

**ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS MINUTES  
Tuesday, June 20, 2023**

**PRESENT**

Betty Bibbins, MD  
Jay Collins, MD  
George Faatz  
Hon. S. Chris Jones  
Blythe Scott, Esq  
Bruce Waldholtz, MD (Chair)

**EX OFFICIO PRESENT**

Alfred Abuhamad, MD  
Linda Archer, PhD  
C. Donald Combs, PhD  
Frank Counselman, MD  
Kimberly Dempsey, EdD, PA-C, DFAAPA  
Anca Dobrian, PhD  
Ronald Flenner, MD  
Thomas Kimble, MD  
Allison Knight, PhD  
Atif Niaz – MD rep  
Katelyn Nicole Glover, MPA – HP rep

**ABSENT**

Naved Jafri, MD (Chair)  
Lisa Chandler  
Hon. Daun Hester  
Keith Newby, MD

**EX OFFICIO ABSENT**

Milton Brown, MD, PhD  
Sunita Dodani, MD  
Mekbib Gameda  
Ali Hosseini, MD

**STAFF PRESENT**

Christine Boswick  
Julie Stoner, PhD

**STAFF ABSENT**

Ylonda Boatright

**MEDIA SERVICES PRESENT**

Joel Hilton

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Bruce Waldholtz at 10:00 a.m. Minutes from March 21, 2023 Academic and Student Affairs Committee were reviewed and approved.

**REPORT FROM THE VICE-DEAN FOR FACULTY AFFAIRS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Dr. Anca Dobrian presented the faculty actions below for discussion and review on behalf of the EVMS Appointments and Promotions Committee.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**FULL-TIME NON-SALARIED**

Department of Pediatrics, Division of Gastroenterology  
Michael V. Mendoza, MD - Associate Professor, effective December 1, 2022

Department of Pediatrics, Division of Hospital Medicine  
Joanne C. Mendoza, MD - Associate Professor, effective December 1, 2022

Department of Pediatrics, Division of Hospital Medicine

Benjamin E. Nelson, MD - Associate Professor, effective June 20, 2023

**PART-TIME NON-SALARIED**

Department of Pediatrics, Division of Adolescent and Child Psychiatry

Elise M. Fallucco, MD - Professor, effective November 1, 2022

**COMMUNITY**

Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Cardiology

Ashesh N. Buch, MBChB, MD(res), FRCP - Associate Professor, effective June 20, 2023

Department of Pathology and Anatomy

Amy M. Tharp, MD - Associate Professor, effective June 20, 2023

Department of Surgery, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Howard Levinson, MD - Professor, effective April 1, 2023

**PROMOTIONS**

**FULL-TIME SALARIED**

Department of Family and Community Medicine

Cynthia C. Romero, MD - from Associate Professor to Professor, effective July 1, 2023

Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases

Catherine J. F. Derber, MD - from Associate Professor to Professor, effective July 1, 2023

Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care

Joshua M. Sill, MD - from Associate Professor to Professor, effective July 1, 2023

Department of Microbiology and Molecular Cell Biology

Rajasekaran Koteeswaran, MD, MBBS, MAcadMED - from Associate Professor to Professor,  
effective July 1, 2023

Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Division of Head & Neck Oncology

Matthew J. Bak, MD - from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2023

Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

Brynn E. Sheehan, PhD - from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2023

School of Health Professions, Doctor of Health Sciences Program

Gregory T. Scott, PhD, MHA - from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2023

School of Health Professions, Graduate Art Therapy and Counseling Program

Mary R. Roberts, PhD, LPC-ACS, ATR-BC, ATCS - from Associate Professor to Professor,  
effective July 1, 2023

School of Health Professions, Graduate Art Therapy and Counseling Program

Eileen K. Douglas, PhD - from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2023

School of Health Professions, Master of Health Administration Program

Glenn A. Yap, PhD - from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2023

### **FULL-TIME NON-SALARIED**

Department of Pediatrics, Division of Allergy and Immunology

Kelly M. Maples, MD - from Associate Professor to Professor, effective June 20, 2023

***ACTION: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee unanimously voted to recommend the above faculty actions as presented at the meeting. Further, the committee requested that the Board of Visitors at their June 20, 2023 meeting consider this recommendation for approval.***

### **REPORT FROM THE VICE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Dr. Flenner provided updates from the School of Medicine.

### **LCME**

- EVMS' next status report is due August, 2023
  - Element 3.2: Communities of scholars/research opportunities (**Unsatisfactory**)
  - Element 5.11 Study/lounge/storage space/call rooms (**Unsatisfactory**)
  - Element 12.1: Financial aid/debt management counseling/student educational debt (**Monitoring**)
- EVMS' performance on Elements 3.2 (research) and 5.11 (space) have been *unsatisfactory* since February 2021.
- EVMS must achieve a status of *satisfactory* or *satisfactory with monitoring* by October, 2023 in order to remain in compliance with the overall standard.
- Failure to achieve compliance within a two-year period (*by October, 2025*) constitutes grounds for denial or withdrawal of accreditation.
- Elements 3.2 – Current Status
  - Focus groups with medical students in January, 2023 revealed:
    - Majority of medical students are concerned about research
    - Research is encouraged, but rarely followed-up on
    - Lack of formal guidance, structure, or mentorship around research opportunities
    - Desire for training on research methods, including IRB process
    - Removed research capstone requirement from MD curriculum.
  - Created the Medical Student Research (MSR) program in April, 2023.
    - Serve as the central repository for research resources and activities for medical students
    - Provide support and guidance to students interested in conducting research
    - Serve as a liaison between students, departments, and centers at EVMS
- Element 5.11 – Current Status
  - 2023 survey revealed a significant increase in student *satisfaction* with campus space, but students remain *dissatisfied* with clinical/hospital space.
  - Focus groups with M3 and M4 students in January, 2023 revealed:
    - Students feel “crammed” into clinical study spaces that cannot accommodate the full cohort of students on the rotation
    - Clinical spaces are noisy, lack resources needed to study/work
    - Computers and printers are outdated and/or broken

- Reviewing space opportunities within SNGH, but very few exist.
- Request to repurpose Hofheimer Hall space to EVMS student learning commons, exclusively for students in M3/M4 phases of the curriculum.
- Element 12.1 – Current Status
  - AY 2023-24 tuition increases will be held to zero for out-of-state students and limited to a 2% increase for in-state students.
  - FY24 state funding for student financial aid will total over \$1.2M.
    - 80% directed to MD in-state students.
  - Recommendation to IMO to hold SOM tuition increases at zero post-merger for in-state and out-of-state students.
  - As of May, 2023 over \$11.5M raised specifically for MD student scholarships, not including the Waitzer Scholarship Challenge.

### **Accelerated Pathway Proposal – Emergency Medicine**

- The Consortium of Accelerated Medical Pathway Programs (CAMPP) is an organization of medical schools that have developed 3-year pathways leading to the MD degree.
- The vision of CAMPP is to “make medical education more efficient and less expensive”.
- Accelerated MD programs allow students to earn the MD degree more quickly and at a significantly reduced cost.
- Currently, 32 medical schools participate in CAMPP, including VCU.
- The majority of pathway programs are primary care focused, but programs exist in a number of areas.
- Findings from the AAMC GQ support accelerated programs as an important intervention to address workforce shortages and student debt without negative impacts on burnout, education quality, or residency preparedness. Accelerated students:
  - Are slightly more *satisfied/very satisfied* with quality of medical education than non-accelerated students
  - Rate emotional climate and student-faculty interaction more positively than non-accelerated students
  - Feel as prepared for residency with no adverse impact on burnout levels
  - Perform similarly on standardized national exams and during residency as non-accelerated students
  - Plan to care for an underserved population more frequently than non-accelerated students

### **EVMS Accelerated Pathway Pilot Program**

- Academic Affairs proposes an accelerated pathway pilot program in Emergency Medicine
  - SOM is approaching an *unsatisfactory* finding around student indebtedness
  - EVMS is losing excellent MD candidates, including URiM candidates, to schools with accelerated programs
  - Address retention challenges
- Limit of two (2) students per year.
- Students will be expected to take and pass the USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 CK prior to graduation; students must pass the USMLE Step 1 prior to enrolling in the EM elective.
- Students who fail to make satisfactory progress in the pathway and/or no longer wish to accelerate their training will revert to the traditional program.
- Leave of absence not permitted for students in accelerated program.

***ACTION: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee unanimously voted to recommend the above proposal to Pilot the Accelerated Pathway program in Emergency Medicine as presented at the meeting. Further, the committee requested that the Board of Visitors at their June 20, 2023 meeting consider this recommendation for approval.***

#### **ASSISTANT VICE DEAN FOR EVMS ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENT**

Dr. Kimble provided the following update on the admissions:

- MD Admissions 2023 entering class.
  - There are 150 accepted students, waiting on one student to confirm acceptance to have a full class of 151
  - More than over 183 students withdrew after acceptance this year – last year there were 148. This is still a decrease from 300 last year withdrawals. Suspect that the lack of 3-year option and concerns of merger are why there is an uptick of withdrawals.

#### **ASSISTANT VICE DEAN FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS & DIRECTOR OF STUDENT WELLNESS**

Dr. Knight introduced the new student members of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee.

- Atif Niaz is the MD representative from the M3 Class of 2025
- Katelyn Nicole Glover HP representative from the MPA Class of 2024

Dr. Knight presented a proposed Student Emergency Procedures Policy. This policy defines the procedures implemented for EVMS and Visiting under various emergency conditions, including Impaired or Missing Students. Student Affairs will review the policy annually. The policy is housed on the Institutional Student Handbook webpage.

***ACTION: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee unanimously voted to recommend the above proposal to Student Emergency Procedures Policy as presented at the meeting. Further, the committee requested that the Board of Visitors at their June 20, 2023 meeting consider this recommendation for approval.***

#### **REPORT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT AND DEAN, SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

Dr. Combs provided updates from the School of Health Professions.

#### **REPORT FROM THE VICE DEAN FOR GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**

Dr. Counselman gave update on Graduate Medical Education. Incoming interns have a 97% rate with being licensed. Dr. Counselman stated that two EVMS Program Directors are HC Heros:

- Giovanni DiSandro, MD, Department of Ophthalmology
- Abby Van Voorhees, MD, Department of Dermatology

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00am.