

Interfaculty Council Meeting Minutes
FY 2022 – May 18, 2022 – Webex

Present: Dr. Cameron Jeter, Dr. Daniel Harrington, Dr. Tiffany Champagne-Langabeer, Dr. Elaheh Ashtari, Dr. Jennifer Bailey, Dr. Meena Bhattacharjee, Dr. Linh Bui, Dr. Nachum Dafny, Dr. Rashedah Ekeoduru, Dr. Syed Hashmi, Dr. Nahid Rianon, Dr. Alan Myers, Dr. Tina Findley, Dr. Bethany Williams, Dr. Licong Cui, Dr. Assaf Gottlieb, Dr. Arif Harmanci, Dr. June Sadowsky, Dr. Kirk Roberts, Dr. Kurt Kasper, Dr. Dharini van der Hoeven, Dr. Vaunette Fay, Dr. Carole Mackavey, Dr. Craig Hanis, Dr. Eric Jones, Ms. Courtney Liddell, and Ms. Angela Hayes

Absent and Viewed IFC Meeting Recording: Dr. Georgene Hergenroeder, Dr. Yun Xin Fu, and Dr. Omobola Oyeleye

Absent and Sent an Alternate: Dr. Joseph Alcorn

Ex-Officio Attendees: Dr. Kevin Morano

Administrative Personnel: Ms. Terrie Schade-Lugo and Ms. Liz Vinson

I. CALL TO ORDER / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Cameron Jeter, IFC Chair FY 2022

Dr. Cameron Jeter, IFC Chair FY 2022, called the meeting to order at 11:35 AM and polled the members for any objections or corrections to the minutes for April 20, 2022. Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved, as presented.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Kevin A. Morano, Associate VP for Faculty Affairs & Development

Dr. Morano provided his info as follows:

- Commencements occurred the weekend of May 13, 2022, at Minute Maid Park. It is anticipated this will be the final year of joint ceremonies.
- The Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award call is currently open. Nominations are due to the Office of Faculty Affairs and Development on June 10, 2022. Individuals nominated for this award should have a long history of service and a strong CV.
- The President's Scholar Awards call is currently open. Nominations are due to the Office of Faculty Affairs and Development on July 15, 2022. There are three categories: research, clinical, and teaching. Individuals who have won these awards previously have very strong CVs.
- The Kenneth I. Shine, MD Academy call for nominations will open in the coming weeks. This award is for outstanding educators across the University of Texas System.
- The GSBS Dean search will kick off with a charge meeting on June 1, 2022. The committee has been named, and the search firm has already received several strong applications.
- It is anticipated the McGovern Medical School Dean will be announced following the upcoming LCME site visit.
- There has been no change in COVID policy. The University continues to follow CDC guidance.

Dr. Elaheh Ashtari, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Update:

- Dr. Ashtari provided an update on the Diversity Council as follows:
 - The Council will seek interest from the entire institution in involvement on Council committees focused on topics such as policy, education, and training.
 - The Council is sourcing training for Diversity language for members.
- A link for registration for the UTHealth Houston Pride Parade group is forthcoming. There is space for 200 participants, and partners and family members of UTHealth Houston employees are encouraged to register.
- UTHealth Houston is seeking interested researchers to exhibit at the Houston Pride Festival.

- Anyone interested in joining the UTHealth Houston Pride Resource Group may contact Dr. Ashtari

Dr. Syed Hashmi, UT FAC Report:

- Dr. Hashmi attended the April UT FAC meeting in person. Topics covered at the UT FAC meeting included:
 - Faculty burnout survey
 - Faculty tenure and how it has been affected by COVID
 - Committee breakout sessions

Dr. Cameron Jeter, IFC Chair, FY 2022:

- Dr. Jeter announced her departure from UTHealth Houston. She thanked the committee and introduced Dr. Harrington as the incoming chair.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Jeter invited Dr. Williams to provide an update on the Faculty Status, Rights, and Responsibilities subcommittee (FSSR).

- Dr. Williams encouraged Council members to complete the upcoming survey from the FSSR in relation to faculty awareness of caregiver resources available to UTHealth Houston faculty members.

IV. CAMPUS REPORTS

School of Public Health Highlights

Dr. Ross Shegog

Dr. Shegog provided a presentation about the School of Public Health, including the following highlights.

- The School of Public Health has 6 campuses across Texas.
- Various impacts by the School of Public Health were included.
- There are ten training programs.

School Campus Reports

The campus reports were provided in the meeting materials packet and are made a part of these minutes.

Cizik School of Nursing

Dr. Carole Mackavey

- The Cizik School of Nursing 2022 John P. McGovern Outstanding Teacher of the Year Awards are both repeat winners: Hildreth Eloi, DNP, MS, RN, and Myron Arnaud, DNP, CRNA.
- Dr. Vaunette Fay had her retirement party on May 10, 2022, at the Cizik School of Nursing at UTHealth Houston. She has been teaching for approximately 40 years.
- The Cizik School of Nursing Graduation was held on Saturday, May 14, 2022.

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Dr. Nicholas De Lay

- New species of dinosaur named after GSBS alumnus Dr. John Kopchick, *Yuxisaurus kopchicki*.
 - More information about this new species of dinosaur can be found here: <https://elifesciences.org/articles/75248>
- Former GSBS Alumnus Dr. Lance Shaner discusses his career path
 - Dr. Lance Shaner describes his path from graduate school at GSBS to founding and running his company Yeast Omega Labs that engineers and produces yeast for brewers.
 - His interview with Carolyn Agurcia-Parker can be found here:

<https://gsbs.uth.edu/news/story/qa-with-gsbs-mid-alumnus-lance-shaner-phd>

- GSBS 2022 Commencement
 - The Graduate School had its commencement ceremony on Friday, May 13 at Minute Maid Park at 4:00 PM

McGovern Medical School

Dr. Nahid Rianon

- Commencement for class of 2022 took place on Friday, May 13.
- White Coat ceremonies for class of 2025 and class of 2024 took place on Thursday, May 5 and Friday, May 6.
- Anthony Estrera, MD, FACS, professor and Hazim J. Safi, MD Distinguished Chair in the Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery was named the president of the Texas Surgical Society.
- Ritha Belizaire, MD, assistant professor in the Department of Surgery, is the 2022 winner of the Benjy F. Brooks, MD Outstanding Clinical Faculty Award.
- Women Faculty Forum Spring Round Table will take place on Thursday, May 19. The objective of this roundtable is to assist faculty in navigating the waters of an academic career.

School of Biomedical Informatics

Dr. Kirk Roberts

- SBMI Doctorate of Health Informatics (DHI) student Joe Bridges graduated in the commencement ceremony this semester. Dr. Bridges is the first DHI awardee ever (the whole planet). His fascinating story was covered in many news articles, including in print and video, such as the article in the Houston Chronicle.
- A team from SBMI won second place in the recent LitCoin Natural Language Processing (NLP) Challenge. The competition was hosted by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, which is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

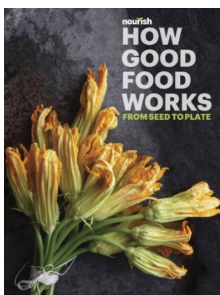
School of Dentistry

Dr. Alan Myers

- The 117th commencement ceremony was held on 5/14 at Minute Maid Park, in which 184 School of Dentistry students (108 doctorate of dental surgery, 32 dental hygiene, and 44 advanced education) crossed the stage.
- Professor Harold Kolodney Jr., DMD was named the 2022 recipient of the John H. Freeman Award for Faculty Teaching at UTHealth Houston School of Dentistry.
- Assistant Professor Bonita A. Wynkoop, RDH, DDS, TTS, was named the 2022 recipient of the John P. McGovern Outstanding Teaching Award at UTHealth Houston School of Dentistry.
- The Texas Association of Women Dentists (TAWD) Chapter at UTHealth Houston School of Dentistry raised a record \$20,000 for the Mina Rosenthal-Eames Fund during the 8th Annual Cinderella Silent Auction and Pageant held on 4/14/2022. This Fund was established in 2009 and helps cover the cost of dental care for domestic violence victims who might otherwise not be able to pay for treatment.

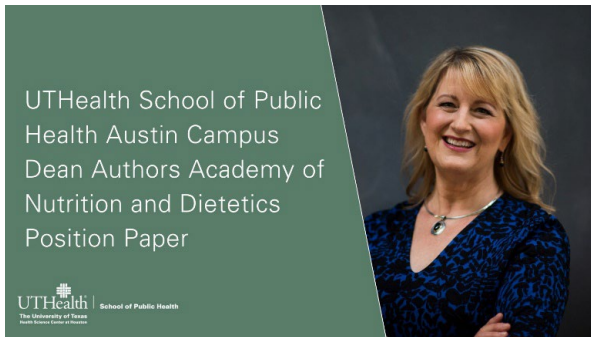
School of Public Health

Dr. Ross Shegog



Cookbook spearheaded and authored by faculty from the UTHealth School of Public Health

“How Good Food Works from Seed to Plate,” showcasing UTHealth School of Public Health’s Nourish Program, earns distinction with multiple awards. The cookbook won the Eric Hoffer First Horizon Award, as well as the da Vinci Eye honor for best cover artwork. The book also was the top winner in the category of Home.



Eat Right Nutrition

Deanna Hoelscher, regional dean of the UTHealth School of Public Health Austin Campus, served as the lead author on the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics’ (Eat Right Nutrition) position paper on the prevention of pediatric overweight and obesity.

The Psychology of Resilience

This spring, the American Psychological Association (APA) Journals released a limited special series on, “The Psychology of Resilience,” guest-edited by Jack Tsai, PhD, UTHealth School of Public Health San Antonio Campus Dean. This series of special issues across four different journals showcase the latest research on the various ways in which humans adapt to adversity and trauma.



V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Jeter

- The TMC3 tour has been delayed due to lack of interest. A tour will be arranged in the Fall to allow council members to see the progress made this year.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jeter

Upon motion made and duly seconded, the meeting adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Liz Vinson, on June 9, 2022.
Approved by Interfaculty Council on June 15, 2022.