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Chair, Council of Faculties

A meeting of the Administrative Board of the Council of Faculties was held February 3, 2008 in Arlington VA. The work of existing committees and task forces was discussed. Ideas for the second half of the 2007-2008 year and potential ideas for Chair-elect Julie Szilagyi were also discussed. Minutes of the meeting are posted on the Council of Faculties website.

The meeting of the Council of Faculties Administrative Board/Academic Sections Coordinating Committee was conducted February 3, 2008. Brief reports regarding the work of committees and task forces were discussed. ASCC Chair David Zgarrick discussed the abstract review process, roundtable discussion topics, and the planned Council of Sections. Section leaders reported on their activities and plans. Minutes of the meeting are posted on the Council of Faculties website.

The COF Business Meeting at the 2008 Interim Meeting was held February 4, 2008. Immediate past-chair Ken Skau presented highlights of the Board of Directors meeting. ASCC Chair David Zgarrick discussed various plans for the Annual Meeting and the planned Council of Sections. Chairs or representatives of committees and task forces reported. AACP staff member Will Lang presented a legislative update. A resolution to suspend the time requirement for introductory pharmacy practice experiences was introduced and passed. The resolution and minutes of the meeting are posted on the Council of Faculties website.

Committees and Task Forces

Membership and charges have been reported previously. More than 75 individuals were involved in COF committees and task forces, including standing committees, ad hoc task forces, and joint projects with the Council of Deans. The COF chair thanks Chair Barbara Hayes of the Council of Deans for excellent and collegial collaboration. All committee and task force reports are posted to the Council of Faculties website. A brief summary of each group’s activities follows.

Nominations

Chair: Ken Skau (Cincinnati)
The committee prepared a slate of candidates for the positions of Chair-elect and Secretary. The nominees for Chair-elect are John Bosso (South Carolina) and Robert Thomas (Florida A&M). The nominees for Secretary are Dana Hammer (Washington) and Steven Scott (Purdue).

Resolutions and Standing Rules

Chair: Todd Brown (Northeastern)
The committee reviewed proposed changes to the Council Standing Rules of Procedure. The committee proposes a resolution to approve the changes.
The resolution on introductory pharmacy practice experience approved at the 2008 Interim Meeting was discussed with no further action recommended at present.

Faculty Affairs

Chair: Michael Borenstein (Temple)
The committee identified emerging issues from the perspective of COF members with the greatest potential impact on schools and colleges of pharmacy over the next 5-10 years. A survey to identify such issues was distributed via the COF listserv. A similar committee from the Council of Deans was merged with the Faculty Affairs Committee at the Interim Meeting to prioritize issues of mutual importance. Three issues deans and faculty members agreed upon were compensation, availability of experiential sites, and the impact of accreditation standards. The committee hopes to continue collaboration with the COD to craft specific potential strategies in the next year. The committee encourages AACP to support a forum in which member institutions can collaborate on solutions.

Task Force on Medication Safety (joint with Council of Deans)

Chair: Robert Weber (Pittsburgh)
The task force was divided into three panels to address the scholarship of medication safety, curriculum content, and medication safety awareness. A supplement to the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education on medication safety was proposed. Titles are being finalized and the proposal will be submitted to AJPE editors.
The task force identified the Pharmacy Quality Alliance as another organization also working on medication safety curriculum improvement. Collaboration was established for task force members to serve as an advisory panel with PQA for development of a curricular outline.
Resources for promoting awareness of medication safety to stakeholders have been identified. Collaboration
has been established with the Pharmacy Foundation of California and Dr. Peter Sandman, a well known consultant on medication safety to complete a plan for enhancing awareness.

**Task Force on Health Students (joint with Council of Deans)**

Chair: Susan Meyer (Pittsburgh)

The task force issued a call for successful practices to the AACP Curriculum Special Interest Group. Responses were compiled as a toolkit for teaching, learning, and assessment in public health, disease prevention, and health promotion. Based on a recommendation from the task force, public health, wellness, and prevention was selected by the AACP Program Committee as the school poster theme for the 2008 Annual Meeting. Additionally, the task force will deliver a special session at the Annual Meeting, *Providing Public Health Education on Campus: Opportunities for Pharmacy*.

**Task Force on Faculty Workforce (joint with COD)**

Chair: Raylene Rospond (Drake)

The task force has discussed strategies for development of compensation packages. Models based upon type of institution and faculty are being developed. The task force has reviewed available data on benefits related to positive work environments and is collecting data from the institutions represented on the task force. The next step will be to develop recommendations and models of faculty appointments. The task force continues to gather data from private institutions to complete the roles analysis of schools and colleges of pharmacy with and without graduate programs and how partnerships can be developed. The task force subgroup working on this charge has identified personal contacts at 26 private schools/colleges and is in the process of collecting survey data through personal interviews.

**Task Force on Interprofessional Education**

Chair: Shauna Buring (Cincinnati)

The task force completed its work on development of integrated curricula based on models of colleges of pharmacy identified in a previous report. Much of this work was completed by the previous year’s task force, chaired by Richard Herrier, at the beginning of the 2007-2008 Council year. Likewise, common curricular themes that cross disciplines were identified in the previous task force’s report. Task force members collated faculty development resources in the area of interprofessional education. These resources will be included in a white paper on interprofessional education to be submitted to the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education. Much information needed to begin implementation of interprofessional education can be found in the 2006-2007 task force report. The current task force is working on faculty development resources which are the final piece to implementation. Findings of the task force will disseminated at a special session at the Annual Meeting as well as the white paper publication.

**Task Force on Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research Education**

Chairs: Stephen Cutler (Mississippi), Sandy Zito (St. John’s)

The task force addressed the topic of compromised or diluted pharmaceutical science education through a survey of pharmaceutical sciences department chairs, analysis of the published curricula of every school or college of pharmacy, and an audit of the past six years of AACP membership to quantify the number of faculty in various disciplines. A majority of department chairs, 54%, believe pharmaceutical sciences courses have been compromised, particularly in the areas of medicinal chemistry and mathematics. The task force notes the increase in the number of schools during the six year period has not been matched by a commensurate increase in number of pharmaceutical sciences faculty members. The task force strongly supports the need to maintain an appropriate number of basic science courses, taught by suitably qualified Ph.D. faculty members.

The task force examined literature and curricula of a sample of schools of pharmacy to consider the balance of basic pharmaceutical science and clinical science instruction and development of reasoning ability. The task force believes that all curricula should provide opportunity for students to develop and fine-tune scientific and clinical reasoning skills, but declined to make specific recommendations regarding a target balance in order to preserve institutional flexibility. The task force strongly supports a blend of content and enhanced pedagogical emphasis on activities that challenge students to apply information.

The task force collected data from its own members and a sample of colleagues from other schools to consider a curricular solution beyond didactic instruction to ensure understanding of principles of research inquiry. The task force recommends exposure of students to faculty research, a research elective, attendance at research seminars, recognition of student research at campus research day events, structured summer research programs, collaboration with graduate students, and exposure to dual degree programs.

The task force was charged to consider and make recommendations regarding how early research emphasis may stimulate interest in dual degree tracks. The task
force utilized a paper by Murphy, et al, in the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education\(^1\) to assist with their work on this charge. The task force recommends colleges and schools of pharmacy explore elective course offerings to introduce students to research experiences. Faculty members should be offered incentives to encourage mentoring in research elective courses. Institutions should explore funding assistance for summer research projects and travel to research meetings.

Findings of the task force will be disseminated in a white paper publication.

The Council of Faculties will again host a reception with the Wal-Mart Scholars during the Annual Meeting.

REFERENCE