

**October 23, 2023  
Board of Governors Meeting Minutes**

**Members in Attendance:**

Richard Austin, MD, Elizabeth Montgomery-Collins, MD, Nicole Florence, MD, Jason Gillihan, MD, Breck Jones, MD, Renee Mueller, MD, Amanda Mulch, MD, Michael Pick, MD, Stephen Raben, MD, Susan Reeder, MD, Mark Schmelzel, MD, Tom Selby, MD, David Skillrud, MD, Stephen Soltys, MD, Christine Todd, MD, Lisa Wichterman, MD, Matt Winkleman, MD

**Ex-Officio Members in Attendance:**

Haneme Idrizi, MD, Jerry Kruse, MD, Cassie Mattson, CMP, Patsy Wappel

**Staff in Attendance:**

Nicole Edmiston, Megan Matzat, Kate Moore

**Members Absent:**

Austin Beason, MD, Diane Hillard-Sembell, MD, Elizabeth Valencia, MD, Wendi El-Amin, MD, Chris McDowell, MD

**Medical Students in Attendance:**

Joey Maiocco, MS4, Madison Nelson, MS4 - LSP, Molly Smith, MS3, Madison Stacey, MS2

**Medical Students Absent:**

Adetolani "Tola" Adeyefa, MS1

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Dr. Winkleman called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm on Monday, October 23, 2023.

**2. APPROVAL OF MAY 8, 2023, MEETING MINUTES**

Dr. Lisa Wichterman and Dr. Susan Reeder seconded the motion for meeting minute approval.

**3. DEAN'S UPDATE**

Hospitals are having a tough time across the US and here. Local hospital funds will be 20 million less than they were 2 years ago. Our clinical practice is up 45% and we received a 7% increase in state appropriations for next year. The budget for this year was presented with a 9 million loss, but that is easily covered by our reserves. We can do this without cutting services to our hospital partners in FY24, and the hope is to present a balanced budget for FY25. However, we can't cut costs on facilities, some portion of the state appropriations have to be put into facilities. Walgreens on 5<sup>th</sup> & South Grand was purchased. The atrium/coffee hub will start construction next week: will be very open and spacious, include a donor wall in the back, and a "3rd floor" space for further eating, which will lead to the Student Affairs office.

- Dr. Winkleman asked about a low-cost option for students at the sandwich shop – the Dean said they were looking at vendor's now and would consider that.
- Molly Smith suggested having students present their id for a discount.

**Staffing:**

- Behavioral Health Workforce Center (BHWC): Lori Williams will head the new operational arm, Dr. Kari Wolf will head the faculty/provider arm.
- Executive Associate Dean: Dr. Chris McDowell, taking on some of what Lori Williams previously managed and beyond.
- Associate Provost of OMCE & Strategy (chief strategy officer): Rikeesha Phelon
- Dr. Judy Davie has been named the Chair of the Department of Biomedical Sciences in Carbondale. She succeeds Dr. Buck Hales, who recently retired.

#### **4. OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Dr. Haneme Idrizi thanked everyone, announced that she has now been in her position for just over a year, and wanted to share updates with OSA.

##### **Class of 2027:**

- ▣ Matriculated 2023:
  - 49 females
  - 31 males
  - 9 African American
  - 7 Latinx
  - 1 native American
  - 8 LSP students total within that
- ▣ MCAT Averages:
  - 2023: 507
  - 2022: 508
  - 2021: 508
  - 2020: 507
- ▣ Orientation:
  - They loved Dr. Mulch's swag bag this year, especially the branded t-shirts
  - Feedback was that Dr. Mulch made a very boring, dry event into a fun, engaging event.
  - They offered a parent informational session for the first time this year.
- ▣ Traditional Students: 1st Unit (CRR)
- ▣ Lincoln Scholars Program: 3rd Unit (NBM)

##### **Class of 2026:**

- ▣ They made the move to Springfield this year and were welcomed at a Star Wars themed welcome lunch/fair.
- ▣ Traditional Students: 2nd Unit (CRR)
- ▣ Lincoln Scholars Program: 3rd Clerkship

##### **Class of 2025:**

- ▣ Traditional Students: 5<sup>th</sup> Clerkship
- ▣ Lincoln Scholars Program: USMLE Step 1 self-study

##### **Class of 2024:**

- ▣ They are currently planning their celebrations, first round of students to go up for match soon.
- ▣ Traditional Students & Lincoln Scholars Program:
  - Electives
  - Mock Interviews
  - Scheduling Interviews
  - Planning for Match 2024

##### **General Updates:**

- ▣ They are going to track their metrics moving forward concerning EDI.
- ▣ They are opening up admissions to DACA recipients for the first time ever this year.

##### **Student Wellness & Food Insecurity:**

📌 Student Wellness:

- Just purchased a massage chair to go in the Student Resource Room.

📌 Food Insecurity:

- USDA Food insecurity questionnaire:
  - Sent a validated food insecurity survey to Y2 & Y3 & Y4 students
  - 52 Respondents, Data Collected August-October
    - a. Food Secure: 39 (75.0%)
    - b. Food Insecure Without Hunger: 5 (9.6%)
    - c. Food Insecure With Middle Hunger: 8 (15.3%)
    - d. Food Insecure With Intense Hunger: 0 (0.0%)
- OSA spends about \$400 a month to keep the Student Resource Room stocked with various food items and toiletries
- Comments:
  - Dr. Winkleman asked: if we have access to purchase food at subsidized costs? Dr. Idrizi: we are looking into that.
  - Dr. Pick stated: can't imagine that any student has food insecurity. Dr. Idrizi asked him and others for suggestions.
  - Dr. Todd: There is confirming data across the board on this, other costs have gone up (rent, phone, cost of life).
  - Dr. Idrizi: local grocery stores are not interested in helping/donating.
  - Drs. Schmelzel/Reeder/Pick: asked how we have funding for facilities, but not for students' food insecurity?
  - Dr. Valencia: asked about offering lunches somehow for lunch/dinner conferences, can each of the departments support this cost when medical students are rotating through specialties? Dr. Idrizi: Many departments already do this.
  - Dr. Idrizi: Ed Curtis was able to give multiple food cards to students.
  - Molly Smith: Y3s & Y4s are more aware of hospital options, including the doctor's lounge. Dr. Idrizi has asked Memorial to offer the doctor's lounge to Y2s as well, but they have declined at this time due to space.
  - Dr. Todd asked: can we be a micro pantry? Dr. Idrizi: We cannot, as it has to be open to anyone, not just the students.
  - Dr. Selby offered to share how hospitals get diapers and wipes at a very discounted price.

No other questions or comments.

## 5. OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Kruse announced that Kris Fisher is no longer with the school, as Exec. Director of Development & Alumni Relations. The duties will now be split between Cassie Mattson (Alumni Relations) & Patsy Wappel (Development). Patsy Wappel thanked everyone for welcoming her and then shared updates regarding Development.

- 📌 Chancellor Lane will announce the reset of the SIUC Campaign. It will transition from "Forever SIU" to "Imagine 2030" with a \$500 million goal by the end of the 2030 fiscal year. The School of Medicine fundraising team is being asked to raise \$48,000,000 toward the revised campaign goal. The good news is that our existing campaign total will roll over into this campaign and the team has raised just shy of \$25,000,000, or 52% of the goal.
- 📌 SOM is to receive a 1.5-million-dollar estate gift from a grateful patient.
- 📌 Discussed Alumni giving totals from October 2022-2023.
- 📌 New record total raised for Denim & Diamonds: \$430,000
- 📌 Dr. Soltys: requested resident grad statistics on giving. Patsy: 2017 is when the Foundation truly got access to our resident grads, so there is limited data. Dr. Kruse: Tracking and solicitation of resident grads is a goal moving forward. We will have help in it moving forward from Carbondale and Springfield GME office.

No further business or questions.

## **6. OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS**

Cassie Mattson opened the discussion by wanting to explore some ideas received regarding Reunion. Reunion has been the same for many years, and attendance is decreasing.

- ▶ Alumni Relations asked for feedback via survey sent to alumni. Feedback was they didn't care what the activities were, but that there was an opportunity to get together.
- ▶ Alumni Relations will shift to a homecoming style for pilot reunion in 2024, bringing back all classes on 6/22/24. Ideas: trivia, child area, adults only area, free childcare options, decades space as separate lounge areas.
- ▶ All above is planned for Saturday 6/22/24, but there will still be a campus tour and medical student panel offered.
- ▶ Friday, 6/21/24, class committee to decide, no financial support from Alumni Relations, but the staff can give other support, if needed.
- ▶ Saturday, 6/22/24 morning option: pass the mic, panel breakfast, allows alumni to talk about themselves/give updates.
- ▶ Save the Date will be sent out tomorrow, 10/24/23, along with an interest survey.

### **Alumni Engagement:**

- ▶ They will be trying new things: TopGolf campaign, winery day, Jammin' at the Zoo.
  - The class of 2015 really showed up to recent Jammin' at the Zoo in St Louis, even though it was a smaller group.
- ▶ Cassie is going to Scottsdale next week for a TopGolf event.
- ▶ Hike & Brews was canceled due to low attendance.
- ▶ Main focus is on student connection with the alumni events.

### **Aspects:**

- ▶ Aspects is fully digital now. This decision was made by SOM's Office of Marketing & Communications (OMC).
- ▶ Alumni Relations has also lost their alumni update page, but have started Class Notes now on the webpage as a replacement. This will be the new way to see those updates and is a big change.

### **Other Updates:**

- ▶ The e-newsletter has not been sent out recently, as it was being rebranded by SOM's OMC. Moving forward, it will be sent out monthly. Also, it will be shorter due to the monthly release plan.
- ▶ The host program was discussed as struggling at May 2023 meeting. Alumni Relations sent out an email last month to ask for mentors.
  - They have compiled a list of 19 specialties and 11 students have reached out so far in less than a week. They received less than that all of last year.
  - Confidentiality has been stressed to students.
  - 15% of alums are participating in the program.
  - They will continue to evolve list with new mentors and any new specialties.

### **Junaia P. Carter 5K & Walk:**

- ▶ It was last put on in 2019 by OSA and student representatives.
- ▶ Held in honor of a former medical student and alum: Junaia P. Carter, MD.
- ▶ To be held on 10/28/23. There is still time to sponsor or register to run/walk.
- ▶ Current registration is: 70 adults, 10 kids.
- ▶ Students are volunteering day-of.
- ▶ Proud of this year's #s, but plan to do bigger and better each year moving forward.

## **Data Governance/Alumni Report:**

- ◉ Kate Moore presented data from the 2023 Alumni Report.
- ◉ Historically, it was prepared and shared ever 2 years. Moving forward, it will be done annually as part of the Development & Alumni Relations' (DAR) Impact Report.
- ◉ It is provided to Paul Wells each time.
- ◉ 1/3 of known alumni providers practicing in Sangamon County are SOM MD grads.
- ◉ Resident grad data is a long-term goal. In order to harness that information appropriately, DAR plans to undertake it, but will need more manpower. DAR does want to acknowledge that we see the resident grads and appreciate them.

## **7. STUDENT REPORTS**

- ◉ **Joey Maiocco, MS4**
  - Applications have been submitted, first interviews are happening now.
  - Feedback on host-lite program is fabulous.
  - Answered question "How can DAR help?" Suggestions with no cost: AA should send reminders, reach out to AA about housing opportunities for in-person interviews, Suggestions with cost: almost every class purchases a ring lite for their computer – could be a low-cost support to students.
  - Answered "How to engage?" Keep events local to cities, so travel isn't a barrier.
- ◉ **Molly Smith, MS3**
  - Step 1 exams have been taken.
  - They have moved on to core clerkships and PEPS and then will take step 2 exams.
  - They are planning a Halloween bar crawl, with the entire assembly taking more on for student appreciation week.
  - Are interested in starting a professional clothing closet.
  - Answered question "How can DAR help?" Suggestions with cost: alumni dinners for Y3 too, not just Y1 & Y2, foldable clipboard. Suggestions with no cost: pair up MS3s with current faculty for mock interviews.
- ◉ **Madison Stacey, MS2**
  - MS2s truly enjoy being in Springfield now.
  - They are currently hosting an apparel sale.
  - Making plans for their winter ball in Jan 2024.
  - M2 welcome brunch was hosted by external entity, gave time for MS2s to speak with local providers.
- ◉ **Adetolani "Tola" Adeyefa, MS1**
  - Not able to attend
  - Provided report in Board packet
- ◉ **Madison Nelson, MS4, LSP**
  - They just submitted packets, are scheduling interviews, and have interviews Oct 2023-Jan 2024. Most specialties are only offering virtual interviews. However, some specialties (some FCM and surgery sub-specialties) have moved to in-person interviews.
  - They are engaging with homecoming events and Mentor program.
  - 4 LSP students going to FCM, 1 to Psychiatry, 1 to Surgery = 6 total

Dr. Winkleman asked: are interviews in-person or virtual this year? Response: It is a mixed bag, some in-person, some virtual, or some are offering hybrid. There are 4 interview spaces for virtual interviews on Springfield campus, so that is helpful.

## **8. 2024 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI**

Discussion was led by Dr. Winkleman for all 3 awards. Board members presented the nominees to the group, this is the first time this method of nominee presentation has occurred. Two potential awardees were discussed for each award.

► **Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award**

- Sam Gaines, MD, presented by Dr. Jason Gillihan: SJH ED, prior BOG member, gave my class their gift, he was a state surgeon for the Army National Guard at a very pivotal time, right before Afghanistan, led a pivotal piece in our state's readiness for that military effort, highest medical post you can have at the federal level
  - Dr. Florence: representation matters.
  - Dr. Austin: one of the humbler people, he taught me, allegedly retiring soon finally, he just can't stop serving the community
- June McKoy, MD, JD, presented by Dr. Renee Mueller: background paperwork is amazing, I don't know her personally, she graduated 1999, full professor at NW SOM, also a teacher, program director, NIH-funded cancer researcher, junior faculty, has won numerous teaching awards, also an attorney who does pro bono work, invited by Obama to be on a national panel

► **Distinguished Alumni Service Award**

- Alison LaFrence, MD, FAAFP, presented by Dr. Elizabeth Valencia: nominated by a classmate, in 1984, she won female student award, FCM, met husband on OBGYN rotation first day, started private practice and delivered many babies over the years, traveled to Cameroon with MIL, after Cameroon she had recurring seizures and migraines, affected her memory and speech, despite that she was very dedicated to serving Cameroon, after MIL's death, for the rest of her career, she and her husband would volunteer 1.5 months each year in Cameroon, support came from lawyers, admins, etc., saved many lives, mothers and babies
- Steven Manson, MD, presented by Dr. Mulch: has not personally met this person, worked in Pediatrics since 1991, 3 decades of volunteerism, Wisconsin medical director, 2009 since South Dakota, provided support to tribal reservation
  - Dr. Wichterman: graduated in his class, he is a great guy, very humble

► **Distinguished Alumni Early Career Award**

- Mohsin Khan, MD, presented by Dr. Winkleman: not an MD alumnus, but is a resident alumnus, this may be a way to incorporate residents, Psychiatry grad in 2016, at UT SW med center now, heads foster care, clerkship director, done a lot to improve child care in the welfare system, his gifts as a teacher were written on extensively in his background, resilient and an advocate, serves whole-heartedly
  - Dr. Soltys: worked with Dr. Khan for 4 years, was an exceptional physician, has done some wonderful work, wishes he would have stayed for fellowship in Springfield
- Seena Tabibi, MD, by Dr. Winkleman: at Johns Hopkins now, received an award from Johns Hopkins, did plasma exchange work during early days of covid-19

► Dr. Winkelman asked: how do we make this process easier for those nominated?

- Maybe ask 4 questions about the nominated? But we ask the nominee for names of people to ask.
- May give apples to apples comparisons.
- Need to make it easy!
- Can they ask for nominations year-round, not just during a nomination period?

No further questions or comments.

## 9. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Richard Austin led the following discussion. Nominating Committee last met in August. The goal is to keep the BOG diverse.

- Individuals were presented for the following positions on the board. A motion to accept the following nominations was first moved by Dr. Schmelzel, Dr. Mueller seconded.



- President: Dr. Richard Austin
- Vice-president: Dr. Elizabeth Montgomery Collins
- Sec: Dr. Breck Jones
- Treasury: Dr. Jason Gillihan
- ▶ Individuals were presented for open vacancies on the board. There is a need to replace 3 spots. A motion to accept the following nominations was first moved by Dr. Pick, Dr. Winkleman seconded.
  - Sofya Asfaw, MD – Surgery, 2009 alum
  - Safiya McNeese-Ruffin, MD – Family Medicine, 2013 alum
  - Ron Romanelli, MD – Orthopedic Surgery (retired), 1983 alum
  - Alternates:
    - 1<sup>st</sup>: Karen Bertels, MD
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Erick Butt, MD
    - BOG will keep alternates as a safeguard.

No further comments.

## 10. WELLNESS COMMITTEE & SRF UPDATE

Dr. Wichterman reported the Wellness Committee met in July. Alumni Relations is doing a wonderful job putting all ideas into action and getting people together. The event schedule is supporting wellness well.

- ▶ An idea was proposed to interact with or connect new grads moving into their new communities. Cassie supported this and will work on ideas for this.
- ▶ Dr. Debra Klamen provided a therapy Zoom talk recently
- ▶ Various podcast topics were presented in a lively discussion.

## STUDENT RESOURCE FUND

- ▶ Balance: \$49,000
  - This will help pay for 2023 Winter Ball and future YMCA memberships
- ▶ At the end of 2024, will have a balance of \$26K, if no additional funding is provided.
- ▶ Currently there is a proposal for a piano.
- ▶ Donations are needed.
- ▶ Dr. Montgomery Collins will send out a letter to her class. She encouraged others to do the same.
  - Dr. Mueller: email is great, but can there be a class challenge at reunion? Maybe have BOG volunteer an hour at the table to educate and engage alumni to give to SRF.
  - Ms. Stacey: 15-20 of the students go to a YMCA dance class every Thursday.

No further comments.

## 11. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dr. Austin reported they have a group of local members that can react quickly for the capitol, if needed. He hopes to produce a newsletter soon.

## 12. BYLAWS REVISION

Dr. Austin reported the committee will be undertaking a revision of the bylaws. This will be chaired by Board Secretary Dr. Breck Jones.

Questions/Comments posed by Dr. Austin, for further thought and feedback:

- ▶ For all committees, each member needs to be on at least one committee, can be on all or more, but need to be on one at least.
- ▶ How we vote by proxy needs looked at.
- ▶ Virtual vs. in-person meetings?
- ▶ Do we limit SOM-employed alumni or not?
- ▶ There is a max, but no minimum on resident/fellow representation.

### **13. RECOGNITIONS**

A vote occurred for the following Distinguished Alumni Awards. Votes were tallied and awardees were announced.

- 🔷 Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award: Sam Gaines, MD '77
- 🔷 Distinguished Alumni Service Award: Alison LaFrence, MD '88
- 🔷 Distinguished Alumni Early Career Award: Mohsin Khan, MD, Resident '16

Service awards were presented to the exiting board members and officers: Drs. Winkleman (President), Wichterman (Treasurer), and Reeder (Secretary). Dr. Winkleman was presented with a plaque and bookends. Drs. Wichterman and Reeder were provided a plaque each. Dr. Austin thanked Dr. Winkleman for his service to the Board and wished him well beyond it.

### **14. OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting is in the Spring.

- 🔷 At this meeting, new officers will start their current terms.
- 🔷 New board members will start their current terms.

No further comments or questions.

### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm. Dr. Matt Winkleman first moved and Dr. Stephen Soltys seconded the motion for meeting adjournment.