Minutes of the Academic Medical Centers and Hospital Committee of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York
January 23, 2017

The Academic Medical Centers and Hospital Committee of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York held a meeting on January 23, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. at SUNY System in Albany, New York.

Committee Members Present:
Dr. Marshall Lichtman, Chair (via video)
Trustee Lewin
Trustee Staller
Trustee Corngold, Acting Chair
Trustee Burke
Trustee Knuepfer
Trustee Spiro
Trustee McCall, Chairman, ex officio

Other Trustees Present:
Trustee Fatta
Trustee Spielvogel

Others Present:
Dr. Ricardo Azziz
Dr. Elizabeth Bringsjord
Mr. Alexander Cartwright
Mr. Joseph Porter
Ms. Stephanie Fargnoli
Mr. Joel Pierre-Louis
Mr. Robert Martiniano
Dr. Rong Zhao

• The meeting was called to order by Trustee Corngold at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, January 23, 2017.

• Upon motion duly made and seconded, and by unanimous vote, the minutes of the Academic Medical Center and Hospitals Committee meeting held on November 2, 2016 were approved.

• Dr. Ricardo Azziz, Chief Officer for Academic Health and Hospital Affairs, provided an overview of his vision for System Administration’s Office of Academic Health and Hospital Affairs. He explained that redefining...
the scope of the Office is an iterative process and he expects to continue the discussion with the Committee in future meetings.

• Dr. Azziz indicated that while the Office has been in existence for some time, it is now expanding its scope/portfolio. He highlighted the following objectives for the Office:
  
  o Support the mission, operations and strategic goals of the Academic Health Centers, College of Optometry, the Long Island Veterans Home, and SUNY’s broader academic health and health professions portfolio;
  
  o Provide support and counsel to the Board of Trustees; and
  
  o Support select SUNY and Statewide health and wellness initiatives.

• In addition, Dr. Azziz outlined the Office goals to include better informed strategic decision making; to identify cross campus synergies; to promote improved efficiency and effectiveness in our Academic Health Centers and across health professions education and training; to leverage the breadth and size of SUNY; to preserve excellence; and to bring brand recognition in academic health.

• He reviewed what Academic Health Centers are and how they are “hubs of innovation” – research, education and clinical care.

• Dr. Azziz addressed the pros/cons of Academic Health Centers owning hospitals and other healthcare facilities and highlighted the most important aspect – that it provides access to revenues that support the School of Medicine/University.

• Further, he addressed the issue of funds flow as a priority for the Office. He indicated that there is importance to understanding the relationship between hospital, School of Medicine/University, and the faculty practice plan.

• Dr. Azziz discussed the external and internal challenges and opportunities facing SUNY’s Academic Health Centers, which include the payors, organizational, operational, population health, and academic. Those topics are expected to be further discussed in future committee meetings.

• Finally, Dr. Azziz concluded his presentation with a “look-ahead” for the Office. It includes timely and accurate data and analysis; operational and programmatic cross-campus synergy; education and training (workforce needs); research and innovation; informing stakeholders; and engaging and listening to the SUNY community.

• The Committee then heard from Mr. Robert Martiniano from the Centers for Workforce Studies at University of Albany and Dr. Rong Zhao from the Center for Excellence in Wireless and Information Technology at Stony Brook University regarding the NYS Health Workforce Planning Data Guide.

• Mr. Martiniano provided an overview of the Center for Workforce Studies’ expertise and the background of the Health Workforce Data Guide.

• Mr. Martiniano provided information on the supply of and demand for the health workforce. He described how the Center enhances public policy discussion and identifies needs to guide potential new training
initiatives. The Data Guide draws from various sources including demographic data, health status and behavior and from the health care system. The Guide “helps tell the story”.

- Dr. Rong Zhao provided a demonstration/description of the new interactive Data Guide. He explained how it is an intuitive, web-based dashboard application that applies visualization techniques to bring data together, provide clarity, compare data points, and share data effectively. Previous year’s Data Guides have been paper-based and was over 200 pages with 1,000 data tables.

- Dr. Rong concluded his presentation with an actual demonstration of the available data in a given region. He reviewed various tables and its ability to manipulate data and visualize data in a way it has never been done before.

- Trustee Corngold inquired about the ability to import historical data to expand the current capabilities of the interactive Data Guide. Dr. Zhao responded that there is an expectation, in phase two of the initiative, to bring historical data in so that it will allow for trend analysis and time series analyses.

- Trustee Lichtman commented on the importance in utilizing the Data Guide within the Academic Health Centers. He inquired how it can be effectuated and integrated. Dr. Jean Moore, the Director of the Center for Workforce Studies, responded that Data Guide is intended to create access for everyone including the Academic Health Centers. She commented that it is intended to incentivize discussion between the community, education providers, and the health care system.

- By approved motion and vote, the Committee went into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing the employment of a particular person or persons and to discuss the financial history of a particular corporation pursuant to Public Officers Law § 105(1)(f). No action was taken.

- By approved motion and vote, the Committee returned to public session.

- Trustee Corngold called for a motion to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. A motion was made and second received. The motion passed unanimously.