

Faculty Advisory Council

Minutes

Date: March 13, 2002

Time: 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Place: Horvitz Building, LaBonte Board Room

Present: Ron Chenail (Academic Affairs), Jonathan Coffman (Medical Sciences), Morton Diamond (Allied Health), Jan Faust (CPS), Joshua Feingold (Farquhar), George Fornshell (GSCIS), Stan Hannah (Fischler), Wendy Hupp (Dental Medicine), Leanne Lai (Pharmacy), Michael Patterson (COM), Bob Preziosi (Huizenga), and Julie Tyler (Optometry)

Absent: Vesna Beck (Fischler), Robert Casady (Medical Sciences), *Veljko Dragojlovic (OC), Tim Hottel (Dental Medicine), Mike Masinter (Law Center); Rosalie Miller (Allied Health), Anne Rambo (GSHSS), Jose Rey (Pharmacy), *Marlisa Santos (Farquhar), Fran Tetunic (Law Center), *James Thomas (OC), Lenore Walker (CPS) and *Pan Yatrakis (Huizenga)

Guests: Sharon Fredda (OHR), Kellie Murphy-Tolo (OHR), Lloyd Rhodes (NSU Consultant), Sandra Silvera (Humana), and Kathy Pena (Humana)

* Emailed to report scheduling conflict

Purpose Statement: The purpose of the Faculty Advisory Council is to help further the mission of Nova Southeastern University by advising the administration of NSU about matters for the improvement of university programs and services. The primary goal of the Council is to enhance, protect, and maintain the intellectual integrity of the university through its academic programs. To this end, the Council serves as a forum to recommend new and innovative change; a platform to address academic issues and concerns; and a resource for conceiving, developing, and implementing new projects. The Assistant to the President for Academic Affairs chairs the Council. The Council meets monthly and consists of representatives from each academic center within the institution. (11/00)

- **Welcome and Introduction**

The guests were introduced and welcomed.

Approval of February 12, 2002 Minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously without revisions. Dr. Chenail reported that he would post minutes on the FAC web site as they are approved.

- **Humana Update - Sharon Fredda, Kellie Murphy-Tolo, Lloyd Rhodes,**

Kathy Pena and Sandra Silvera

Based upon the discussion at the February 2002 meeting, representatives from NSU's Office of Human resources (OHR) and Humana were invited to today's meeting to discuss a number of issues and concerns that had arisen regarding Humana. Sharon Fredda (OHR), Kellie Murphy-Tolo (OHR), Lloyd Rhodes (NSU Consultant), Kathy Pena (Humana) and Sandra Silvera (Humana) attended the meeting.

Members of the FAC presented the following concerns:

- Although price is an important factor in selecting a health care coverage plan for NSU, other factors such as array of services, choice of plans, disruption of care due to lack of overlap in physicians, and maintaining physicians within the system are also critical factors when considering a health care provider coverage.
- There was a concern that a number of physicians had dropped out of the Humana network based upon the possibility of the PPO plan being dropped from the Humana/NSU plan.
- Physicians were not joining Humana or were dropping from the system due to tardy payments or low rates being paid by Humana.
- The FAC wanted to have faculty representation on the NSU Committee that oversees the Humana relationship.

The guests' responses are as follows:

- Lloyd Rhodes acknowledged the importance of the other factors cited by the FAC. He did add that by going with Humana the university did save a considerable amount of money from what the university would have paid by staying with Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Another factor in making the change was that NSU felt that the anticipated rise in the costs charged by Blue Cross and Blue Shield would have led many NSU employees to drop their coverage.
- Humana has not made a decision to drop the PPO plan. Lloyd Rhodes said that rising costs of the PPO had been mentioned in one of President Ferrero's emails to NSU employees. NSU continues to look at the PPO as well as other newer kinds of coverage. Lloyd Rhodes would recommend that NSU keep the PPO or some plan like it. President Ferrero would make the final decision on whether or not it is kept in the NSU plan.
- Humana is in negotiations with Holy Cross Hospital. They hope to add Holy Cross to the Humana system soon. Money is a big factor in the negotiations.
- Humana has changed their contracts with physicians. Many see this as a big improvement. Humana updates the NSU list of providers every Monday. The Humana representatives reported their figures on turnover of doctors and timeliness of payments to physicians were in line with

industry standards.

- NSU is exploring other options that may lead to lower costs for health care coverage. The university is looking at the possibility of purchasing a plan in conjunction with the Broward County School Systems or the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF).
- Sharon Fredda asked for Dr. Chenail to submit the names of two members of the FAC to serve on the NSU oversight committee on Humana.
- Sharon Fredda discussed the need for improved communication. She encouraged folks to use the various online resources for Humana (<http://www.nova.edu/cwis/hrd/benefits.html>). Sharon also said people could call the Humana point person at NSU-- Charmaine Beckford at x7870.
- Sharon Fredda and Lloyd Rhodes spoke on the NSU Wellness committee and the work that was being done through that group. Various wellness plans were being reviewed for consideration at NSU. Dr. Leanne Lai represents the FAC at those meetings.

The guests said they would come back to meet with the FAC at any time to discuss concerns and to give updates.

- **Evaluation of Administrators Update**

Dr. Chenail reported that President Ferrero was making his annual visits to meet with various faculties around the university. To hear how these meetings were going and to be able to discuss other matters with the president, President Ferrero was asked to come to the next meeting of the FAC. President Ferrero accepted the invitation and will be meeting with the FAC at the April 9, 2002 meeting.

- **Marketing**

Dr. Chenail announced the market study from TMP-W had been released and representatives from TMP-W had made a presentation to the Council of Deans. Dr. Chenail said the focus of the new NSU branding campaign would be the faculty and their caring supportive skills being highlighted. The proposed campaign would feature the slogan, "NSU, we go beyond the classroom." Dr. Chenail reported that he would circulate a copy of the report to members of the FAC.

- **Bookstore Update**

Dr. Chenail announced that Nova Books owner, Ed Panariello, had passed away. Dr. Chenail did not know how his death would effect the RFP process for the bookstore contract.

- **Other Issues:**

NSU Online Phone/Email Directory and Online Calendar of Events

A number of Council members expressed dissatisfaction with the online NSU telephone directory (<http://www.nova.edu/cwis/cgi-bin/nsu-only/phone.pl>). Members said the database needed to be updated more regularly, department listings should be added, and "fuzzy" spelling options and "wild card" options should be included. Dr. Chenail said he would contact the Office of Information Technology (OIT) to express the concerns of the FAC.

Members also asked for a mechanism by which NSU events could be better communicated. Dr. Chenail said he would look into the concern. To this end, Dr. Chenail contacted Mara Kiffin in the Office of Public Affairs to see if a "subscription" feature could be added to the NSU e-Bulletin web site (<http://www.nova.edu/cwis/ia/pubaffairs/ebulletin/>) so folks could be updated when new items are added to the site. Dr. Chenail encourages FAC members to visit the site and make recommendations for improvement to Mara.

- **Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.

- **Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 2002, 8:30 A.M. in the Horvitz Administration Building's LaBonte Boardroom: President Ray Ferrero, Jr., Guest**