerned with Items 7 and 9 under "Grounds for Disciplinary Action". It could get messy should there be two investigations, one by the Medical School and one by the hospital. The time frame also needs to be clarified. Dean Rounds will incorporate their suggestions and send the revised draft to the MFEC soon. She welcomed additional feedback from the MFEC by e-mail after the meeting.

Dr. Greenberg will be doing his departmental presentation of the MFEC overview this month and Dean Adashi will be participating.

The MFEC ballot is in the mail with a return deadline of May 20.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Moreau
Secretary