

Stony Brook School of Medicine
Special Faculty Senate Meeting- Blue Ribbon Commission Report
February 21st, 2007

Dr. Cedric Priebe (Presiding)

Dr. Scott Johnson (Recording)

Attendance: Please see attendance roster.

Dr. Priebe called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

**I. Report on the Blue Ribbon Commission on SBUMC and Stony Brook SOM –
President Kenny**

- Dr. Kenny first addressed a story published recently in Newsday, reporting that three of the five members of the Blue Ribbon Commission belonged to a consulting firm paid by the University. Newsday challenged that this commission consequently could not be independent and impartial. Dr. Kenny stated that the Blue Ribbon Commission members were recompensed for their time and effort, which is standard practice. She stated that it is enormously important that Stony Brook has no connections or relationships with anyone on the Blue Ribbon Commission. It is important that they must be totally separate from the University. She commented that the Blue Ribbon Commission is an extraordinarily talented group who produced a comprehensive and insightful report. The full redacted report is easily accessed, as it has been posted on the University website, SBUMC website, and on Newsday's website. (Editor's note: the full redacted report was sent to all faculty members by Dr. Priebe prior to this meeting.)
- Dr. Kenny reported that the Blue Ribbon Commission was very, very impressed with the quality of our hospital. They found that the quality of care is excellent and that there are no systemic quality issues. The hospital came through with "flying colors."
- Some organizational issues arose from the Blue Ribbon Commission's review, which was not in the Blue Ribbon Commission's original charge. Two important recommendations were made:
 1. A local Community Advisory Board be established for the hospital and medical school
 2. The position of Vice President of Medical Affairs is established.
- President Kenny opined that a plan for a local Community Advisory Board is a good idea for the hospital; it would likely not work for the School of Medicine. The SOM is an academic enterprise, which is not the sort of enterprise in which the community should have governance duties. However, a Community Advisory Board would be helpful with fundraising initiatives.
- If a Community Advisory Board is established for Stony Brook, similar boards would also need to be established for the 2 other SUNY SOM/hospital campuses (SUNY Upstate and SUNY Downstate). This would require a legislative vote on such a bill, which President Kenny does not think will pass.
- The SUNY Chancellor's office recognizes the importance of a Community Advisory Board and is presently working with Senator Lavelle to develop a board. The composition of the board has not yet been determined, but there would likely be 9-12 members on the board; some within the University, some from the community, and ex-officio members by virtue of their SUNY office. Hopefully the board will be involved with fund-raising initiatives, as well as community relations.
- President Kenny then addressed the position of VP of Medical Affairs. Stony Brook has hired a consultant to analyze the governance model of our hospital and SOM. Five possible models have been recommended for a proposed governance structure. Each model proposes how a VP of Medical Affairs would be incorporated into the

governance structure. President Kenny did not delineate any of the five proposed models.

- President Kenny commented that Dr. Edward Pellegrino was the original SOM Dean and VP Medical Affairs. He served in both positions until Dr. Howard Oaks became a separate VP of Medical Affairs. The VP of Medical Affairs was a separate role until Dr. Norman Edelman was asked to fulfill both the SOM Dean and VP Medical Affairs roles when the University was realizing a financial crunch.
- President Kenny was asked to clarify the role and authority of a local Community Advisory Board. She responded that the language of its composition and role in the governance structure is still being developed. The SUNY Board of Trustees has the fiscal responsibility of all three SUNY hospitals. President Kenny reports to this Board. It would be difficult for an outside Community Advisory Board to have governance authority or fiscal authority that the NYS has already assumed. Therefore it is a little tricky to establish the appropriate language.
- Dr. Strongwater commented on the role of the Community Advisory Board. He said that this advisory board would serve as a helpful body to enable the future success of the medical center. This board would be helpful to the hospital, particularly with the hospital's strategic planning and fund-raising. This board could also make recommendations for quality and performance improvement initiatives. This is currently a work-in-progress.
- President Kenny stated that all three hospitals must be unified and work together with the Chancellor to establish community boards which will be helpful.
- President Kenny was asked to comment on the search process for a VP of Medical Affairs and the proposed reporting structure. She responded that she will utilize a search firm to find a VP of Medical Affairs. Before that can occur, however, we must first decide which of the proposed five models of governance structure will be implemented.
- President Kenny was asked if all five proposed models are still on the table and being considered. President Kenny responded that she is willing to solicit faculty input and she will distribute these proposed models to the faculty. She stated that her email, as well as Dr. Fine and Dr. Strongwater's emails are always open to the faculty. She said she would be deeply appreciative of faculty suggestions and helpful criticisms.
- Dr. Priebe concurred that a Community Advisory Board would facilitate community relations and suggested that perhaps a member representing journalism and the media be included in this board.
- President Kenny addressed the budget. She stated that Mr. Daniel Melucci, University Assoc VP for Strategy, Planning and Analysis, is the most knowledgeable on budgetary issues and perhaps should present a report to the Faculty Senate on a separate occasion. He has presented budget data to the chairs on both sides of campus.
- Stony Brook has received \$1.7 million from the NYS EPI program (Empire Innovation program); a program designed to recruit research faculty. All SUNY campuses divided up a \$6 million fund. This fund was distributed to all SUNY campuses and the amounts given predicated on how much research monies were generated by each campus. Stony Brook received the most money of the SUNY campuses because of our research productivity. Next year the Governor's budget will add an additional \$6 million to the NYS EPI program.
- Our share, \$1.7 million enabled 22 new faculty lines (EIP lines do not include package money for new hires). It will be used to recruit academic members to the faculty.
- Then, an additional 28 new faculty lines have also been created, totaling 50 new faculty members for both sides of campus.
- President Kenny then discussed how campus utilities have been enormous strain on the University's budget, costing \$42 million last year.

- This year SUNY agreed to cover Stony Brook utility costs, correcting the previous budget deficit. This enabled President Kenny to add an additional 22 lines for total of **72 new hires** for both sides of campus:
 - 50 campus lines- research and teaching needs.
 - 22 EIP lines –research-focused lines only.
- \$16.4 million is available to the University and will be matched by SUNY; this is the first time in a decade that Stony Brook has had a good budget. The state legislature must approve the Governor’s budget. President Kenny commented that it is now a wonderful time for Stony Brook to focus on recruiting faculty. Quite a few requests have already been made by the SOM for some of these new lines.
- New lines will be allocated based on requests; there will not be predetermined set amounts to be allocated. President Kenny asked that requests for new lines be in by March 1st. The most important priority for these new lines is quality.
- Dr. Priebe commented that these lines are necessary for a successful CTSA application.
- Dr. Fine addressed some of the EIP lines already awarded:
 - 2 EIP lines for the Avian Flu initiative
 - 2 EIP lines for the Diabetes/Obesity center
- Dr. Fine stated that 20 requests have been made of the 50 available campus lines, 8 of them specifically for the CTSA. This is a reasonable number of requests based on requested needs by SOM departments.
- Dr. Fine commented that the CTSA hires will likely be expensive, as we need to look for outstanding senior faculty as well as junior faculty with great potential. Soon to be available is a “Rotating Stars” program, in which a one year appointment is made to an outstanding visiting professor.
- Everyone who has been recruited in a SOM clinical department may supplement their salaries. Most academic stars want their full salary in the first year and will want to come in at a professorial level. For the short term, package dollars are a limiting factor.
- Dr. Fine was asked if any of the new faculty lines have been earmarked for the several SOM chair positions or for development of the cancer program. Dr. Fine responded that funding has been requested specifically addressing our chair recruitments and clinical initiatives, as well as whatever specific needs and requests have been made. One of our major requests relate to the CTSA. The NIH needs to know that there is a substantial amount of matching funds and funds for infrastructure available. Many resources need to be allocated to a successful CTSA application. Without the CTSA the SOM will be adversely affected for some time.
- A Strategic plan is being developed for both the SOM CTSA needs and the West campus needs.
- Dr. Strongwater was asked about the Pediatric Cardiac Surgery program. Dr. Strongwater responded that he and Dr. Fine met with the new NYS Health Commissioner, Dr. Daines. They requested permission to reopen the Pediatric Cardiac Catheterization program, as this program was never considered problematic. There has been no final decision regarding the Pediatric Cardiac Surgery program. We would need to ensure a viable case load for a busy Pediatric Cardiac Surgery program. If we rebuild the Pediatric Cardiac catheterization volume, then we can establish an adequate surgical volume. At this point a Pediatric Cardiac Surgery program can be considered.
- President Kenny was asked a question concerning the formula existing for IDC money. She deferred this discussion to a future report by Mr. Melucci. She commented that many budgetary issues are misunderstood and that the very detailed Gray book is available for the faculty to review.
- Dr. Strongwater commented that he came to Stony Brook to build a very solid foundation, with a goal of world-class medical care. He encouraged people to share issues/concerns/problems that can be addressed and resolved. We have to understand

that best performances challenge people to look at best practices everywhere and embed them into the care that we deliver.

- Dr. Priebe thanked President Kenny for her time and candor.

II. Report on Recurrent HSC burglaries

Richard Young, Chief of University Police

- Richard Young, Chief of University Police, reported on a recent series of theft at the HSC.
- 34 theft incidents occurred last year, of which 20% were electronic equipment. The majority of these thefts (59%) occur during the evening, usually between 4pm-12am. The least number of thefts occur during the midnight shift.
- Mr. Young stated that there has been increased effort into extra patrols and surveillance, and that over the past 2 weeks there have not been any thefts.
- Faculty and staff must check for open doors. 26 doors were reported open over this past weekend.
- Key control is another major problem. Master keys are ubiquitous and many unauthorized people possess keys to HSC offices, room and labs. We are in the process of converting to a Best lock system with new keys. There will also be a computerized watchguard system being installed; 70 new cameras are being installed and 2 covert cameras are now installed in the HSC.
- The faculty needs to be diligent and should back up their files and work on locking doors to prevent security breeches.
- Levels 1-5 will be locked down except for card access (electronic proximity card) and most bridges to the hospital will be locked down, likely by March 2007. Security card access will be incorporated into ID badges. Security plans would not affect access to the HSC library.
- It was suggested to purchase a computrack device for your computer. This device traces your computer's own unique IP address and locates your stolen computer through GPS technology.
- It was also suggested to record your computer's serial number, so that it can be reported to the police if your computer is stolen.

III. New Business

- No new business discussed.
- The next Faculty Senate meeting will be **Tuesday, March 27th at 5pm in LH 2.**
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.