

Interfaculty Council Meeting Minutes FY 2020 – August 19, 2020 – Webex

Present: Dr. Elda Ramirez, Dr. Tiffany Champagne-Langabeer, Dr. Syed Hashmi, Dr. Nicholas R. De Lay, Dr. Daniel Harrington, Dr. Joseph Alcorn, Dr. Catherine Ambrose, Dr. Elaheh Ashtari, Dr. Meena Bhattacharjee, Dr. Nathan Carlin, Dr. Carmen Dessauer, Dr. Donald Molony, Dr. Kenya Parks, Dr. Bethany Williams, Dr. Licong Cui, Dr. Kirk Roberts, Dr. Debora Simmons, Dr. Cameron Jeter, Dr. Ariadne Letra, Dr. Hugh Pierpont, Dr. Michele White, Dr. Sandra Branson, Dr. Patrick Laird, Dr. Francine Snow, Dr. Rebecca Tsusaki, Dr. Cecilia Ganduglia-Cazaban, Dr. Ross Shegog, Dr. Michael Swartz, and Dr. Pauline Monsegue-Bailey

Absent: Dr. Nachum Dafny, Dr. Luca Giancardo, Dr. Craig Hanis, and Mr. Jeffrey Ackroyd

Guest: Dr. Michael Blackburn

Ex-Officio Attendees: Dr. Kevin Morano and Dr. Gurur Biliciler-Denktaş

Administrative Personnel: Ms. Terrie Schade-Lugo

I. CALL TO ORDER ***Dr. Elda Ramirez, IFC Chair FY 2020***
Dr. Elda Ramirez, IFC Chair FY 2020, called the meeting to order at 11:35 AM.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES ***Dr. Ramirez***

- Dr. Ramirez polled the members for any objections or corrections to the minutes for June 17, 2020. Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved, as presented.

III. MISCELLANEOUS ***Dr. Michael R. Blackburn, EVP & Chief Academic Officer, UTHHealth***

Dr. Blackburn joined the IFC Meeting and started speaking regarding whether there are questions
How to communicate better, please send any suggestions.
Suggested that the faculty continue to monitor the COVID website

Dr. Blackburn provided updates concerning the following:

- Cizik School of Nursing Dean Search: We have a sole finalist, and leadership is hoping to conclude negotiations with the candidate and be able to announce before September 1, 2020;
- McGovern Medical School Dean Search: Dean Stoll left UTHHealth at the beginning of July 2020, and President Colasurdo put into place interim leadership. Dr. Richard Andrassy is the Executive Dean, *ad interim*, and he is helping the school to continue on the excellent path it is already on as well as to lead it with preparing for the next permanent dean. Dr. Latonya Love was put into place as the Dean of Education, *ad interim*, as the school is going through the last stages of the LCME Accreditation, so this structure was organized to ensure that the right people were there to help our students during this time. And, Dr. Blackburn was asked to assist as the Dean of Research, *ad interim*, to help with any research issues within the medical school, as he was doing for Dean Stoll. The purpose of the interim roles assigned is to realize the best way to communicate the goals of the school to candidates interviewing for the deanship. A search firm will manage the national search for a dean –the process will be started in September. Regular updates will be provided to the IFC concerning the search activities.
- UT MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences: Dr. Shelly Barton was Co-Dean with Dr. Blackburn, and she recently left MD Anderson to take a position in Oregon at the Knight Cancer Center. President Colasurdo requested that Dr. Blackburn keep things going as the sole Dean until they work through the next steps. The goal is to make sure to engage faculty and take care of students. Dr. Blackburn advised that he is not sure how long he will remain in this position but will do so during this interim period, especially while COVID is still going on.
 - Question: What part will the implementation of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force possibly play in the search for leadership.
 - Dr. Blackburn responded that all of the leadership searches had included the equal opportunity rule. As we think about the new leaders, as we always have, we will ensure that diversity, equity,

and inclusion will be discussed with these applicants. How is this done? To start, by the compositions of the search committees and the questions and dialogues conducted with the candidates.

- Question: At the Board of Regents' Meeting, it was stated that the health campuses were doing well, and we will not be making further reductions. At least at the medical school, faculty got salary reductions at least until September. Also, we know that hospitals received a stimulus, and can you advise where did it go?

Dr. Blackburn responded as follows:

- How are we doing with the pandemic? Our mission areas were struck, substantially. We are deemed to be an essential university, and realizing that fact, we put into place measures to handle COVID. We stopped elective surgeries, ordered PPE materials, protected our students by pivoting to online education, and outlined ways to ensure we were protecting the environment and research personnel in the labs so research could continue.
- So, how did we do? We have approximately 16,000 faculty, staff, students on our campuses, and our positivity rate for COVID is 2.1% (230), with only a few needing medical attention. We are monitoring what is happening in the labs and clinics. Now that we are bringing the education environment back, our approach is to rely on the school leaders (who understand their environment the best) to put into place the best measures to protect their personnel and environments.
- In the process described above, what happened? By pivoting our programs to prepare for COVID, elective surgeries were impacted substantially, predicted to losing up to 60 million dollars in Fiscal Year 2020. We found ourselves very fortunate to have good financial leadership in Mr. Kevin Dillon and President Giuseppe Colasurdo, where they were able to put into place efforts and measures to get UTHealth through the pandemic crisis. Several steps were initiated; one of those efforts was the concept of vacation liability. Faculty were asked to voluntarily take their vacation to decrease the vacation liability on the books. Another program was a mandatory program called the One Day a Week, which was a type of furlough program. This program ends on August 31, 2020, and we do not anticipate participating in these programs again unless we see another wave or other if we have to shut down elective surgeries. We cannot predict the 'what ifs.' Many discussions were held with the deans and chairs to understand their budgets. Money that was previously spent on travel or food may have been removed or decreased. Currently, we are approximately 16 million dollars down; however, we are anticipating by the end of the month, we will be close to out of this hole. How are we doing this? Our physicians are doing 110% elective surgeries; some of the clinics are staying open on the weekends, too.
- Compliments were paid to Dr. Blackburn for UTHealth leadership on the tremendous job that has been done communicating with the employees. Another compliment concerned how Administration has helped the frontline personnel by protecting them in the COVID environment.

Dr. Blackburn responded:

- Many things were done, people did lose their jobs, we did have to shut down clinics, we applied for anything we could for any stimulus or grant funding available to help our students, labs, and medical environments.
- Dr. Blackburn advised that we are 40 million dollars up in Research as compared to last year. How is that possible? People are finding ways to write and receive grant funding.
- The expectation is that the upcoming Legislative Session is going to be tough going.
- Can burnout be addressed for the medical personnel?
 - We have put additional resources in these areas, and we need to think about doing more. Please reach out to your chairs and deans on any ideas in this regard. Please contact Mr. Kevin Morano as he has been very involved in the burnout area.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Chair-Elect FY 2021 Nomination

Dr. Ramirez

Dr. Ramirez advised currently, we have a sole nomination for the IFC Chair-Elect. Before Dr. Cameron Jeter addressed the IFC membership, Dr. Ramirez invited any other nominations from the floor. Having no replies to the invitation, Dr. Cameron Jeter addressed the membership. A copy of Dr. Jeter's address to the IFC is attached and made a part of these minutes. Dr. Ramirez advised that after the IFC Meeting, the membership will receive a Confidential Poll for voting. The results of the vote will be revealed after the voting period closes.

The UTHealth Diversity and Inclusion Task Force Update

Dr. Elaheh Ashtari

The first meeting was held on July 10, 2020. The last meeting was on August 10th.

The Task Force Charge:

- To facilitate discussions on strengths and opportunities for UTHealth to address issues related to diversity and equity, broadly.
- Examine the best Health Science Center practices related to prioritizing diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Provide recommendations to the University Executive Council on how UTHealth can foster and promote a more inclusive environment as it relates to students, employees, and faculty.
- Recommend priorities and timelines for implementation of recommendations
- Communicate with stakeholders regarding recommendations

The Task Force is comprised of 32 diversity champions from all schools, Office of Diversity and Inclusion leadership, as well as faculty, classified staff, and students/learners.

Task Force Subcommittees:

Currently, Subcommittees are meeting to discuss issues further as it relates to their subcommittee.

Utilizing SWOT analysis – Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats

From those SWOT analyses, each subcommittee will draft three recommendations to be considered by the larger group before presenting it to the University Executive Council.

Subcommittees:

Student/Trainee Subcommittee	Faculty Subcommittee Diversity Champions	Staff Sub-Committee Diversity Champions
Micaela Sandoval, <i>Chair</i> LaTanya Love Cherilynn Shadding Amy Franklin Chijindu Diokpa Brandi Sauer Kraus Miracle Orji David Moore Ike Osemene Josephine Darpolor Morgan Foreman	Nicole Gonzales, <i>Chair</i> Asia McCleary-Gaddy Lisa Cain Elda Ramirez Elaheh Ashtari Kim Baker Kelly Kearney Ralph A. Cooley Daniel Harrington Angela Ross	JR Bright, <i>Chair</i> Deana Moylan Mike Wilkerson Pedro Mancias Lexus Bradford Ana Touchstone Suzanne Paramore Charmaine D. Wilson Grace Avila Karen Weinberg Ryan Bien

Staff Subcommittee presented their recommendations to the larger group on August 10th.

On the week of August 24th, the Faculty Subcommittee will present their recommendations, and on September 7th, the Student subcommittee will present their recommendations.

During the week of September 21st, the task force will review final recommendations and then present them to the University Executive Council on October 7th.

Campus Reports:

Cizik School of Nursing

Dr. Rebecca Tsusaki

Summer graduates:

Undergraduate students: 133 (29 are RN-BSN students)

Graduate students: 48

DNP students: 2

PhD students: 3

- We will have didactic online for the fall and exams and labs on campus.
- Simulation – Dr. Elda Ramirez organized a large emergency simulation for ENP students at Grant Fay Park. Working with Life Flight Director Dr. Lesley Osborn, MD, assistant professor of emergency medical services-clinical at the McGovern Medical School. Using standardized patients, students were worked through several scenarios designed to expose and teach students the emergency processes that occur prior to ED admission. The simulations also included centralized debriefing for learning.
- Associate Professor Brian Ahn, PhD, RN, MSN, MS-ECE, MS-CTS, ANP-BC, has been selected for the American Academy of Nursing's [2020 Class of Fellows](#). He will be inducted virtually in October. The FAAN announcement came the same day the Houston Chronicle printed a [lengthy feature](#) on Dr. Ahn's research into using transcranial direct current stimulation as a nonpharmacological approach to pain treatment.

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Dr. Nicholas De Lay

GSBS Co-Dean Michelle Barton leaving MD-Anderson

- Dean Barton is joining OHSU Knight Cancer Institute in Portland, Oregon
- She will be Co-Director of Cancer Biology in the Cancer Early Detection Advanced Research Center (CEDAR).

Ongoing efforts by GSBS to address equity and inclusion

- Conducting an external review of GSBS Climate Survey
- Continuing conversations and training on anti-racism
- Developing and monitoring metrics of success in graduate education for equity and inclusion
- Establishing a standing committee of Faculty, Staff, and Students to address and advise leadership on issues of equity and inclusion
- Continuing outreach to local Houston-area students from underserved and underrepresented communities
- Strengthening recruitment ties to Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- For full details click this link: <http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1110617542320&ca=43ebaba3-5196-4c85-bdae-ad052d3efcc5>

Fall Semester Begins on Monday, August 31st

- All didactic courses will be taught by Webex and Zoom
- New student orientation will be via Webex and Zoom
- Lab rotations will continue to be in person, but PI's must certify that they can safely host a student by maintaining institutional COVID-19 guidelines.
- For full details click this link: <http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1110617542320&ca=f94c6832-b317-4e72-a55c-060c1c115dae>

McGovern Medical School

Dr. Kenya Parks

Election Results: Faculty Senate Chair and Secretary 2021 - 2022

- Senate Chair-Elect – Dr. Nahid Rianon
- Senate Secretary-Elect – Dr. Renee Flores

GSEC Annual Institutional Review

Michael Beierlein, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Neurobiology & Anatomy, Chair Graduate Student Education Committee

The Graduate Student Education Committee serves to create educational opportunities, provide chances for learning and career development, to recognize graduate student achievement, and to recruit future graduate students. The Dean's Research Scholarship Awards up to \$3000 to doctoral students who have achieved distinction in biomedical research. This year five finalists will present their research as part of a symposium, followed by the announcement of the winners.

This year, secondary to COVID-19, there was a cancellation of the research poster competition. GSEC funds typically fund travel for students presenting at conferences; this year the funds were used to purchase six laptops for student use.

Office of Diversity and Inclusion Statement on Racial Violence in America

Renee Johnson, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor

Dr. Johnson, representing the Office of Diversity & Inclusion, read the statement to the senate. Faculty Senate adopted the statement as a resolution.

Deana Moylan, AVP, HR, Diversity and Equal Opportunity, and Robin Dickey, Ph.D., Academic Ombuds at UTHHealth discussed the resources that are available for faculty.

For more information or to discuss a concern:

www.uth.edu/hr/department/equal-opportunity/online_learning_resources.htm
deana.k.moylan@uth.tmc.edu

Office of Academic Ombuds: ombuds@uth.tmc.edu
Confidential mobile: 713-705-5005
Robin.dickey@uth.tmc.edu

Announcements

Mandatory Days Off Program

Nancy McNiel, Ph.D., Senior Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs

Dr. McNiel discussed aspects of the current university mandate where MMS classified administrative support staff, and Management A&P personnel are required to take one day per week as vacation or leave without pay for four weeks. Those utilizing leave without pay are eligible for state and special federal unemployment benefits through the Texas Workforce Commission. The budget reduction effort is secondary to the pandemic. Groups that are exempt from this mandate include faculty, staff physicians, residents, students, clinical staff with patient-facing responsibilities, postdoctoral research fellows, and research staff.

Transition to EPIC-EMR monthly update

Babatope (Tope) Fatuyi, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Information Officer

- We are currently in the testing phase. The current focus is on quality, integration, and user-friendliness.
- There is currently 48% referral leakage enterprise-wide. The goal is to retain patients within the network and improve operational efficiency.

- There will be Virtual Town Halls on July 23 at 11 am and on July 30 at 11 am. The links will be disseminated via email.

School of Biomedical Informatics

Dr. Lukas Simon

- SBMI is co-hosting a COVID-19 datathon with Rice's Data 2 Knowledge (D2K) Lab. The goal of the event is to encourage medical researchers, data scientists, students and any brilliant minds from diverse backgrounds to participate in the competition and predict the risks of COVID-19.
- Several SBMI Researchers led by Associate Professor Xiaoqian Jiang have led an international team to develop a secure informatics infrastructure for investigating COVID-19. The system, [SCOR](#), provides a secure and privacy-preserving infrastructure to support auditable data sharing and facilitate automated and legally compliant federated analysis on an international scale.
- In collaboration with McGovern Medical School, a group of SBMI researchers including Xiaoqian Jiang helped identify that receiving a flu vaccine reduces lifetime risk of Alzheimer's by analyzing millions of medical records. The study received wide news coverage, including NPR's Morning Edition.
- SBMI is admitting 16 students to the 2020 cohort of our one-of-a-kind Doctorate in Health Informatics (DHI) program. This is the second year of the DHI, which is proving to be a popular degree program

School of Dentistry

Dr. Hugh Pierpont

- On July 19th, the School of Dentistry "virtually" held its 115 Annual convocation exercises for Dental and Dental Hygiene students.
- Dr. Jacqueline Hecht has announced she is stepping down as the Associate Dean for Research at the SOD. She will continue her research activities in the Center for Craniofacial Research. Dr. Ariadne Letra will serve as Interim Associate Dean as a national search is conducted.
- Dr. Daniel Harrington is the new Chair-Elect of the SOD Faculty Senate.
- On August 4th, the SOD Diversity, Inclusion, and Wellness Council sponsored a virtual workshop entitled "Appreciating our Unique Qualities and leveraging our Strengths." The workshop was presented by Deana Moylan and Dr. Asia McCleary-Gaddy.
- The Fall semester has begun at the SOD as a "blended" curriculum. Didactic lectures are being presented Virtually, and preclinical training labs are Face-to-face but will the classes splint in half to allow for distancing.

School of Public Health:

Dr. Michael Swartz and Dr. Cecilia Ganduglia Cazaban

Faculty Council continuing and new items:

- AAR and Peer Review processes: Possible revisions in the future include: Instructions for Faculty Associates and Specialists; Instructions about scoring and commenting on AAR and Peer Review for NTT faculty with no teaching responsibilities; Instructions for educational track faculty with no research responsibilities; More information on mentoring junior faculty; Number of projects and funding for service activities in community; Faculty Service Survey
- Workload dashboard for assessing and adjusting effort
- Faculty Mentoring Programs Workgroup exploring improved standardized mentoring throughout the UTSPH departments. Proposing to adopt an enhanced mentoring plan, informed by focus groups and interviews, used in the epidemiology dept.
- Faculty retention
- Expectations for teaching in the Fall 2020 semester.

Recent Events (Selection of COVID related activities)

- **The Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (SWCOEH)** has created a [COVID-19 Resources webpage](#) in both English and Spanish, which contains webinar recordings, media interviews, publications, and links to public health resources.

- Staff on the **Brownsville campus** have played an instrumental role in implementing and coordinating community food distributions, supplementing local pantries, and home delivery systems to folks in vulnerable situations. Working closely with partner community organizations through United Against Hunger, they have delivered groceries to the homes of hundreds of our participants in our chronic care management program Salud y Vida.
- **Drs. Kim Baker, Susan Tortolero-Emery, and Christine Markham** worked with the Own Every Piece project to ensure that women receive free tele-med appointments for contraceptive counseling and referrals in-network partners who can provide the birth control method of their choice, given their financial situation. Particularly during COVID-19, investigators are using this moment to ensure that all understand that reproductive health services remain essential during this time
- **Dr. Catherine Troisi** and alumni **Dr. Umair Shah** joined as experts on a COVID-19 Town Hall for Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher to provide an update on the CONgressional COVID-19 response.
- A team of researchers led by **Dr. Andrew Springer** recently launched a Youth-Led Creative Expression Contest that encourages young Texans to artistically interpret and promote key practices for preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Media exposure (selected):

- **Catherine Troisi, PhD**, was quoted in a [Houston Chronicle](#) article about the importance of using both antigen and PCR tests to determine the rate of COVID-19 spread within a community. Troisi also answered listener questions for the COVID-19 special edition on Houston Public Media's [Houston Matters](#) show.
- **Kalyani Sonawane, PhD**, was quoted in an article in [The Columbian](#) in Vancouver, Washington about research she led revealing more than 65% of parents of unvaccinated children do not plan to initiate the HPV vaccine series.
- **Katelyn Jetelina, PhD**, was interviewed by [KTRK-TV Channel 13](#) about which types of non-medical masks are best at reducing the spread of COVID-19 as students return to classrooms this fall. Jetelina, was also interviewed by [KHOU-TV Channel 11](#) about which school activities carry a higher risk of transmitting COVID-19.
- **Louis Brown, PhD**, was quoted in a [Texas Public Radio](#) article about the importance of an accurate census count. He also spoke to [NPR's Petrie Dish](#) podcast listeners about the same topic.
- **Kristina Mena, PhD**, was quoted in an [Everyday Health](#) article about common causes of food poisoning.
- **Joseph McCormick, MD**, was quoted in an article in The Houston Chronicle that appeared both in [print](#) and [online](#) about the disparities of COVID-19 infection rates among the Latino population in Texas.
- **Maria E. Fernandez, PhD**, talked to [FOX 26 News](#) about the importance of colorectal cancer screenings during the pandemic. Fernandez also spoke to [Univision Houston Channel 45](#) viewers about the importance of continuing to social distance and answering the phone during the pandemic, as the caller might be a contact tracer.
- **Gregory Knell, PhD**, was quoted in an article on [ScienceDaily](#) about his latest research revealing the compounding effect concussions can have on children's cognitive, behavioral, and emotional health.

Dissertation presentations:

Nine dissertation defenses, one dissertation proposal defense, and five thesis presentations occurred over late July and early August.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Associate Vice President, UTHHealth Faculty Affairs & Development

Dr. Kevin A. Morano

ROTA: Dr. Eugene Toy and Dr. Jeffrey Frost were named recipients of the 2020 Regents Outstanding Teaching Award and advised that the specific event in Austin, as well as the funding, were suspended due to severe budget constraints. On July 20, the awardees and my office were alerted that the in-person event was still canceled; however, they revisited the budget situation and reversed their earlier decision to suspend the

monetary award. This was great news for our faculty awardees! At this time, we have not received any information on whether this program will continue.

PSA: The President's Scholar Awards (PSA) luncheon event for our FY 2019 awardees had to be canceled due to the pandemic. As a reminder, the awardees for FY 2019 are as follows:

- Dr. Patricia Butler, McGovern Medical School, and Dr. Belinda Reininger, UTHealth School of Public Health | Co-Recipients of the 2019 President's Scholar Award for Excellence in Teaching;
- Dr. Maureen Mayes, McGovern Medical School, 2019 President's Scholar Award for Excellence in Research; and
- Dr. Bela Patel, McGovern Medical School, 2019 President's Scholar Award for Excellence in Clinical Service.

We thought that the program would be paused for FY 2020; however, President Colasurdo requested that we move forward with this program. During the first week of September, the Call for Nominations will be sent to the Deans and Associate Deans for Faculty Affairs for announcing their nomination process. Currently, we have tentatively scheduled the celebration event for April 29, 2021, barring no unforeseen health concerns for gatherings in groups at that time.

A question was asked about the President Award of Leadership that is in connection with the Stars Awards. Dr. Morano did not have information but will pass along to the membership when

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Subcommittees Updates:

Administrative Affairs:

Dr. Cameron Jeter

The charge was to look at the gender representation in faculty leadership, specifically, at Associate Dean, and faculty at the various levels of Professor, Associate Professor, and Assistant Professor. We expanded our intent to look at gender representation in other areas of faculty life. Examples include looking at the gender representation of the recipients of the system-wide STARS Awards (this is a recruitment and retention award package for faculty), the Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award (ROTA), and the Shine Academy. To date, we created a protocol on how to collect this data and from whom but stopped in early March when we began social distancing; we felt it would be an added burden for these specific staff to collect this data. We have been in a holding pattern, and one option is to pass on the protocol to the subcommittee to continue with the collection next year. A copy of the final report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Faculty Status, Rights, and Responsibilities:

Dr. Debra Simmons

This subcommittee worked off work started by this subcommittee in FY 2019. A copy of the final report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Governance and Academic Affairs

Dr. Patrick Laird

The charge for this subcommittee was to assess and report on the status of non-tenure-track faculty in the six schools. A copy of the final report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

VII. ADJOURNMENT OF THE IFC FY 2020 MEMBERSHIP

Dr. Ramirez

Dr. Ramirez acknowledged Dr. Syed Hashmi for his leadership service on the IFC beginning as Chair-Elect in 2018, Chair in 2019, and Past-Chair in 2020. Dr. Hashmi was presented with a token of appreciation, which he was surprised with during this IFC Webex Meeting. Dr. Hashmi thanked the IFC membership for the plaque outlining his years of leadership service.

Dr. Ramirez acknowledged and thanked the IFC members not returning to the IFC in FY 2021, as follows:

McGovern Medical School:	Drs. Nathan Carlin, Donald Molony, and Kenya Parks;
Cizik School of Nursing:	Drs. Patrick Laird, Francine Snow, and Rebecca Tsusaki
Student InterCouncil Rep:	Mr. Jeffrey Ackroyd

Dr. Ramirez further acknowledged and thanked the following for their participation:

UT FAC Chair:	Dr. Gurur Biliciler-Denktaş
University Classified Staff Council Rep:	Dr. Pauline Monsegue-Bailey

She advised that the IFC members from the UTHealth School of Public Health and the UTHealth School of Biomedical Informatics will be returning for FY 2021. Finally, she expressed we would look forward to confirming the IFC members from the MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and the UTHealth School of Dentistry.

Dr. Gurur Biliciler-Denktaş thanked Dr. Ramirez for her kind acknowledgment. She advised that the Board of Regents' Meeting was going on today and tomorrow. She reported that some of the activities that the UT FAC wanted to get accomplished this year were interrupted by the COVID pandemic; however, the plans are to move them forward during the next fiscal year.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 1:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Terrie Schade-Lugo, CAP, on September 13, 2020.
Approved by Interfaculty Council on September 16, 2020.